

Cross country takes home third place

By Kate Hendricks

Although the girls cross country team’s season didn’t end as they wanted, it was still a season most teams would dream of having. They placed first at every meet this year but one, with seniors Hannah Heinrich and Mia Fehringer paving the way for their success to continue in the post season.

Sophomore Avery Heinrich was the top runner on the girls team this year.

“My biggest takeaway is that the winning team isn’t always the team with the most trophies and medals; it’s the team that is the closest to one another and pushes each other everyday, and I feel that we had that this year,” A. Heinrich said.

The girls cross country team took on districts at Pierce on October 15th. They swept the class C-3 district with 3 girls placing in the top 15. The team placed first, A. Heinrich placed second, junior Emilyn Kavan fourth, and H. Heinrich sixth.

“It felt great to win districts for the third year in a row,” Kavan said.

On October 24th, the top six varsity girls runners attended the state meet in Kearney.

This year, the conditions were more favorable for running than the past couple years, providing a much cooler environment than the blazing hot days of the past. The girls competed against 113 other runners in class C.

“My favorite part of state is the atmosphere. There is much more anticipation than most meets, and there are people everywhere. I love seeing all 8,000 people running around

on the course and cheering,” H. Heinrich said.

For this state meet, the girl’s team was composed mostly of girls who had competed at state before. Everyone was familiar with the course besides freshman Garyn Ramaekers. After placing first at almost every

meet this season, the Shamrocks were ready to end their season off on a high note at the end of the day. The girls team took home third place, ending their season-long winning streak.

“We planned for the state meet by see-



Kate Hendricks / Rock Bottom Staff

Junior Emilyn Kavan races toward the finish line at the state meet in Kearney on October 24th. She placed 13th out of 119 runners, earning her 3rd straight state medal in cross country.

Volleyball fights to the finish at districts

By Jillian Rusher



Ava Bettenhausen / Yearbook Staff

Junior Shayla Borchers tips the ball against Columbus Lakeview in the Columbus Classic on October 4th. Borchers had 124 kills this season.

The Scotus volleyball team has not been spared in this year of change. They have completed their season with a new coach and many players who played their first season at the varsity level. The Shamrocks finished with a record of 11-19, ending the season with

a loss to Battle Creek in subdistricts. Their record, however, does not tell the story behind their games.

Junior Grace Hamling started as an outside hitter for the Shamrocks.

“I would say our toughest matches were

against Kearney Catholic. We played them three times this season, and each time, we got better and performed to the best of our ability. They were a good team, but we always showed up even if it did not result in a win,” Hamling said.

To start the year, the team rarely took a set in their losses until October 14th when the Shamrocks traveled to Grand Island Central Catholic. Scotus swept GICC in 3 sets, a much needed win for the team.

Senior Kayla Hoffman had 16 digs throughout the game.

“After defeating Grand Island in three sets, we were excited to see where the rest of the season would lead us. We knew we needed to take that motivation and build off it for the rest of the season,” Hoffman said.

This win seemed to flip the switch on the team’s season. After this game, even through losses, Scotus would take their opponents to 4 or 5 set matches. One of these games was October 21st against St. Cecilia. Although the Shamrocks fell in the fifth set, it was a nail biter throughout the whole game, from a first set victory 25-21 all the way to falling in the fifth set 12-15.

Senior libero Sophia Langan had 7 digs in the St. Cecilia game.

“We went through so many new changes in all aspects of the game. I think the attitude of the team kept us all going, knowing we played for each other, not as individuals,” Langan said.

Even though the team would go into subdistricts on a loss, the five set battle gave

ing where we would run with certain people, but it didn’t work out very well. I will take away the memories I have made with the seniors and the rest of the team, and that is worth more than 1,000 gold medals to me,” Kavan said.

Kavan was the lone individual medalist from Scotus, placing 13th, making this her third state medal in cross country. A. Heinrich placed 16th, H. Heinrich placed 17th, Fehringer 82nd, Ramaekers 89th, and Leslie Medina-Perez 92nd.

“I feel that we should be proud of our season as a whole. I think we were the winners this season, but state did not reflect that. I am disappointed with third place because I feel like we were the best team there; we just had a bad day,” A. Heinrich said.

Chase County was the class C champion with 67 points. Adams Central came in second with 77 points. The Shamrocks had 81 points, only 4 points behind the Patriots.

“Finishing third place was definitely disappointing because we fell short of winning a state championship yet again. Still, it is something to be proud of,” H. Heinrich said. “Our team learned that having high goals and expectations for yourself will sometimes leave you disappointed. However, the disappointing finish at state takes nothing away from the fun and successful season we had. I will miss these girls like crazy, and I hope I was a good role model and leader for them!”

the team more momentum.

“From the beginning of the summer to the end of October, our team faced a lot of adversity. Positions were switched, injuries happened, rotations were moved. Even through all of that, we promised each other to work hard and believe in the process because by the end it would finally come together,” Hoffman said.

The Shamrocks played Wakefield in the first round of subdistricts on Monday, October 27th at Battle Creek. The team won in 3 sets and would play Battle Creek the following night.

“The team really relied on each person to play the best they could. We would all do our part, and it would come together,” Langan said.

On Tuesday, October 28th, the Scotus volleyball team’s season came to an end, but again, this was not without a fight. The Shamrocks fell to Battle Creek in the first set 15-25 but would turn around and win the next two sets 25-20 and 25-21. Battle Creek won the fourth 23-25 and closed out the win in the fifth set 6-15.

Senior middle hitter Lola Doerneman had a personal best of 15 kills against Battle Creek.

“We really did play well against Battle Creek, so it definitely was a heartbreaker. Although we lost, I’m super proud of how we competed and never gave up on each other. This team battled hard throughout the whole season, and I’m just so grateful for all of them,” Doerneman said.

Football secures win on senior night

By Josie Rother

The Shamrock football team’s season came to an end with a win against the Wayne Blue Devils, finishing their season with a 3-6 record. Ending the season on a win is something many teams fall short of and was an end the Shamrocks were fighting for.

Prior to senior night on October 10th, the Shamrocks played the Lakeview Vikings. The Shamrocks, coming off a win against Schuyler, ended the first half 11 points behind the second ranked team in class C. Scotus held the Vikings to a scoreless third quarter before Lakeview sealed up their win with two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter. The Shamrocks lost the rivalry game to the vikings 3-35.

Senior Noah Chohon was a starting offensive and defensive lineman for the Shamrocks this year.

“Even though the Lakeview game did not end the way we wanted it to, the team is better than our record shows,” Chohon said.

The following week on October 17th, the Shamrocks suffered another loss to the O’Neill Eagles 7-37. The two losses ended the team’s chance of making it to the playoffs, which meant there was only one game left to play.

Senior running back and linebacker Thomas Settje ran 1045 rushing yards this season, meeting his personal goal of 1000.

“We were shown [against O’Neill] what level we needed to rise to be a top team in C1,” Settje said. “The game showed us a level of physicality we hadn’t seen yet.”

On October 24th, the Shamrocks bested

the Wayne Blue Devils 55-12, earning the seniors a win on senior night. The seniors playing football were honored before kick-off along with the other fall sport athletes.

Senior wide receiver Eli Maguire scored a touchdown with a leaping one-handed catch during the game against Wayne.

“The win made the end of the season less emotional and sort of bittersweet. It was a weird feeling to win my last game ever,” Maguire said.

Senior defensive and offensive lineman Bear Scott was one of Scotus’ leading tacklers all season. Scott leads the team in sacks and is a team captain.

“We became closer as a team because it wasn’t about the wins; it was about showing up everyday with a smile on your face,” Scott said.

The team will be graduating 10 seniors this year, including their starting quarterback and leading rusher.

Junior running back Parker Newman was a key player for the Shamrocks this season on both sides of the ball. Parker led the team this year in tackles per game.

“I think [the seniors] set a great example of what it’s like to be a team,” Newman said. “They showed up everyday and worked hard while still having fun. In my opinion, the team had a sense of brotherhood it had locked in previous years. Everyone was involved and did their part.”

Settje scored 11 rushing touchdowns this year, making him the Shamrock’s leading scorer.



Kayla Hoffman / Yearbook Staff

Senior running back and linebacker Thomas Settje stiff arms a defender on October 24th at the home game against Wayne High School. Settje put up 234 yards and 4 touchdowns against the Blue Devils.

“A lesson I have learned, and probably the greatest lesson football can teach, is how to get back up after getting knocked down,”

Settje concluded. “Life will throw many challenges in your way, but the most important thing is you recover and get back up.”