

DeMaris heads to State as Section 2A Cross Country Champion

*Koberoski earns All-Section Honors
Jayhawk team places sixth out of 18*

BY KRIS DEMARIS
VAN HEE MEDIA SPORTS WRITER

The Madelia/Truman/Granada Huntley East Chain/Martin Luther Jayhawks cross country team competed at the Section 2A Cross Country Championships on Thursday, October 17. The meet was held at Baylor Park in Norwood Young America. It was a great day for running. The temperature was 52 degrees and the skies were overcast with just a little breeze in the afternoon.

Sophomore Josiah DeMaris is heading to the state cross country meet for the second year in a row. This time he is going as the Section 2A Champion! There were 111 runners in the boys race. DeMaris finished the 5K course with a time of 16:15.79, overtaking the second and third place runners with about 400 meters to go. About a half mile into the race there was a lead pack of five runners. By 1.5 miles, the lead pack was down to three. Those three pushed each other until DeMaris was able to pull away on the final downhill stretch into the chute.

The second place runner, from Maple River, finished with a time of 16:20.13; 4.34 seconds behind. The third place runner, from Butterfield-Odin, finished with a time of 16:22.34. DeMaris led the All-Section Team.

Junior Ryan Koberoski put forth his best effort of the year and placed 11th with a time of 17:27.68, shattering his previous best time by 16 seconds. With that finish, Koberoski also earned All-Section honors.

Eighth grader Carson Meraz was 62nd with a time of 19:37.47. Also in eighth grade, Eddie Ramirez was 66th with a time of 19:52.58. Seventh grader Caleb DeCann was 76th with a time of 19:55.41. DeCann also shattered his previous best time, beating it by 36 seconds. Junior Jake Lehman

was 76th with a time of 20:28.05. Freshman Caden McMullen was 85th with a time of 21:03.99.

The team placed sixth out of 18 teams represented in the section meet. There were 16 team scores. LCWM was first with 79 points, Loyola/Cleveland was second with 88, St. James was third with 97, Butterfield-Odin was fourth with 113, Sleepy Eye St. Mary's/Sleepy Eye/New Ulm Cathedral was fifth with 182, Jayhawks were sixth with 195, Sibley East was seventh with 196, Norwood Young America was eighth with 203, Maple River was ninth with 210, Martin County West was 10th with 224, Lester Prairie was 11th with 284, New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva was 12th with 285, Waterville Elysian Morristown/Janesville Waldorf Pemberton was 13th with 308, LeSueur-Henderson was 14th with 325, Minnesota Valley Lutheran was 15th with 338 and Blue Earth Area was 16th with 406. Gibbon Fairfax Winthrop and United South Central did not have enough runners, which is five, for a team score.

The Minnesota State Cross Country Meet

DeMaris will compete at the Class A State Cross Country Championships on Saturday, November 5. He will run at 1 p.m. at St. Olaf College in Northfield. He will be starting from box number 18.

Spectator Parking and Shuttle Service

Spectator parking is free and available at McLane's Shipping off Armstrong Road and across the street from the St. Olaf campus. Large signs on Highway 19 will direct spectators to this lot. Shuttle service to and from campus and the parking lot will be provided from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on race day and is also free of charge. The shuttle pickup and drop off points will be posted with large "Shuttle Stop" signs.

Please note: Spectator parking is not allowed on the St. Olaf campus or in any of the Skoglund Athletic Center parking lots. Security will be at each entry point of campus and will only admit buses and team vans with official parking passes, and vehicles with a current disability permit or license plates.

For your safety and for the flow of traffic, please do not attempt to cross Highway 19 on foot; shuttles will be readily available and will run continually between the parking lot and race venue.

Spectators must stay behind the fences so that all runners will have a fair opportunity to do their best. Spectator interference may result in disqualification of a team or individual. There is a restricted course area in and near the Prairie Loop and the Dorm loop.

Guidelines and Restrictions

- Guests should stay home if they are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Camera tri-pods/mono-pods and "selfie sticks" are NOT allowed.
- No beverages, food or noise-makers will be allowed to be brought into the facility.
- No balloons, laser pointers, noisemakers, air-horns, horns, drums or whistles will be allowed in the facility.
- No weapons of any kind will be allowed, including licensed concealed carry weapons, knives, etc.
- No signs or banners may be hung in the facility. Hand-held signs that can be held by one person are allowed.
- No drones allowed.

Streaming of Event

Streaming is available through Neighborhood Sports Network (formerly known as PrepSpotlight/School Space) at <https://nspn.tv/MSHSL>. There will be full coverage from four different locations on the course.