



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Collins High School, Shelbyville, KY

Cross Country 11-1-22 (v1)

State AAA Meet

Collins had one boy and the girls team run in the State Class AAA meet in Paris at the Bourbon County Park Course on Oct. 29th. The boys' race was first. Sophomore Nathan Janes, who made State last year, got off to a good start, clocking his second fastest opening mile of the season (5:25). He held his position through the two miles but lost a little ground on the third mile as the tough course caught up to the runners. Janes finished in 18:08 for 144th place. This improved upon both his time and finish (189th) of last year.

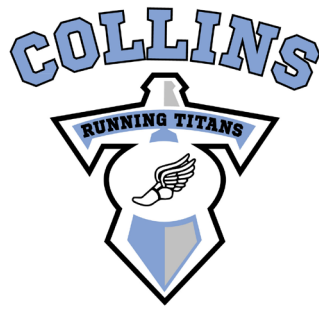


(Photo: H. Rosenow)

Nathan Janes (1464) at the start of the State AAA Meet on the Bourbon County Cross Country Course on Oct. 29th.

The girls' team made State for the first time since moving up one classification to 3A three years ago. The girls' team has made State in nine of the thirteen years of the school's existence.

The Titan girls got their second fastest start of the season as the top five averaged 6:20 for the first mile. The first mile of the course is usually fast because there is more downhill than up.



All of Collins' top five were under their targets at the two mile mark. However, the third mile took its toll on the athletes as the unrelenting hills and final 200 uphill grade added to the fatigue. Sophomore Emma Kendall was the first Titan across the finish line in 19:54 for a top-50 finish (34th place). She was followed by sophomores Katelynn Gaddis (123rd) and Grace Nelson (137th). Junior Laura Vidoruek had one of her best races of the year as she was the fourth Titan across the line in 22:12 (148th). She was followed closely by sophomore Luci Renda, who was two seconds back in 152nd to round out the Titan scoring. This gave the Collins girls 527 points which was good for 16th place out of 37 teams.



(Photo: H. Rosenow)

Grace Nelson (1871) showed true grit at State, running the last 1.5 miles with a bloody nose. Here she battles with Dixie Heights senior Scarlett Erney. Nelson finished 137th and Erney 139th.



(Photo: H. Rosenow)

Laura Vidourek (1873) battles with Dixie Heights senior Clarissa Miller (1908) and Greenwood junior Finley Johnson (1958) at the State AAA Meet.



(Photo: H. Rosenow)

Emma Kendall (1870) competes with Assumption freshman Mabel George (1797) just before the two mile mark at the State Meet.



Head Coach George Sanderlin said, "The girls struggled a bit in the last mile, and I know they wanted to finish a bit higher as a team. Overall, we had a great season, we worked hard and had fun doing it. All the athletes improved year over year and throughout the year. The girls set a team time school record and the boys had a top ten clocking. With everyone returning, this should set us up for a good year next season. Then the girls will be gunning for a top-10 finish at State and the boys' goal will be to make state for the first time since moving up to 3A."

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