Cotter earns all-league honors at Frontier League meet



Louisburg sophomore Levi Cotter finished in the top 20 last Thursday at the Frontier League meet in Tonganoxie. TONGANOXIE – The Louisburg cross country team began its postseason schedule last Thursday at the Frontier League Invitational in Tonganoxie.

One Wildcat was able to leave the meet with postseason honors.

Sophomore Levi Cotter finished 20th overall as that was good enough to put him on the All-Frontier League honorable mention team. Cotter ran a time of 18 minutes and 42 seconds to lead the Wildcats.

"Levi ran a great race and moved through the field in the last mile to put himself in All-League honors," Louisburg coach John Reece said. "Even though it was not his best time, it was a very competitive race for him."

Sophomores Spencer Mattison and Truman Ellison also finished in the top 30 in the league. Mattison (19:25) and Ellison (19:37) were 28th and 29th, respectively.

Senior Ben Proctor was 54th in 21:44, while another senior, Jerynce Brings Plenty, is out for the rest of the season with an injury.

On the girls side, freshman Hailey Shelton just missed out on all-league honors as she led the Louisburg girls in 24th in 23:32. Sophomore Talen McMurray was 28th in 23:40.

Senior Marissa Vallejo was 36th in 24:20 and freshman Anna Cotter was 46th in 24:51. Freshman Brianna Caraway (67th) and sophomore Luciana Vallejo (74th) rounded out the Wildcat varsity team.

"The girls team is very young and are doing well," Reece said. "Hailey led the way and posted her best time on a challenging course."

The course at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds provided some challenges for all the runners involved.

"It was challenging due to lots of curves and turns and there was never true smooth ground to run on, very rough footing," Reece said. "There were two long gradual hills in the last mile that challenged all runners."

Louisburg will now prepare for the Class 4A regional meet Saturday that will be held at Blue Valley Southwest. The girls race will begin at 10 a.m., and the boys race will be at 11:15. "We have a good chance to qualify individuals at regionals so it will be an exciting race," Reece said.