

Jackson Lumen Christi girls extend harrier reign

By BRENDAN SAVAGE
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The state Class B girls' cross country meet is becoming predictable with Jackson Lumen Christi around.

Lumen Christi won its third straight Class B state championship Saturday at Tyrone Hills in Linden, scoring 84 points to easily outdistance runner-up Gladwin, which had 125.

Grand Rapids Catholic Central won the boys' title by a bigger margin than Lumen Christi, tallying 64 points to runner-up Okemos' 109. The title was the second in the last three years for Catholic Central, which finished second a year ago.

Valeri Ambrose of Riverview Gabriel Richard had the best time of any girl with an 18:40.6 clocking.

Saline's Darrell Zeck was tops among the boys with a time of 16:04.5.

Ainsworth had the highest finish of any Flint-area team in the boys' race, scoring 375 points to finish 13th. Hartland was 22nd with 487.

Hartland and Oxford were seventh and eighth, respectively, in the girls' race. The Eagles had 224 points and Oxford had 239.

Laura Tenaglia of Hartland was the only Flint-area runner to earn all-state honors. She was clocked in 19:51.1, finishing eighth among girls who qualified with a team. The top 10 were named all-state.

Oxford's top finisher was Pam Boots, who was 20th in 20:26.8.

In the boys' meet, no Flint-area runner made the all-state team although Linden's Chuck Hall had a good shot at all-state accolades until he was injured about a half-mile into the race.

Hall was in ninth place in the race among runners who qualified as individuals when he was spiked by another runner. Hall's foot was bleeding as he ran the last 2½ miles, finishing 47th in 17:24.6.

"I just hated to see that happen because this meet meant a lot to him," said Linden Coach Pete Maas. "He's a senior and he's worked hard all season. He's just a super kid."

Dan Lewis was the area's top finisher in the boys' meet, ending ninth in the individual race with a 16:42.8 clocking.

Mark Hulliberger and Jeff Hough of Corunna finished 17th and 22nd, respectively and Steve Martin of Oxford was 24th.

In the boys' team race, Ainsworth's Tony Tyler and Tim Prime finished 31st and 41st.