

# Girls repeat as district champs

Team advances to regionals and state for second year in a row

BY STUDENT MEDIA STAFFERS  
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Run, win, repeat.

That's the new mantra for the varsity girls cross country team. Senior Madie Boreman repeated as district champion and the varsity girls defended their district title at Old Settler's Park, Oct. 15.

"[It] Started off well with the girls winning," cross country coach Kelly Thompson said. "I thought we had a pretty good shot coming in, we didn't run the best race, but we did run good enough to win."

Boreman won the varsity girls race in 18:05.20, 21 seconds ahead of second place runner, Round Rock's Ashley Driscoll. This is the fourth year in a row Boreman has won the district title. She won her freshman and sophomore years in the 5A district and junior and senior year in 13-6A.

"I feel good and the team won so that's pretty exciting and just makes it even better," Boreman said. "This is the same course as the state course so we're definitely fortunate that we get to run here before state and get the feel of it."

Two other runners finished in the top 10, senior Haley Timmons was fourth and freshman Emily Forster finished seventh. Their top 10 finishes automatically qualify them for regionals.

Sarah Warrenburg, Megan Ombres, Ashton Hilsenteger and Makenna Ludwig finished 17th, 19th, 21st and 37th, respectively.

"The girls did very well, we wanted to win and we were nervous about the race but we came through," Boreman said.

The top five finishes gave the girls 48 points, a five-point lead on second place Round Rock.



photo by Erika Zaragoza

**FRESH RUN** Freshman Meghan Ombres heads for the finish line at state.

This is the second year in a row the varsity girls have won the 13-6A title.

"For the past two years, the team started to race and became closer," Boreman said. "I'm very proud of my team,"

The varsity boys finished fourth overall.

"I didn't think the boys did bad at all, but they did get beat by lower scores," Thompson said.

Junior James Tisdale was the top runner for the boys, taking 10th and qualifying for regionals.

"I think it's really great that I made it to regionals, I've been working hard for this moment and I'm glad I got here," Tisdale said. "To prepare for regionals, I need to just get out there, and not mentally defeat myself because other runners are in front of me I have to be able to run out and get in front of them."

Four other runners finished in the top 20: Danny Madrid 11th, Mitchell Ballis 13th, Nico Escobar 16th and Ben Escobar 17th. Brandon King was 28th and Chase Isham was 32nd.

"I'll definitely use today's race as a big encouragement," Madrid said. "Because I'll always look back on this race and say I could improve on this and improve on that and just better myself that way."

## REGIONAL MEET

The varsity girls cross country qualified for state after finishing fourth at Region 2-6A meet, Oct. 26. Senior Madie Boreman led the team, finishing first in 17:14.91. She won the regional title for the fourth year in a row, twice at the 5A level and twice in 6A.

"They changed the course up, so it was really muddy," Boreman said. "But the race was so fast paced that the mud didn't even matter."

Senior Haley Timmons also finished in the top 10, taking eighth. The team will advance to state for the second year in a row while Timmons and Boreman will compete at state for the third and fourth years in a row.

"It feels good getting to go to states again," Boreman said. "But it feels even better knowing that the team gets to come with me."

The race took place at Lynn Creek Park in Arlington and the team overall finished fourth out of 24 teams in the region. This is the second year in a row the entire team qualified for the state meet.

"It's mostly the team, we've all kind of worked for it," freshman Emily Forster said. "Going to state is a big deal and we've worked for it all year, it feels pretty good."

In the boys' 6A race, sophomore James Tisdale was the lone runner for the school, and finished 49th.

## STATE MEET

In the rain and mud at Old Settlers Park, the varsity girls participated in their final race of the season, the 6A state cross country meet, Nov. 7.

"[I was] a little upset we had to run in those conditions, but it was a good experience," senior Madie Boreman said.



Photo by Erika Zaragoza



photo by Sydney Stauber



photo by Aden Kosvac

## RUNNING SEASON

(Above) Junior Ashton Hilsenteger and senior Madie Boreman ready themselves for the start of the state race.

(Far left) At the district meet, junior James Tisdale competes in the varsity race. Tisdale finished 10th and qualified for regionals.

(Left) The varsity girls ran in the mud for the state meet.

The senior finished seventh in the wet weather that created a mud and puddle-laden course. After the noon race, the runners were caked in mud from the waist down.

"Within the first two hundred meters my legs were already covered in mud," junior Ashton Hilsenteger said. "It was crazy. I actually did enjoy running in the mud. I thought it was fun."

The whole varsity girls' team competed at state for their second year in a row. Freshman Emily Forster, who was the second Raider to cross the finish line, was one of two freshmen running for the team.

"It was really hard because all the girls who come to the state race are really good," Forster said. "It was crazy because all of those girls are really fast."

Coach Kelly Thompson was impressed with the two freshman finishes from Forster and Meghan Ombres.

"They ran strong for it," Thompson

said. "Hopefully, they understand now the consistency of training and they carry that over and follow the juniors' good leadership that we will have next year."

The muddy race was the final cross country meet for the graduating seniors, Boreman and senior Haley Timmons. This was Boreman's fourth appearance at state and Timmons' third.

"[It was] a surprising experience, but it was fun to figure out how to overcome the situation," Timmons said.

With the pouring rain, uneven terrain and heavy mud, it made for a memorable last race of the season.

"[It was] a good experience for the kids, not the best race conditions," Thompson said. "The weather was cool, but the mud was kind of a game changer for us."

RNN's Cameron Holland, Replay's Lexi Vela and Rumbler staffers Tyler Roberge, Destiny De La Paz, Michelle Contreras and Jordan Buie contributed to this story.