

Middlebrook Paces Pioneers XC Carnival

Written by Mike Kelly
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Darby Middlebrook notched another victory on Saturday---her second of the season---as she won the women's championship race at the Western North Carolina Cross Country Carnival at Jackson Park in Hendersonville,

N.C. Middlebrook won the race in 18:15.00. Brooke Gordon of T.C. Roberson finished second in 18:45.72. Madison Harman of the Pioneers finished tenth in 19:37.62; Kathleen Mansure of the Pioneers was 30th (21:12.36). The Pioneers finished third with 103 points; TCR finished second with 63 points. The Rams had four runners in the top 20. Morristown (TN.)-Hamblen West won the championship race with 59 points.

Middlebrook and Harman also met the national silver standard on Saturday with their efforts. Bailey Dobbins was 13th (22:14.48) in the women's invitational race ; Jordan Stokes was 20th (22:31.72). WHS finished sixth as a team. Rachel Foutz was 23rd in the women's individual race (25:22.92); WHS finished fifth. And WHS won women 3K race with 33 points. The Pioneers had four runners in the top ten.

Lily Weeks led the way finishing second in 12:38.26; Jesse Wangler was third (12:40.26) and Carson Middlebrook finished fourth (12:41/07). Emily Kane was ninth (13:28.69). WHS had three finishers in the top 20 in the men's championship race. Josh Anderson paced WHS finishing ninth in 16:36.66. Michael Holland was 18th in 17:00.62 and Peter Vandenberg was 20th in 17:06.11. The Pioneers finished second as a team with 117 points. Chapel Hill won the race with 89 points.

Luke Johnson was 18th in the men's invitational (18:28.54); WHS finished fourth. Zack Cole (19:29.68) finished seventh in the men's individual race; Zak Horine was tenth (19:51.29); WHS finished third. Sophomore Zach Styron won the men's 3K race in 10:39.46. Junior Andrew Harrelson finished a very close second in 10:39.85; Caleb Zimmerman was 15th (11:28.09). WHS finished third.

The Pioneers have a Northwestern 3A/4A Conference relay meet Wednesday in Taylorsville. Alexander Central will be the host school.