

Indiana boys second, girls third at Mid-East Championships KETTERING, OH

Scott Lasiter of Franklin Central was the top Indiana finisher Saturday in the Mid-East Cross Country Championships here. Lasiter placed second out of 48 runners, leading the Indiana all-stars to a second-place finish in the four-state, four-team event. Illinois won with 46 points as Indiana (51), Ohio (57) and Michigan (61) rounded out the field. "It was a great race," Lasiter said of his dual with Illinois runner Jeffrey Todd. "I threw in a surge with just under a (kilometer) to go and he stayed with me. Then he just pulled away." Todd won the five-kilometer race in 15 minutes and 36 seconds. Lasiter was 10 seconds behind.

In the girl's meet, Megan Ranager of Valparaiso was the top Indiana finisher, placing eighth. The Indiana girls were third with 75 points. Michigan (27) won, Ohio (34) was second and Illinois (160) last. The meet consisted of 12 of the top senior cross country runners from each of the four states. Michigan won the combined title with 88 points while Ohio (91), Indiana (125) and Illinois (206) followed.

Indiana coach Jay White (Portage) said the meet was run in a rain-snow shower with winds up to 35 mph. Temperatures were in the low 30. "It was very interesting conditions," White said. "I think the kids enjoyed it though." Lasiter definitely agreed: "It's a great experience (being an all-star). They really take care of us. I've liked getting to know some of the other runners on the team. It's been a blast. The race was brutal."