

Centralia & Axtell Cross Country Runners Win Individual Titles at Washington County Invite
It was the Twin Valley league and Big Seven's, Nemaha Valley Raiders highlighting the Washington County cross country invite.

Two of the top runners in the state captured the individual crowns at the meet with Axtell's, Audrey Schmitz taking first place in the girls 4K competition by almost an entire minute (17:21.24) and Centralia's, Lukas Koch winning the boys 5K competition (17:22.63).

For the girls competition the featured eight Kanzaland athletes in the top 10 finishers. After, Schmitz at first the next Kanzaland athlete in the top ten check in at third place, with Mikyala Peterson, of Nemaha Valley taking that spot. Peterson wasn't the only Raider in the top 10, as Annie Davis finished sixth, also. Clifton-Clyde had two top 10 finishers; Airika Long in fifth and Abby Sikes in eighth. Centralia and Washington County each had a top 10 finisher; for Centralia it was Julia Klute in ninth place and for Washington County, Madison Stone finished seventh. The other top 10 finisher was tenth place finisher, Susan Peschel out of Axtell.

For the team finishes it was the Nemaha Valley Raiders earning that crown, followed by Axtell in second, then host Washington County in third. Rock Creek, Southern Cloud and Onaga rounded out the team standings in the girls competition.

Centralia's, Lukas Koch had a close race on his hands taking first by close to nine seconds, beating out a runner from Pike Valley. Koch was not the only TVL runner to have a top 10 finish, plus Nemaha Valley had a couple runners finish in the top 10, as well.

Koch, out of Centralia is one of the top runners in the state and he has another fellow TVL runner that is right behind him in Adam Koch out of Frankfort, who finished third in the meet. Washington County and Axtell runners finished fourth and fifth for four of the top five individual spots going to TVL runners. Dylan Hodgson took fourth and Tracy Schmitz placed fifth. Highlighting the rest of the top 10 spots from the Kanzaland area were two Nemaha Valley Raiders, Kaleb Swart finished sixth and Colin Lierz who finished ninth.

Team finishes weren't as kind for the area team in the boy's side as they were in the girls competition. Pike Valley took first, followed by Wakefield in second. The best team performance from the Kanzaland teams was Nemaha Valley who took third. Rounding out the rest of the team finishes it was Rock Creek, Washington County, Onaga, Axtell and Southern Cloud in that order.

Full Results from Washington County Invite ([click here](#))