

# Cross Country team off & running

At the Eagle Invitational, the Vienna Cross Country team started off strong and finished stronger. Nine schools, including Belle, Chamois, Dixon, Eugene, Laquey, MSD, Russellville, Stoutland and Vienna, competed on Wednesday, Sept. 7.

The first races for the day were for the junior high teams. The girls team finished second behind Russellville.

Participants for the girls included: Katelyn Meier, 2nd place, 11:10; Desiree Laubert, 4th place, 11:32; Devin Michel, 12th place, 12:26; Hannah Nelson, 14th place, 15:41; and Shayla Snodgrass, 15th place, 15:44.

The boys team finished first in the competition, beating Laquey on the tie-breaker of the sixth runner for each team.

Participants for the boys included: Jesse Messersmith, 1st place, 9:06; Zac Schoene, 7th place, 10:30; Seth Duncan, 9th place, 10:47; Dylan Rowden, 10th place, 11:05; Cory Barton, 11th place, 11:05; Ryan Struempfl, 14th place, 11:57; Derek Schwartze, 16th place, 13:07; Vincent Hollis, 18th place, 15:45; and Colt Pendleton, 19th place, 17:01.

The junior varsity and the varsity girls races were the next races of the day.

For the Vienna girls, Hailey Thomas was the top finisher in 10th place with a time of 24:59. Other results for the girls included: Danielle Verschueren, 24th place, 29:09; and Paige Hamm, 21st place, 28:37.

Stoutland won the varsity girls team competition and also had the top individual runner, Trisha Looney, with

a time of 22:27.

The junior varsity boys competition was tough with Laquey runners. In the end, Vienna was barely edged out for the first place plaque.

Junior varsity participants for Vienna included: Stephen Neubert, 1st place, 20:57; Levi Thomas, 2nd place, 21:00; Tyler Birdsong, 7th place, 22:40; Michael Swyers, 9th place, 23:35; and Fred Michel, 11th place, 24:28.

The varsity boy runners stepped to the line for the final race of the day. When the dust settled, Vienna was the champion of the day.

Pacing the Eagles was Bobby Soper with a first place time of 17:17. Other runners for Vienna included: Trevor Schiermeier, 6th place, 18:31; Nathan Swyers, 13th place, 19:55; Derick Laubert, 14th place, 20:03; Seth Nelson, 18th place, 20:38; and James Head, 28th place, 22:01.

"We had wonderful results," said Head Coach David Martin. "The junior high and high school runners really wanted to do well at our home meet. We are going to have a good season if everyone stays healthy and we keep working hard."

