This weekend was the calm before the storm. Well, we did get some storms throughout the state on Saturday. The storm is the conference meets that will take place in the next week as well as the Patriot Invitational at Detweiller Park. 98% of the ranked teams in the state will be in action.

There were some great meets this weekend in which we highlighted. To look back at the Naperville Twilight Invitational, please check the [**meet homepage.**](http://naperville-twilight-invitational.runnerspace.com/)

**West Aurora Blackhawk Stampede**

Yorkville came back from a strong run Wednesday night at Naperville with an impressive performance Saturday morning at Stuart Sports Complex. Yorkville’s **Alyssa Edwards** pulled away from the pack during the second half of the race to win the Girls Individual title. Her time of 18:00 on the 5-kilometer layout was 14 seconds faster than second-place finisher **Mia Gianfrancesco**of Batavia. Edwards ran with **Emily Eberhardt** for most of the race before Eberhardt was forced to drop out. Yorkville still came away with the win placing their first four runners in the top nine. It was close as the Lady Foxes scored 37 points just ahead of Batavia’s 44 points. Oswego East (103 points) and Neuqua Valley (105 points) finished third and fourth.

Huntley kept on their winning trend after their win last week in Peoria. It was close as they won the Boys team title with 63 points. Huntley placed 4 runners in the first 8 without their #5 runner **Rasheed Ahmad**. Wheaton North, who has been in the shadows most of the season, finished second with 70 points behind top ten finishes from **Connor Zydek** (3rd) and **Joey Simon** (7th). 2A power Chatham-Glenwood finished third led by the 11th place finish from Cooper Peterson. **Matthew Blanco** of Oswego East was the individual winner (15:43) four seconds ahead of Huntley’s **Jadon Conroy.**

**Wheeling Invitational**

Top ten ranked Barrington placed 4 runners in the first 9 to win the Girls team title with 36 points ahead of New Trier (80 points), Libertyville (101 points), and Lake Zurich (102 points). It was four runners that ran away from the pack that was 64 seconds behind the group. **Enyaeva Michelin** of Evanston Township used a strong final kick for the individual win (17:33) just a second ahead of Barrington’s **Jocelyn Long. Melissa Manetsch** of Libertyville (17:42) and **Molly FitzPatrick** of Barrington (17:45) finished third and fourth.

The Boys individual race was even closer as 1.3 seconds separated the first three runners. Jack McNabola of Francis Parker is establishing himself as one of the top 1A runners in the state. The senior took home the crown in this race (15:13.5) ahead of Libertyville’s **Alex Tam** (15:14.3) and Hersey’s **Josh Methner** (15:14.8). Methner’s third-place finish led 5 Hersey runners in the first 32 to win the team title with 69 points ahead of New Trier (81 points). Lake Zurich, who won their 71st straight dual meet against state ranked Mundelein on Tuesday, finished third (93 points) behind Patrick Burns’ 7th place finish.

**Sterling Invitational**

**Jake Gebhardt** tuned up for the NIB-12 Conference Meet in his final race on his home course with the individual win in the Boys Varsity race. His time of 15:16 was 12 seconds faster than conference rival **Stephen Poorten** of Sycamore. Pleasant Valley (IA) took home the team title (42 points) placing their top 6 runners in the first 19 places. Oswego (88 points) and DeKalb (112 points) finished second and third.

**Madison Marasco** of Schaumburg was in control in the Girls race running 17:30 for the win 14 seconds ahead of DeKalb’s **Katherine Olsen**. Hononegah received top ten finishes from **Lauren Johnston** (3rd), **Taylor Frommer** (5th), and **Alicia Repka** (6th) to take home the team title with 68 points. Oswego, who did not have one of their top five runners Isabelle Christiansen in their lineup, finished second with 74 points.

Due to approaching storms in the Sterling area, the Boys and Girls open races were combined. What was lost in the shuffle was the first race of the season for Rockford Boylan’s **Grace McLaughlin.** The senior, who won the 2A 3200 and 1600 Meter Runs last spring, was diagnosed with iliac apophysitis over the summer which is caused by growth plates fusing faster than the tendons. Her first race was promising as she ran 17:55 for 3-miles as the top Girls open runner and 9th place overall.

**Metamora Runnin’ Red Invitational**

After a week off from racing, 2A top ranked Dunlap was back at it Saturday at Black Partridge Park. Looking at their results, they don’t look like they have lost a step. Led by the individual win from **Campbell Petersen** as well as 5 runners in the first 9, Dunlap scored only 23 points for the team title ahead of Mahomet-Seymour (72 points) and Palatine (92 points). Petersen’s time of 17:26 was 22 seconds ahead of teammate **Franny Verville** in second-place. Palatine freshman **Anne Marie Jordan** was five second behind Verville in third.

Mahomet-Seymour placed three runners in the first seven to win the Boys team title with 56 points. Springfield (125 points), Metamora (142 points), and Bloomington (143 points) were the next teams in. Mahomet’s **Ryan Hodge** covered the 2.94-mile course in 14:35 to win the individual race by 16 seconds ahead of teammate **Mathias Powell.**

**Cumberland Invitational**

1A Girls top ranked Tolono Unity picked up their second win of the week over area rival St. Joseph-Ogden. The Rockets placed 5 runners in the first 11 to win the team title with 28 points ahead of St. Joseph-Ogden (47 points) and Freeburg (93 points). Earlier in the week at the inaugural Illini Prairie Conference Championships, Tolono Unity again was ahead of St. Joseph-Ogden 30-64. In this race, Tolono’s **Jordan Harmon** and **Caroline Bachert** took the first two spots with Harmon running 18:50 for the win. Bachert was next (19:08) followed by SJO’s Faith Houston (19:13).

Five 1A ranked teams were in the Boys race. It was St. Joseph-Ogden that finished on top (68 points) ahead of 2A Olney Richland County (88 points) and Freeburg (90 points). **Logan Hall** of Arthur Lovington ran 15:48 to win the individual race 31 seconds ahead of Freeburg’s **Charlie Parrish.**

Read more: [Mike Newman - News - This Weekend in Illinois High School Cross Country – Highlights – October 8, 2017](http://mike-newman-ilxctf.runnerspace.com/profile.php?member_id=42240&do=news&news_id=495229#ixzz4v3AQIJyR)