

IHSA State Final Recap Saturday, November 8, 2008

PHOTOS

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Central seniors step up again for second at state

November 13, 2008
by Bill Stone

As Hinsdale Central girls cross country runners prepared for the Class 3A state meet Saturday, they painted special white bandanas with their theme for the season.

Senior Roey Hines used hers for the race.

"I like to wear a headband, and this one said 'Never Surrender' so it kind of got me pumped," Hines said.

Little did Hines know how much she would personify the season theme that everyone printed on their hands. Despite running the latter half of the 3.0-mile race with just one shoe, Hines was the Red Devils' No. 3 finisher to help them earn the second-place state trophy at Peoria's Detweiller Park.

The Red Devils (166 points) finished second to Geneva (51), which won its second straight Class 3A title, with St. Charles East (197) third.

"This is just a great way to finish off my season and all of my four years. It's been quite a journey, but I'm really glad that it ended like this," Hines said. "I think our theme this year, Never Surrender, just really helped me throughout the race. It hurt, it did, but I really tried not to think about it. The last 800 meters all I kept saying to myself was every point counts and I was just picking people off. That helped me keep my mind off what was really going on."

Senior Elaine Kuckertz (17 minutes, 17 seconds) finished sixth at state for the second year in a row and became the first three-time all-state runner in Hinsdale Central history with top-25 state finishes. Junior and first-year runner Graylin Harrison was 33rd (17:56), 16 seconds from 25th, followed by Hines (52nd, 18:07), junior Katie Kummerer (63rd, 18:12) and seniors Heather Stevens (64th, 18:12), Niamh McCarthy (107th, 18:37) and Lauren Zumbach (132nd, 18:53).

"We had a great team race," Hinsdale Central coach Mark McCabe said. "To be at the state meet, what you've been pointing towards all year, and to put it all together on the day and to do what you worked for all year, and in many cases four years, it's very satisfying but also a great lesson that no matter what happens in life, if you work at it and never give up, good things are going to happen."

Kuckertz and four-time state runners Hines, Stevens and Zumbach were part of the Red Devils' Class AA state championship lineup in 2006. Kummerer also was part of last year's lineup, which was fourth in the first three-class state format. Geneva, which won last year with five freshmen, put three sophomores and two transfers among the top 29 Saturday.

"Really I don't feel any better about winning (in 2006). I feel just as good today because I think we worked harder this year," Hines said. "You can't control how other teams do, or how other people race, but to know that everyone gave it their all and everyone did the best that they could do, that's when you feel really satisfied. It's definitely not any less of an accomplishment than winning state."

Kuckertz posted her fastest state-meet time after becoming only the program's second top-10 state finisher in 2006 by taking ninth (17:19).

Kuckertz's powerful second half of Saturday's race (8:29), second only to champion Lindsay Flanagan of Lake Park (16:54), helped her move up from 30th just before the two-mile mark.

"I feel like I left everything out there. The last 200 meters I was dying, and that's how I wanted to feel. (My favorite state race is) a toss-up between sophomore year and this year, but I got my fastest time this year so that's good," Kuckertz said.

"It's like in 'Bring It On,' when they got second and said it feels like first. That's how I feel today. I'm really happy for this season. That's what we worked for and I'm glad about that. We did what we came here for."

Hines, who has battled plantar fasciitis in both feet, sat out last year's sectionals because of the ailment and struggled to 125th at state.

She somewhat caught a break Saturday that when another runner stepped on the back of her shoe, it was the one covering her healthier left foot. She flicked the shoe off rather than stop to adjust it.

"We always say expect nothing, be prepared for anything, and she did a great job of dealing with a potentially disastrous situation," McCabe said.

"These seniors certainly have taken the program to a new level, but even more importantly they're a great group of girls in terms of the kind of people they are. Their impact has been and will be felt far more than the trophies they won and the times they ran but more the tone and example that they've set."

- York (251) was ninth. Oak Brook's Shreya Singh (84th, 18:19), the only senior in the Dukes' lineup, was their No. 4 finisher.
- Benet Academy (Lisle) was 15th (350 points) with junior Katie Porada of Clarendon Hills (188th, 19:45) the Redwings' No. 7 finisher.

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<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/clarendonhills/sports/highschools/1275617,ch-hcgirlsxc-111308-s1.article>

**ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Girls Class AAA
State Cross Country Championships
Peoria, Illinois - November 8, 2008**

Team Score

1. Geneva

2 3 10 12 24 (50) (74) = 51

Whitley, Heuer, Heuer, Ehrhardt, Tauscher, Brady, Shogren

2. Hinsdale (Central)

6 26 39 47 48 (80) (101) = 166

Kuckertz, Harrison, Hines, Kummerer, Stevens, McCarthy, Zumbach

3. St. Charles (East)

7 29 51 54 56 (109) (112) = 197

Hynes, Abel, Gordon, Robertson, White, Piemonte, Parker

4. Naperville (North)

19 31 45 53 61 (64) (78) = 209

- Stratton, Schertz, Grissom, Brodecki, Schertz, Rei, Weathered
5. Mt. Prospect (Prospect)
 - 11 30 44 68 72 (107) (129) = 225
 - White, Salzman, Snead, Krum, Maibeucher, Wochinski, Glennon
 6. Orland Park (Sandburg)
 - 9 25 28 84 87 (93) (170) = 233
 - Christensen, Prieto, Czuprynski, Czuprynski, Goldsmith, Gleisner, Saban
 7. Palatine (H.S.)
 - 4 21 41 67 111 (133) (145) = 244
 - McIntosh, Allen, Sund, Wright, Narayanan, Brown, Gregorio
 8. LaGrange (Lyons)
 - 13 27 46 59 100 (121) (130) = 245
 - Rehn, Kilrea, Flaherty, Lusson, Rocco, Rhode, Bruck
 9. Elmhurst (York)
 - 17 42 52 63 77 (90) (135) = 251
 - Frigo, Lund, Spencer, Singh, Frigo, Huster, Fry
 10. Palos Hills (Stagg)
 - 34 40 43 75 76 (174) (175) = 268
 - Moylan, Moylan, Kurth, Shares, Coverick, Szaflarska, Shakir
 11. Wheaton (W. Warrenville South)
 - 37 38 57 58 115 (123) (126) = 305
 - Mordini, Gibbons, Wanner, Anderson, Skibbons, Kelly, Witnik
 12. Hoffman Estates (H.S.)
 - 14 16 71 91 124 (153) (167) = 316
 - Schmidt, Worman, Kenley, Duenas, Worman, Mattes, Duenas
 13. Schaumburg (H.S.)
 - 8 22 65 85 139 (140) (159) = 319
 - Falsey, Petrey, Lesiewicz, Ferguson, Steenstrup, Wagner, Franco
 14. Roselle (Lake Park)
 - 1 32 83 103 105 (122) (127) = 324
 - Flanagan, Vogel, Riggio, Briscoe, Dakajos, Duggan, Prochazka
 15. Lisle (Benet Academy)
 - 15 60 70 92 113 (131) (154) = 350
 - Schulz, Bohac, Murphy, Schreiber, Marchese, Allen, Porada
 16. Bartlett
 - 5 35 108 110 120 (141) (155) = 378
 - Schneider, Salinas, Schneider, Crawford, Niewiara, Tovella, Baker
 17. Buffalo Grove
 - 33 73 79 89 118 (147) (169) = 392
 - Jones, McGrath, Peluse, Cleary, Geyer, Donnewald, Kissner
 18. Chicago (St. Ignatius College)
 - 18 49 62 146 151 (156) (160) = 426
 - Brumfield, White, McNulty, Dunham, Sexton, Faber, Brucks
 19. Chicago (Whitney Young)
 - 23 66 96 116 137 (143) (162) = 438
 - Jurkiewicz, Thompson, Vachuska, Roznyek, Joravsky, Nalls, Spingola
 20. Park Ridge (Maine South)
 - 20 81 117 119 134 (148) (149) = 471
 - Zillmer, Gavin, Sammarco, Beaugureau, Jaworski, Hejza, Hejza
 21. Frankfort (Lincoln-Way East)
 - 82 86 98 106 114 (128) (138) = 486
 - Sutor, Beggs, Revord, Zaremba, McClowry, Newell, Beggs
 22. New Lenox (Lincoln-Way Central)
 - 88 94 97 125 136 (157) (163) = 540
 - Lohrman, Hahn, Tribble, Boucher, Schliffka, Robinson, Shearer
 23. O'Fallon
 - 69 99 102 142 144 (161) (164) = 556
 - Hendrix, Schmitz, Holton, Johnson, Skavdal, Harmon, Van Housen
 24. Minooka
 - 36 95 132 152 158 (166) (168) = 573
 - Williams, Raynor, Morman, Simon, Hoy, Johnson, Castle
 25. Normal (Community)
 - 55 104 150 165 171 (172) (173) = 645
 - O'Leary, Dobbins, Weaver, Lowe, Young, Hong, Ziegler