



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

**Released to: Titan E-News, Sentinel-News**

**Collins High School, Shelbyville, KY**

**Cross Country 10-11-22**

### **Haunted Woods Run**

The Running Titans traveled to Oldham County High School Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> to compete in the Haunted Woods Run. The brisk (40 degrees) sunny morning was conducive to running as the athletes ran past ghosts and goblins during their "woods" portion of the race.

The girls' race featured a stellar field of some of the best female endurance runners in the state. The line-up included freshmen Savannah Mooney (Bullitt East) and Gracie Reed (Barren Co.), and last year's region Champ Tula Fawbush (Oldham Co.). It also included three of the top sophomores in the state - Border Battle Champion Abigail Crask (South Oldham) and runner-up Emma Kendall (Collins), as well as Hope Boa (Oldham Co.).

Fawbush led the entire race and won in 18:25. Collins' Emma Kendall bounced between 6-10 place for most of the race and finished in ninth (19:27) in the second fastest time of her career, bettering her 20<sup>th</sup> place from last year. Sophomore Grace Nelson (40<sup>th</sup> place) and freshman Sophie Bolin (48<sup>th</sup> with the second best time of her career 21:44) finished in the top 50. Junior Laura Vidourek (60<sup>th</sup>) and sophomore Luci Renda (68<sup>th</sup>) rounded out the scoring for Collins. This gave the Titans 197 points which was good for sixth place out of 21 teams to improve upon their eighth place finish of last year.



(Photo: R. Delaney)

*Collins' Emma Kendall (626) battles with Oldham Co. junior Kaylee Nay (2116) and Bourbon County's Bethany Simpson at the Haunted Woods Classic on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>.*



(Photo: R. Delaney)

*Michele Burgess (624) races to the finish with Lilly Todnam of North Oldham in pursuit.*



(Photo: R. Delaney)

*Luci Renda finishes the Haunted Woods race.*

On the boys' side, four of the five scoring Titans got the second best times of their career. Sophomore Nathan Janes finished 35<sup>th</sup> in 17:27, only two seconds off his PR. Junior Eli Moreno (51<sup>st</sup> in 18:00) and sophomore Chase Delaney (53<sup>rd</sup> in 18:03) also got the second best times of their career. Junior Melbyn Velasquez, in his first race all season due to injury, was the next Titan to finish (78<sup>th</sup> in 18:44). Freshman George Diakhate (140<sup>th</sup> in 20:30) got the second best



time in his career to finish out the Titan scoring with a total of 311 points. This was good for ninth place out of 28 teams, which bests their twelfth place finish last year.



(Photo: S. Delaney)

*Melbyn Velasquez (637) had a good outing in his first race back after an injury.*



(Photo: S. Delaney)

*Chase Delaney (631) and Eli Moreno (636) got the second best times of their careers at the Haunted Woods Classic.*



(Photo: S. Delaney)

*George Diakhate also got the second best time of his career at the Haunted Woods Classic.*



(Photo: R. Delaney)

*Start of the boys' race at the Haunted Woods Classic.*

The Running Titans next race is the Region 4 AAA Meet at Seneca Park in Louisville on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM.

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