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2007 State Cross Country Meet Recaps

Date: Saturday, November 10, 2007

Location: Oaklawn Park, Hot Springs, Arkansas

Meet results provided courtesy of the Arkansas Activities Association.

The following coaches contributed data used in this Recap: Carlton Efurd (Rogers), David Willsey (Acorn), Karl Koonce (Lake Hamilton) and Kevin Meythaler (Siloam Springs).

Class 1/2A:

In the Girls race, #1 ranked Des Arc and #2 Johnson County Westside figured to fight it out for the title but the #1 Lady Eagles flew to an easy 27-72-108 over JCWS and #3 Acorn in an 8-team meet. With a team average of 21:49 for 5k and a 2:14 Top 5 spread, Des Arc won the meet with only five runners finishing led by overall champ Courtney Patterson in a solid 20:57.45. The meet saw 12 runners under 23 minutes which is quite an accomplishment for the small schools which had only six under 23 in the first year of 5k in 2004. This is even more noteworthy when considering that the largest classification in 2004 only had 37 under the 23 mark. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Des Arc High School	27	1	3	4	7	12			
2 Johnson County Westside	72	9	11	15	18	19	23	40	
3 Acorn	108	6	14	27	28	33	35	37	

1 Courtney Patterson	9 Des Arc High School	20:51.45
2 Brittney Strother	11 Cushman	21:04.59
3 Toni Overton	9 Des Arc High School	21:21.24
4 Emily Carroll	10 Melbourne	21:38.01
5 Kimberly Parchman	11 Des Arc High School	21:47.83
6 Alex Haynes	11 Trinity Christi	21:50.56
7 Shelby Crees	11 Acorn	21:57.35
8 Alex Patterson	12 Des Arc High School	22:02.10
9 Allie Featherston	9 Murfreesboro	22:08.06
10 Emily Hester	11 Johnson County W	22:12.80
11 Haley Jones	9 Cushman	22:41.71
12 Amanda Mazzone	11 Johnson County W	22:47.60

The Boys race also followed the Coaches Poll rankings as the Top 4 teams finished in the ranked order. Acorn took off early to press the pace and was in good shape for the upset after the first mile but Jasper charged back in the middle of the race. As the runners came through the chute, Jasper had a narrow 7-8 lead after two runners and stretched the lead to 24-29 with only one runner to go. Jasper then finished hard as their 5th runner took 12th to seal the hard fought win in the 11-team meet by 36-46-132-132 over Acorn, #3 Greers Ferry Westside and #4 Murfreesboro. GFWS took 3rd with the 6th place tiebreaker by 38-53. Jasper achieved an average of 18:16 and a spread of 1:48 while Acorn averaged 18:40 and won the spread with 1:36. David James of Jasper won the race in a convincing 17:06.36. GFWS and Murfreesboro were not only close in team scores but averaged 20:26 and 20:27. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Jasper	36	1	6	8	9	12	24	36	
2 Acorn	46	3	5	10	11	17	18	19	
3 West Side Greers Ferry	132	14	22	28	31	37	38	39	
4 Murfreesboro	132	20	23	26	29	34	53	56	

1 David James	12 Jasper	17:06.36
2 Brian Hooten	9 Guy-Perkins	17:50.43
3 Eston Klutts	11 Acorn	17:58.42

4 Eric Hodge	12 Mount Vernon-Enola	18:11.48
5 Kyle CarteR	12 Acorn	18:12.09
6 Flint Rasmussen	10 Jasper	18:18.35
7 Zach Lemmon	12 Magazine	18:27.35
8 Edgar Pruitt	12 Jasper	18:30.22
9 Tim Jarmon	11 Jasper	18:33.77
10 Robert Brown	10 Acorn	18:43.97

Class 3A:

Genoa Central came into the meet ranked #1 in both the Boys and Girls Week 10 Coaches Poll and left the Spa City with two trophies as predicted.....however, the hardware was for two runner-up finishes as #2 Shiloh Christian upset the GC Boys and #2 Green Forest shocked the field in the Girls race.

Led by Maranda Dickinson in 4th and four in the Top 10, #2 Green Forest (avg 21:53/1st11) competing with only five runners completed its late season surge to take the Girls meet by 35-72-85 over #1 Genoa Central (avg 22:54/1:53) and #3 Elkins (avg 22:44). Genoa Central came into the meet with a solid #1 ranking having been no lower than #2 in the Coaches Poll during the fall. Grace Heymsfield (Elkins soph) swarmed the pack to handily win in a terrific 19:06.37 good enough for the 2nd best overall Girls time of the day. Mansfield freshman Lyndelle Martin took 2nd with a strong 20:48. The Girls race saw 18 runners with sub-23 times. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Green Forest High School	35	3	6	7	8	11		
2 Genoa Central	72	5	10	18	19	20	21	24
3 Elkins High School	85	1	12	13	29	30	33	34

1 Grace Heymsfield	10 Elkins High School	19:06.37
2 Lyndelle Martin	9 Mansfield	20:48.65
3 Jessica St. Martin	12 Lamar	21:25.28
4 Maranda Dickinson	11 Green Forest	21:34.30
5 Callie Smith	12 Eureka Springs	21:37.63
6 Kalin Hill	10 Genoa Central	21:40.48
7 Kamarra Hoppe	12 Green Forest	21:41.10
8 Whitney McCoy	10 Green Forest	21:41.33
9 Courtney Falco	9 Salem	21:45.33
10 Neisha Ball	11 Green Forest	21:46.64
11 Veronica Henderson	11 Pea Ridge	21:48.39

#2 Shiloh Christian (avg 17:53/2:05 spread) pulled off the mild upset cruised to the Boys win by 35-65-98 over #1 Genoa Central (18:37/1:19) and unranked Mountainburg. Shiloh did not appear in the Coaches Poll rankings until Week 10. Barrett Kerth (Perryville senior) won the Boys in a fine 16:36.47 and Shiloh frosh Robert Peiser raced to 2nd in an excellent 16:40. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Shiloh Christian School	35	1	3	5	12	14	16	24
2 Genoa Central	65	4	9	10	20	22	25	29
3 Mountainburg	98	8	19	21	23	27	58	67

1 Barrett Kerth	12 Perryville	16:36.07
2 Robert Peiser	9 Shiloh Christian	16:40.77
3 Tony Stewart	11 England High School	17:02.06
4 Chris Gray	12 Paris	17:18.69
5 Andrew Evans	10 Shiloh Christian	17:26.08
6 Mickey Hammer	11 Marshall	17:35.56
7 David Sunde	11 Episcopal Colleg	17:43.03
8 Kenny Spencer	10 Genoa Central	17:48.19
9 Mason Richards	9 Shiloh Christian	17:55.63
10 Rudy Sanchez	12 Eureka Springs	18:11.28

Class 4A:

#3 Heber Springs pulled yet another upset as the #3 Girls won by 40-65-99 over #1 Berryville (23:06/2:05) and unranked Central Arkansas Christian (avg 23:52). Heber was led by Cheslea Versor in 4th at a solid 21:26. The

Heber Girls averaged 22:22 with a 2:22 spread to put five runners in the Top 19. Hannah Clardy of Arkansas Baptist won the race in a nice 20:32.56. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Heber Springs	42	3	5	7	8	19	21	47
2 Berryville	65	2	12	14	15	22	26	44
3 Central Arkansas Christian	99	1	17	18	23	40	52	56

1 Hannah Clardy	12 Arkansas Baptist	20:32.56
2 Kelsey Hatcher	12 Cac	21:03.60
3 Katie Swofford	9 Berryville	21:14.66
4 Chelsey Verser	12 Heber Springs	21:26.90
5 Paola Martinez	12 DE Queen	21:36.54
6 Sydeny Erwin	11 Ashdown High School	21:37.40
7 Elizabeth Krug	10 Heber Springs	21:55.58
8 Katie Keil	10 Lutheran	21:56.56
9 Nikki Anderson	12 Heber Springs	22:07.28
10 Charla New	9 Dover High School	22:17.87

In the Boys competition, #2 DeQueen upended #1 Heber Springs Boys (18:08/1:35) and #3 Huntsville by 36-44-98. Heber actually led the race by 25-26 after their 4th runner finished having been in the lead by 12-17 at one point. DeQueen placed seven runners in the Top 14. Aaron Edwards, Berryville senior, won the Boys race in a solid 16:51.90. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 De Queen	36	2	7	8	9	10	11	14
2 Heber Springs	44	3	4	5	13	19	30	31
3 Huntsville	98	15	16	18	23	26	28	52

1 Aaron Edwards	12 Berryville	16:51.90
2 Javier Ortiz	11 De Queen	17:19.91
3 BJ Hood	12 Heber Springs	17:34.75
4 Michael Dorsey	9 Heber Springs	17:42.65
5 Michael Bryant	11 Heber Springs	17:49.68
6 Jesus Martinez	10 Cac	17:50.40
7 Jorge Parada	11 De Queen	17:51.87
8 Mario Dominguez	12 De Queen	17:52.77
9 Daniel Garcia	9 De Queen	17:55.43
10 Ivan Dela Cuesta	9 De Queen	18:18.27

Class 5A:

#1 Batesville Girls (21:19/1:07) barely hung on to clip #5 Greene County Tech (21:16/2:30) by 67-68 while the #2 Harrison Boys (17:49/2:34) pulled a mild upset slipping by #5 Siloam Springs and #1 Greene County Tech with a score of 78-107-111. In race where the Top 2 were only one point apart, Batesville's #4 runner might have sealed the win by taking 16th only .27 seconds ahead of 17th. Batesville, led by Rachel Gavin (20:43) in 8th, packed five runners between 8th and 20th in the winning effort. GCT actually led after each of the first four runners, including a 39-47 lead before the 5th runner. Gavin and Chelsea Weaver (Monticello, 20:05) in 2nd were among only four seniors in the Top 25 of 22:05 or better along with six freshmen. Ashley Miess (Pulaski Academy junior) won the Girls race in a very good 19:22.63 which was the 6th best Girls time of the day. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Batesville	67	8	10	13	16	20	23	37
2 Greene County Tech	68	3	7	11	18	29	31	38
3 Harrison	110	9	15	21	26	39	54	66

1 Ashley Miess	11 Pulaski Academy	19:22.63
2 Chelsea Weaver	12 Monticello	20:05.88
3 Bailey Sisson	10 Vilonia	20:11.93
4 Victoria Copeland	9 Greene County Tech	20:12.42
5 Taihsia Canady	11 Morrilton	20:16.24
6 Abby Wise	9 Nettleton	20:18.09
7 Jordan Kelch	10 Arkadelphia	20:27.63
8 Rachel Hill	10 Siloam Springs	20:30.68
9 Ashley Blackburn	11 Greene County Tech	20:32.72
10 Rachael Gavin	12 Batesville	20:43.44

11 Olivia Campbell	10 Harrison	20:52.06
12 Kelsie Wilson	11 Batesville	20:55.88

The 5A West took both trophies home as the #2 Harrison Goblins led conference rival #5 Siloam Springs after each runner with a 1-2 finish by Luke Allen and James Straubel. Siloam Springs held a narrow 43-45 lead over #1 Greene County Tech after three runners were in and put the runner-up trophy out of reach when their 4th runner took 29th only six seconds ahead of GCT's next runner at 32nd. GCT's 5th runner edged out Siloam's 5th by a mere .35 seconds to close the gap by a point. Allen (Harrison junior) won the Boys race in a solid 16:31.72 good enough for 10th best among all classifications and teammate Straubel edged Andrew Smith (Nettleton) and Ben Alexander (Monticello) by 17:20-17:21-17:21. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Harrison	78	1	2	12	23	40	57	76
2 Siloam Springs	107	11	13	19	29	35	36	41
3 Greene County Tech	111	14	15	16	32	34	42	52

1 Luke Allen	11 Harrison	16:31.72
2 James Straubel	11 Harrison	17:20.29
3 Andrew Smith	11 Nettleton	17:21.41
4 Ben Alexander	11 Monticello	17:21.74
5 Matt Ball	11 Vilonia	17:22.10
6 Caleb Mays	12 Arkadelphia	17:34.27
7 John Corkern	12 Greenwood	17:38.97
8 Chris Moutos	11 Pulaski Academy	17:39.27
9 Cody Weimann	12 Beebe	17:39.73
10 Neblett Spencer	10 LR Christian	17:41.58

Class 6A:

#2 Mountain Home Girls (21:51/2:02) upset #1 Lake Hamilton (22:47/1:42) to take a 30-51 win behind the 1-3 finish of juniors Brooke Rogers (20:35.43) and Shannon Hicks (21:29). The Top 2 teams accounted for 14 of the Top 19 finishers. MH's first seven matched up well against LH as each runner finished ahead of their LH placer.... 1st-to-4th, 3rd-to-5th, 7th-to-13th, 9th-to-14th and 10th-to-15th for the Top 5. Lake Hamilton put plenty of space between themselves and fellow 6A South team Watson Chapel in the battle for runner-up with a 22-33 lead after three. Chapel was led by Cierra Emerson (junior, 20:53) in 2nd. Freshman Meaghan Epperson led LH at 21:46 for 4th. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Mountain Home	30	1	3	7	9	10	12	17
2 Lake Hamilton	51	4	5	13	14	15	16	19
3 Watson Chapel	76	2	11	20	21	22	23	24

1 Brooke Rogers	11 Mountain Home	20:35.43
2 Cierra Emerson	11 Watson Chapel	20:53.43
3 Shannon Hicks	11 Mountain Home	21:29.97
4 Meaghan Epperson	9 Lake Hamilton	21:46.23
5 Brittany Turner	12 Lake Hamilton	21:55.15
6 Amanda Winters	10 Parkview	22:04.21
7 Ashley Gaines	12 Mountain Home	22:06.61
8 Joanne Johnson	11 Parkview	22:09.20
9 Alana Holland	12 Mountain Home	22:30.51
10 Jackie Adams	11 Mountain Home	22:37.14

#1 Lake Hamilton Boys (17:12/1:06) made sure the Wolves took home at least one more championship trophy to Percy as they blasted #3 Marion (17:56/1:04) and #2 Mountain Home by 27-55-98. The Wolves jumped out to a 8-24 lead after three runners and never looked back. Of note, had LH not had a 1-2 finish they would have still won 38-45 with their 3rd thru 7th runner. While Marion struggled to stay in sight of LH, the Patriots easily defeated 3rd place Mountain Home who never got closer to runner-up than four points and fell further back as the race progressed. Lake Hamilton was led by the 1-2 finish of soph Amos Gerber (16:28.59) and junior David Mills (16:41); Gerber's time was 8th best overall. Soph Chris Marchman (Sheridan) took 4th in a solid 16:42. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Lake Hamilton	27	1	2	5	9	10	11	13
2 Marion	55	4	6	14	15	16	25	28
3 Mountain Home	98	8	12	17	22	39	51	52

1 Amos Gerber	10 Lake Hamilton	16:28.59
2 David Mills	11 Lake Hamilton	16:41.99
3 Chris Marchman	10 Sheridan	16:42.63
4 Kolby Jones	10 Marion	17:20.49
5 Ethan Turpen	11 Lake Hamilton	17:24.24
6 Preston Brickey	10 Marion	17:26.85
7 Kyle Brown	12 Searcy High School	17:27.80
8 Dakota Melton	12 Mountain Home	17:36.25
9 Richard Williams	10 Lake Hamilton	17:43.50
10 Kevin Godwin	10 Lake Hamilton	17:44.78

Class 7A:

There were no surprises in the big school meet as the Rogers Boys showed why they deserved the #1 Coaches Poll ranking every week this year, a #4 Nike South ranking and a #18 Harrier national ranking. Meanwhile, the Lady Mounties were out to prove their new #1 Coaches Poll ranking and #10 Nike South rankings were no flukes and did they ever. While not as dominating as the Boys, the Girls took a 10-22 lead after three runners and then cruised to the win by 37-55-102 over historical rivals Bentonville and Fayetteville while achieving an average of 19:38 and a spread of 1:24. Bentonville also turned in a good day with an average of 19:57 and spread of 1:16. The Lady Tigers, led by MacKenzie Bloom in 4th at 19:20, had an excellent day with four of the Top 13 that in many years would have led to a solid win. Fayetteville trailed Springdale Har-Ber by as much as 39-48 before putting on a late charge to secure 3rd. Rogers senior Natalia Guerrero tore away from the field early with a 5:41 first mile, cruised to a 11:54 two mile and glided through a 6:18 3rd mile to win by 18 seconds in 18:51.71. Conway soph Erika Setzler was 2nd in 19:13 and Courtney Efurd (Rogers junior) was 3rd in 19:17. Anne Mitchell (Fayetteville) led fellow freshman Dani David (Rogers) to a 5th-6th finish in exceptional times of 19:33 and 19:35. Overall six freshmen were in the Top 25, all under 21 minutes. The Top 46 all were at 22 flat or better which is a significant improvement over the first year 5k was run in 2004 when 25 did so. Well over half the runners finished in 23 or less. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Rogers	37	1	3	6	12	15	16	17
2 Bentonville	55	4	7	11	13	20	35	50
3 Fayetteville	102	5	18	25	26	28	46	56
4 Springdale Har-Ber	111	8	9	22	30	42	45	48

1 Natalia Guerrero	12 Rogers	18:51.71
2 Erika Setzler	10 Conway	19:13.49
3 Courtney Efurd	11 Rogers	19:17.89
4 Mackenzie Bloom	11 Bentonville	19:20.00
5 Anne Mitchell	9 Fayetteville	19:33.27
6 Dani David	9 Rogers	19:35.24
7 Katie Dalton	11 Bentonville	19:39.62
8 Kimberly Peek	12 Har-Ber	19:44.87
9 Sydney Foreman	12 Har-Ber	19:51.06
10 Emily Carpenter	12 Cabot	19:56.79
11 Shannon Sullivan	10 Bentonville	20:00.32
12 Sarah Conley	10 Rogers	20:11.78
13 Kayla Horton	11 Bentonville	20:13.56
14 Kayla Nehus	10 Msm	20:14.77
15 Michelle Nichols	10 Rogers	20:15.20
16 Bonnie Black	9 Rogers	20:18.98
17 Emily Pappas	9 Rogers	20:27.21
18 Gena Burch	12 Fayetteville	20:31.38
19 Heather Estetter	12 FS Northside	20:34.06
20 Elenna Sanz	10 Bentonville	20:36.31
21 Reilly McAtee	11 Cabot	20:38.06

22 Brandy Herrera	9 Har-Ber	20:39.11
23 Rosario Salinas	12 Rogers	20:42.92
24 Allison Ridenhour	10 Russellville	20:43.32
25 Marissa DeLaPaz	11 Cabot	20:44.89
26 Kira Plummer	11 Fayetteville	20:47.41
27 Jane Thomason	12 Fayetteville	20:51.69
28 Courtney Allen	9 Cabot	20:52.68

As a coach said after the meet, "Rogers was awesome yesterday." That was no exaggeration. The Mounties put on a best ever race with nine runners under 16:48, a Top 5 average of 16 flat (with an excellent 54 second spread), nine runners in the Top 14 and a new course record of 15:30.10 by senior Aaron Hamilton. Two other Mounties, seniors Taylor Surly and Forrest Roth, were 2nd and 3rd at 16:00 or better. Rogers was kept from a Perfect 15 only by Marcus Pearson (Conway junior) who slipped into 5th at 16:11. The Blue Wave ran away with their 15th state championship with a score of 16-89-143 over Conway and Fayetteville. Even without their seniors who finished 1-2-3, Rogers would have won the meet by a stunning 22-74. The winning 16 score is at least the lowest Boys or Girls score since 1998. Hamilton set a fast pace with a 4:44 first mile, crossed 2 miles at 9:52 and laid down a blistering 4:53 3rd mile to break the course record of 15:34 set in 2002 by Chase Feltner (2001/2002 State CC Champ) of Russellville. Top teams and individuals are below:

1 Rogers	16	1	2	3	4	6	7	8
2 Conway	89	5	17	21	22	24	40	44
3 Bryant	143	23	25	26	27	42	53	61
4 Bentonville	157	12	19	28	33	65	75	83

1 Aaron Hamilton	12 Rogers	15:30.10
2 Taylor Surly	12 Rogers	15:55.54
3 Forrest Roth	12 Rogers	16:00.33
4 Jordan Falls	11 Rogers	16:11.15
5 Markus Pearson	11 Conway	16:11.56
6 Cameron Efurd	11 Rogers	16:24.45
7 Henry Wildenborg	11 Rogers	16:27.99
8 Juan Oralla	11 Rogers	16:31.27
9 Alex Tully	11 Catholic	16:36.43
10 Michael Allen	10 Russellville	16:38.64
11 Zane Bennett	12 Van Buren	16:39.13
12 Ben Peterson	11 Rogers	16:40.75
13 Rodney Sasse	12 Bentonville	16:46.61
14 Jeremiah Fleeman	10 Rogers	16:48.07
15 Caleb Hanson	11 FS Southside	16:51.20
16 Tyler Staggs	12 FS Northside	16:53.53
17 Justin Ball	11 FS Southside	16:54.10
18 Alden Hotz	12 FS Southside	16:57.01
19 Matt Woods	11 Conway	16:58.74
20 Daniel Walters	12 Fayetteville	16:59.76
21 Scott Compton	10 Bentonville	17:02.39
22 Lucas Bennett	12 Van Buren	17:02.66
23 Tabaris Earnest	11 Conway	17:03.51
24 Matt Friant	10 Conway	17:06.27
25 Joey Fuoco	12 Bryant	17:08.10
26 Tataris Earnest	11 Conway	17:12.85
27 Todd McAdoo	12 Bryant	17:17.57
28 Josh Harrison	12 Bryant	17:19.41
29 Ben Higgs	12 Bryant	17:21.69
30 Stephon Ferriel	12 Bentonville	17:24.88
31 David Chinchilla	12 Van Buren	17:26.21
32 Alex Heatherington	12 Fayetteville	17:28.19
33 Tom Bullock	12 FS Northside	17:30.60