Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga High men's and women's cross country teams bested the field Saturday morning at the High Country Classic at the State Farm Fields in Boone. Both the WHS men and women won their respective meets. The men's team had

four runners in the top ten. Josh Anderson paced the Pioneers with a second-place finish as he completed the race in 16:49. Peter Vandenberg finished fifth in 17:10; Michael Holland was seventh (17:18) and Bryan Brackney finished eighth (17:18). Patrick Sheehan of Lake Norman won the race in 16:32. WHS won the meet with 46 points. Northwestern High from Rock Hill, S.C., finished second with 54 points.

Darby Middlebrook won the women's race in 18:38 and she bested the field by nearly a full minutes. WHS won the meet with 36 points. The Pioneers had three runners in the top ten. Kathleen Mansure finished seventh in 20:06; Lynde Wangler was eighth in 20:39.

Will Vandenberg of Watauga won the boys JV race in 18:13. WHS had four runners in the top ten and won the race with 36 points. Jordan Stokes of WHS won the JV girls race in 22:21; Lily Weeks finished second in 22:54. WHS, which had five runners in the top ten, won the race with 26 points.

Grant Pilking of Two Rivers won the middle school race in 12:31; Holden Perry of Watauga County finished third in 13:27; Marylouise Sprague of Watauga County was the top female finisher and was 11th in 14:29.