

Negovetich opens with 17:24 for 5K at Lake County(Sep 5th. 2:16pm)

Illinois HS XC Weekend Highlights - September 1, 2019(Sep 1st, 2:57pm)

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Photo: Josh Methner after his win Saturday at Fenton ©2019 Laura Duffy

By Michael Newman

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The weather cooperated in a great way on Saturday with mid-October temperatures at the beginning of September. We saw Glenbard West's **Katelynne Hart** forgot to use her Google Map app but still set a course record at Katherine Legge Memorial by seven seconds and winning by 60 seconds. Not to be lost in this was the wild weekend that Latin School's **Ava Parekh** had. Parekh finished behind Hart but still ran 17:28 on the rolling hills of KLM. The next day at the 5th Avenue Mile in New York City, Parekh won the 15-18 Age Group with a personal best of 4:48 for the mile.

Brett Gardner of Lincoln-Way East also had a great solo effort at the Rich Dust Invitational. The senior ran 14:42 on the 3-mile North Creek Meadow course to win by almost 90 seconds.

We were at Hinsdale and have some great videos that you can watch as well as a recap of the meet.

Hinsdale Recap and Videos I Weekend Meet Results

Here are some of the weekend highlights of some of the meets across the state as well as recaps of meets in Iowa and Wisconsin.

Leavey Invitational @ Leroy Oakes FP, St. Charles

There was not really a surprise in the Boys Varsity race in this meet. #3 St. Charles East dominated on their home course placing five runners in the top eight to score 22 points for the win. **Bob Liking** led the Saints winning the individual race running 14:59. Teammate **Micah Wilson** ran 15:13 to finish second. **Ian Geisler** of Huntley and **Ryan Arnold** of St. Charles North both ran 15:25 to finish third and fourth. St. Charles East had a 34 second split on their top five runners.

#14 Downers Grove North, behind the seventh-place finish from **Evan Cummins**, finished second with 76 points. #25 Batavia had **Adam Kennedy** and **Damian Rodriguez** finished ninth and tenth to lead them to a third-place finish (91 points). #17 Waubonsie Valley finished fourth (113 points).

#8 Barrington, paced by three runners in the top six, used their fire power in the front to capture the Girls Varsity team title with 61 points. Alice Abbott of St. Charles East was the individual victor on her home course as she ran 17:30 for the individual win. The Barrington duo of Molly Fitzpatrick (17:38) and Allison Drage (17:45) finished second and third.

2A #2 Benet Academy looked good as they scored 77 points to finish second behind top 10 finishes from Elizabeth Camic (5th) and Joy Jackson (7th). #12 York finished third led by the eighth-place finish from freshman Brooke Berger.

Mike Kuharic Invitational @ Lyons Township South Campus Course, Western Springs

Will and Ben Giblin finished third and fourth to lead #7 Sandburg to the Boys Team title with only 44 points. Lowell IN senior Gabriel Sanchez ran 14:46 to win the individual title finishing four seconds ahead of Joey Kasch of Maine South.

The key for the Sandburg win was that they had 6 runners in the top 18 with a 47 second split on their top five. Both Giblin brothers ran under 15-minutes. Ismail Tineh also finished in the top 10 placing ninth.

Host Lyons Township finished second (69 points) paced by top ten finishes from **Jack Ehlert** (6th) and **Owen Hays** (7th). The Lions placed 4 runners in the top 16. Their top five split was 72 seconds. #23 Maine South finished third (72 points) with Kasch finishing second and a 31 second split from their second through fifth runners.

Valparaiso IN scored 53 points to win the Girls Varsity team title. #6 Lyons Township finished second behind top 10 finishes from Claire Williams (5th) and Kate Dickman (7th) to score 60 points.

John Kurtz Early Bird Invitational @ Fenton HS, Bensenville

#2 Downers Grove South packed it up placing three runners in the top six to win the Girls team title with only 42 points. **Brenna Cohoon** led the Mustangs finishing fourth running 18:01 followed by teammates **Sophia McNerney** (5th) and **Erin Reidy** (6th). South placed five runners in the top 16 as they had a 54 second split on that group. 2A #11 Vernon Hills had their second impressive performance this week as they scored 101 points to finish second. Freshmen **Rose Sheridan** (2nd) and **Reina Hill** (10th) led the Cougars. #18 Fremd (119 points), #9 Oak Park-River Forest (121 points) and #13 Hersey (146 points) rounded out the top five teams. **Aly Negovetich** of Grant Community again was impressive with her second individual win in less than a week. The sophomore's time of 17:32 was 20 seconds ahead of second-place **Rose Sheridan**.

#5 Hersey had no problems in easily winning the Boys team title with 32 points. Glenbard West (81 points) and Prospect (101 points) finished second and third. The Huskies placed four runners in the top eighth with their fifth runner placing 14th. Hersey had a 50 second split on their top five led by the individual win from **Josh Methner** (15:25) while teammate **Max Svienty** finished 12 seconds back in second.

Pleasant Valley Spartan Classic @ Davenport, IA

Three time defending 3A State Champion Naperville North opened their season at this Iowa meet and again came away with the win 40-43 ahead of nationally ranked Edina MN while Johnston IA finished third (70 points). The Huskies placed 5 in the top 14 led by Maggie Gamboa's individual win. Her time of 18:48 as nine seconds ahead of teammate Audrey Mendrys. Molly Morton (11th), Lucy Westlake (12th), and Jana Dawson (14th) were the team's other top five runners. North ran without one of their top seven runners Campbell Petersen in this race. Their top five split was 50 seconds. The split on their third through fifth runners was only 14 seconds.

#22 Wheaton North made it an Illinois sweep in this met as they won the Boys team title (53 points) ahead of Edina MN (64 points) and Cedar Rapids Prairie IA (89 points). Jack Pendergast of Prairie ran 16:09 for the individual win. Wheaton North was led by the 6-7 finish by Will Roth and Josh Gorup. Their top five runner split was only 33 seconds.

Racine Horlick Rebel Invitational @ UW-Parkside, Kenosha WI

#7 Oswego used their depth to help them win the Girls title with 55 points. Wisconsin school Waukesha West finished second ^4 points) with Libertyville close behind in third (65 points). This was the first race of the year for two of Oswego's top runners **Rebecca Corbett** and **Ella Hale** who missed the team's first meet at Downers Grove South due to minor injuries. Hale was the team's fourth runner on Saturday while Corbett was the team's sixth runner in. Libertyville's **Bree Ponchak** ran 19:31 on Parkside's 5k course for the individual win ahead of Oswego freshman **Audra Soderlind** (19:40).

Warren Township ran a good race in finishing second in Wednesday's Lake County Meet. Their stock raised a little more in this race as they placed all their scorers in the top 12 to win the Boys team title with only 29 points.

Granite City Invitational @ Wilson Park, Granite City

#21 O'Fallon looked impressive in winning the Girls team title with only 42 points in this 24 team race. O'Fallon's **Peyton Schieppe** ran a fast 17:24 to win the individual title with Staunton's **Lydia Roller** finishing second (17:36). They were the only two runners under 18-minutes in this race. There was a gap of 51 seconds between Roller and third-place finisher **Riley Knoyle** of Edwardsville.

O'Fallon placed 5 runners in the top 16 with a split on five runners at 127 seconds. The team's split from their second to fifth runners was 29 seconds. 2A #5 Chatham-Glenwood finished second 87 points led by **Nia Gibson's** eighth place finish. Triad finished third (135 points).

Edwardsville's Jack Pifer won the Boys Individual race 15:17 edging Belleville East's Byron Jones by two seconds. St. Louis University scored 45 points to win the team tille behind the 3-4 finish from Lucas Rackers and Noah Scott. Edwardsville finished second (67 points) ahead of #20 O'Fallon (165 points) and 2A #6 Troy Triad (182 points). Oconomowoc WI (57 points) and Oswego (70 points) finished second and third. Oconomowoc's Alex Vance ran 16:02 for the win 35 seconds ahead of Warren's Hunter Subry. Warren only had a split of 31 seconds on their top five.

Chrisman Cowchip Invitational @ Chrisman

Monticello won both the Boys and Girls team titles in this flight styled meet. 1A #2 Monticello scored 13 points to win the Boys team title just one point ahead of 1A #4 Urbana University. 1A #19 Paxton-Buckley-Loda and 1A #24 St. Joseph-Ogden scored 33 points to tie for third.

The Boys championship race could have been a preview for the state meet in two months. **Ryder James** of Paxton-Buckley-Loda won over a talented field crossing the line first in 15:34. **Negus Bogard** of Robinson ran 15:38 to finish second ahead of **Layton Hall** of Arthur-Lovington (15:44) and **Henry Kraatz** of Urbana University (15:47).

1A#11 Monticello edged 1A #1 Tolono Unity 11-14 for the Girls team title with Unity not having their top runner **Caroline Bachert** in their lineup. Monticello's **Mabry Bruhn** won her second race as in as many weeks as she ran 18:14 for the win. Another freshman, **Kate Ahmari** of Urbana University, ran 18:51 to finish second in the championship race.

Crystal Lake South Invitational @ Veteran Acres Park, Crystal Lake

This meet was the opener for the top Class 2A teams in the state. #1 Kaneland put three runners in the top 10, five in the top 17 to win the team title with 43 points ahead of Glenbrook South (67 points) and Rolling Meadows (122 points). The Knights 76 second split on their top five was led by **Austin Adams** and his second-place finish and the fourth-place finish from **Daniel Occhipinti**. Glenbrook South's **Will Kelly** ran 16:12 on the hilly 5k Veteran Acres course for the individual win eight seconds ahead of Adams.

12 points separated the top three teams in the Girls Varsity race. Lake Zurich won the team title (52 points) behind the sixth-place finish from freshman **Brooke Johnston** and **Kristin Loftus**' ninth-place finish. 2A #1 Belvidere North finished second (62 points) led by the fourth-place from **Madison Diercks**. The Blue Thunder held out all-state runner Gianna Sagona who had an injury during the track season. 2A #9 Crystal Lake South finished third (64 points) behind the third-place finish from **Mackenzie Aldridge**. The individual race finish es close as Glenbrook South's **Kate Jortberg** ran 19:11 for the win one second ahead of runner-up **Siobhan Stoll** of Marian Central Catholic.

Normal Community Open @ Maxwell Park, Normal

Class 1A top ranked Stanford Olympia placed four runners in the top eight to win the Boys title wit 32 points. 2A #9 Bloomington (70 points) and 1A #3 Elmwood-Brimfield (86 points) finished second and third. **Elias Bergman** of Illinois Valley Central ran 15:38 for the individual win ahead of Olympia's **Jon Neville** (15:48) and **Charlie Kistner** (15:51). The top five split for the Spartans was 58 seconds.

2A #19 Bloomington scored 48 points to edge Normal Community by four points for the Girls team title. 1A #4 Normal University finished third (72 points). Normal Community's **Olivia Hartke** dominated the field running 17:59 for the win ahead of Bloomington's **Kaitlin Skeate** (18:52).

St. Ignatius Connelly Invitational @ Lewis University, Romeoville

#16 Lockport Township took three of the top four spots on their way to the Boys team win with 30 points. **Will Kiley** led the Porters with the individual win (15:37) followed by teammate **Jacob Hinchley** (15:54). Lockport placed five runners in the top 14 with a 70 second split on the group. 2A #7 St. Ignatius Prep finished second (52 points) led by **Jacob Flynn's** third-place finish.

Five runners in the top seven gave 2A #4 St. Ignatius Prep the Girls team title with 23 points. The split on their scorers was 87 seconds. 2A #17 St. Viator finished second (57 points) behind **Kate Castelli's** win. Her time of 18:43 was 14 seconds faster than the St. Ignatius duo of **Lexi Affolter** (18:57) and **Rhiannon O'Keefe** (19:02).

Silver Streak Invitational @ Lake Story Park, Galesburg

It was two runners, then a gap, then the rest of the field in the Boys race. **Charlie Wetzel** of Normal West ran 15:09 for the Boys individual win. **Sam Lange** of Morton ran 15:18 to finish second. The next runners came in 55 seconds later. 2A #5 Metamora had **Ian O'Laughlin** finish fifth and **Adam Gilbreath-Glaub** finish seventh to win the team title with 72 points ahead of East Moline (78 points) and 2A #3 Dixon (132 points).

Top five finishes from **Saniya Mathew** and **Macy Priess** paced 2A #12 Dunlap to the Girls team win (57 points) ahead of Sterling (104 points) and Peoria Notre Dame (108 points). Mathew ran 18:09 for the individual win ahead of Morton's **Emma Skinner** (18:35) and Knoxville's **Breena Shreeves** and **Macy Priess** who both ran 18:39.

Plainfield Central Invitational @ Plainfield Central HS

Joliet Central's Jason Dworak pulled away down the stretch to win the Boys Individual race (15:02) ahead of Shepard's Evan Jamrozy by one second. Emmanuel Yepiz of DeKalb (15:13) and South Elgin's Ryan Harvey finished third and fourth. DeKalb scored 47 points to win the Boys team title ahead of host Plainfield Central (98 points).

Naomi Ruff of South Elgin should be a difference maker in Class 3A when we get to the state series in October. Ruff ran 17:26 to easily win the Girls Varsity race by almost a minute ahead of Hoffman Estates' Janae Dean. 2A #22 Lemont placed 5 runners in the top 25 to win the Girls team title (66 points) ahead of South Elgin (86 points).

Charleston Invitational @ Eastern Illinois University

Olivia Rosenstein of Urbana opened her season with a convincing win in the Girls race. The senior ran 17:46 for the win ahead of Shelbyville's Ailey Mitchell (18:35). 2A #10 Mahomet-Seymour scored 63 points to win the team title just ahead of 2A #18 Urbana (72 points) and 2A #23 Mt. Zion (80 points).

In the Boys race, Urbana won the team title (63 points) edging Mahomet-Seymour and Champaign Centennial who both scored 69 points. Luke Manolakes of Centennial ran 15:40 for the easy race win ahead of Mt. Zion's Max Klebe (16:34).

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