

## Cross country

### People and teams to watch

Statewide, all eyes are on Dathan Ritzenhein of Rockford. The senior is considered the nation's best high school distance runner. His opening race confirmed that. At the Benzie Central Invitational, he clocked a stunning 14:58 to win by a quarter mile margin over a solid field. Rockford also won the boys team race with 21 points over Temperance Bedford (71).

A strong Northville team captured the Corunna Invitational's large schools division. Senior Brian Bilyk led the way with a 17:17 victory.

At Clarkston's invitational, Ann Arbor Huron captured the Division I title and Flint Powers the Division II title. Joe Whitman of Davison won overall in 16:40.

The Grosse Pointe North boys won their opening dual with Utica Ford, 17-41. Pat Kenny led in 17:17. The Norseman may be on the comeback trail. Winner of four state titles in the 1970s and 1980s, North has had an amazing 130+ students come out for the boys and girls teams this season.

## GIRLS

Rockford won the Benzie Central Invite with a near-perfect 17 points. Lead runner Kalin Toedebusch clocked 18:14 for a 26-second win over her teammate, Linsey Blaisdell. The Ram's cross country program is considered the leading high school program in the nation.

The Clarkston girls had to go to the tie-breaker (the sixth runner) to win the Cavalier Classic in Flint. Both Clarkston and Swartz Creek scored 66 points, while Ann Arbor Huron's Amy Baker won the individual run in 20:27.