## **Creek Cross Country Girls Fourth in Horicon, Boys Ninth**

Horicon, WI - The Johnson Creek High School Varsity Girls' Cross Country team placed fourth of fifteen scoring teams at the River Run in Horicon Thursday afternoon with a score of 118 points, claiming four medals placing in the top 25 individually. Senior Molly Burke is enjoying her first season on the team, and beamed, "Every JC runner gave everything they had, and it is truly amazing to be a part of something bigger than myself."

The boys earned ninth place with 265 points, led by junior Evan Chowanec. As with every meet this season, Junior Francisco Gutierrez stood out, shaving two full minutes off his time on this course last year, scoring in the number two spot. Chowanec explained, "I went into it with a positive attitude, despite my nagging foot. It's helped show me once again, it's all about attitude and intention. Let's celebrate everyone for going into this race with a strong mindset!"

Coach Benjamin Hail added, "This was a great meet for the girls' team. There was a lot of solid talent at this meet and the girls stepped up to the competition. With four girls placing in the top 25, and bringing home medals, this squad has a lot to be proud of. The boys ran well today too with Evan leading the squad and bringing home a top 25 finish and a medal."

The Bluejays enjoy an eight-day break from racing now before competing in division three in their perennial favorite Nightfall Classic in Lake Mills, Friday, October fourth. Girls will race at 7:10 p.m. and boys at 7:45 p.m.

Scoring varsity girls: Senior Rylee Hucke (11th, 21:43.1), sophomore Lauren Nadboralski (12th, 21:48.1), freshman Lia Constable (15th, 22:00.1), freshman Kiara Dach (22nd, 22:12.5), and senior Molly Burke (61st, 24:43.0).

Scoring varsity boys: Junior Evan Chowanec (24th, 18:55.4), junior Francisco Gutierrez (38th, 19:43.2), sophomore Collin Hucke (41st, 19:50.8), freshman Max Chowanec (75th, 21:28.3), and sophomore Duncan Thomas (96th, 22:53.5).

## Middle School

Seventh-grader Bradley Hail finished second the middle school boys' race in a time of 11:46.1, having crossed halfway on the heels of eighth-grade Sawyer Herrmann from Horicon, who he beat last week, before watching Herrmann take the decisive victory this

week. Creek eighth-grader Reed Wilbanks was fourth. Seventh-grader Bella was the top finisher of Creek girls, placing 38th. Other ribbon-winners for finishing in the top 50 by sex included eighth-grader Joey Steenbergen, sixth-grader Charli Wendt, and sixth-grader Kenley Hucke.