

By Jan Rahn

Managing Editor

“Going to the state meet is always an excellent way to end the season,” said Perkins County’s cross country coach, Paula Wurst of the Plainsmen girls who qualified as a team, as well as sending three on their individual standings from the district meet held at Grant’s Pheasant Run Golf Course.

The girls team ended their season at state in Kearney by again running either season personal records or course personal records, said Wurst.

The team placed 10th overall in a very competitive field.

“Finishing the season as the number 10 team in Class D is a fine accomplishment!” said Wurst.

There were 114 girls finishing the State Cross Country Meet held last Friday. Seventy-five of the finishers were the district medalists from the five district meets held across the state.

Top honors went to Marissa Dewispelare of Aquinas Catholic with a time of 15:08.

Crofton, North Platte St. Pat’s and Malcolm finished in the top three spots among 15 teams in the girls Class D 4,000 meter race.

Other teams being represented at state included Bertrand/Loomis, Stanton, Ord, Thayer Central, West Holt, Ainsworth, Oakland-Craig, Weeping Water, LHF/HSF, Elba/North Loup-Scotia and Crawford.

Placing 31st was Emily Kemling of Perkins County High with a time of 16:56 and a season PR.

“I was impressed with how well she handled the stress of her first time at state,” said Coach Wurst.

Running their fastest times ever at Kearney were Courtney Lyon and Mariah Curtis who finished 62nd and 67th. The girls stayed together and pushed each other the whole race, said Wurst.

“Their strategy has been to run together. I was concerned that they would lose each other in the pack,” said Wurst. “I didn’t have to worry, they do such a nice job staying with one another.”

Kendra Hoffert’s time of 19:03 and finish in 92nd place was also her best time ever at Kearney, running closer to teammates Lyon and Curtis than she had all season.

“She had a really strong race,” said Wurst.

Her sister, senior Jessi Hoffert, finished her final cross country race in excellent time, finishing faster than she had at the UNK invite at Kearney in September.

PC Girls Results

31. E. Kemling 16:56

62. C. Lyon 18:02

67. M. Curtis 18:07

92. K. Hoffert 19:03

110. J. Hoffert 20:39

Cross country ends at state for Plainsmen girls

