

Skogman Places 8th and Moves on to State

UW-Parkside - October 21, 2023 - The Johnson Creek Cross Country team showcased their talent and dedication as they competed in the Sectional Tournament on Saturday, October 21st, at the UW-Parkside Championship Cross Country Course.

In an impressive performance, Senior Tyler Skogman secured the 8th overall position for the boys, finishing with a time of 18:32. Skogman's outstanding performance earned him a well-deserved spot in the upcoming State Tournament, set to take place in Wisconsin Rapids next weekend.

The boys' team, as a whole, demonstrated remarkable progress by securing 8th place overall out of 17 complete teams, a significant improvement over last year's 12th place finish. This accomplishment reflects the dedication and teamwork of Johnson Creek Cross Country athletes, who have worked tirelessly both during the season and in the offseason.

The girls' team also showcased their remarkable growth by securing a 5th place overall finish. Last year they did not have enough members to score as a complete team. Junior Rylee Hucke narrowly missed a state-qualifying finish, securing the 10th overall position with a time of 21:37. Freshman Lauren Nadboraliski was just behind her in 12th place, completing the race with a time of 22:09.

The success of Johnson Creek Cross Country can be attributed to the strategic program planning of Coach Ben Hail and the unwavering effort demonstrated by the athletes not only during the season but also during the offseason. Their dedication to their sport and commitment to personal growth have resulted in this exceptional season, placing Johnson Creek among the top contenders in the section.

Coach Brett Perucco said of the meet: "I am so proud of the performance of our athletes. These kids have worked so hard throughout the season. I'm so excited for Tyler, he's been working so hard for this and it's exciting to see him make it through as a senior. I'm also excited to see what Lauren and Rylee end up doing next year. They were so so close this year and have so much to be proud of. Lauren really had an outstanding freshman season. I think the most difficult part of this season for me is saying goodbye to the seniors. They have been such a wonderful group of kids to work with over the years. Not only were they all great athletes, but great people that are just enjoyable to be around. They will be dearly missed.

Coach Ben Hail said: "I am just incredibly proud of how this group of athletes has grown over the last year. I can't be happier for Tyler to get through to the state meet his senior year! At the same time, I can't help but be bummed for Rylee and Lauren who missed qualifying for the state meet by 1 and 2 spots respectively. Every athlete on this team should be incredibly proud of themselves and how much they improved from last season. The boys moved up in the sectional from 12th to 8th and the girls, who didn't have enough runners to score last year, placed 5th as a team. There are so many positives from this season to be proud of! I'm excited for the future of this program as we have some solid runners returning next year and some talent coming up from the middle school."

Johnson Creek Schools proudly congratulates these young athletes on an outstanding season and eagerly anticipates Tyler's upcoming performance at the State Tournament. The future looks bright for Johnson Creek Cross Country, and their continued success is a source of pride for the entire school community.