

1998

AWARD WINNERS

Varsity Award Winners

Kim Zigler 9	
Karin Skelton 9	
Emily Rowlands 9	
Irene Knapp 9	
Krista Wiedenhoft 9	
Jann Johnson 9	
Mary Terronez 10	2
Kari Reagin 10	1
Bill Bean 10	1
Taren Komadina 10	1
Nicki Sellon 10	1
Jenny Lake 10	2
Mike Skelton 11	1
Ashley Paulson 11	1
Chris Cashman 11	1
Matt Travis 11	1
Bobby Ristau 11	2
Alysa Snyder 11	3
Andy Beuster 11	3
Andrea Blondell 11	3
Grant Venema 11	2
Tim Nelson 11	2
Josh Fleming 12	2
Justin Fluck 12	4
Mark Keplinger 12	4
Chris Studer 12	4
Jill Hinrichs 12	4
Rhonda Loftus 12	4

Manager Award Winner

Kelli O'Dell 10

Freshman Award Winners

Jason Cherry 9

Rachel Pobanz 9

Sophomore Award Winners

Brandon Johnson 9

Jeremy Heaton 9

Kyle Lichthardt 9

Kristina Blankenfeld 10

Nita Prasad 10

Nathan Thompson 10

Jaime Gunnison 10

Megan Irish 10

Adam Kuban 10

Nathan Ash 10

Mark Gleason 10

Phil Mason 10

Mike Stone 10

Josh Franks 10

Brandon Sandavol 10

Mike Sunstrom 10

Jared Betcher 10

Junior Varsity Award Winners

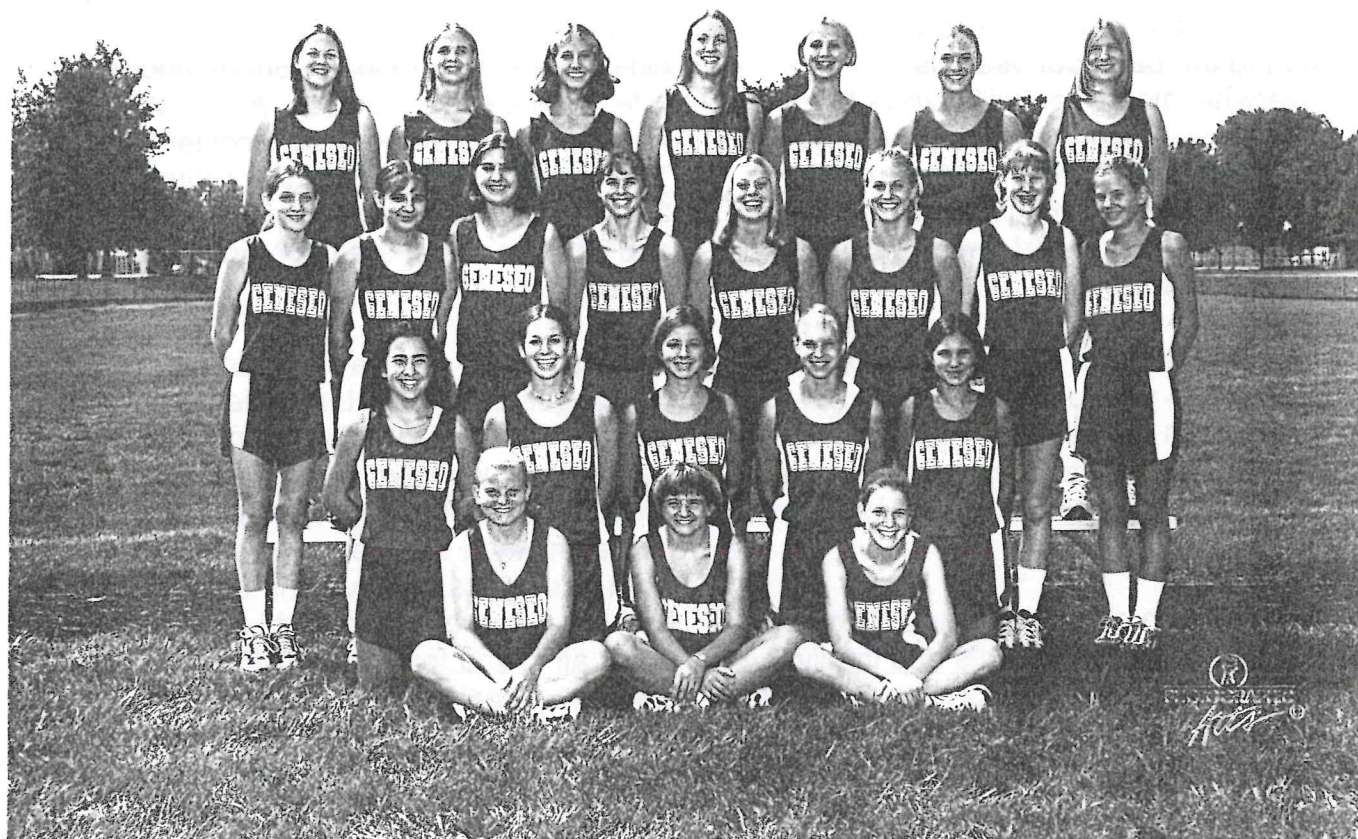
Codi Hultman 11

Erin Schneider 11

Angie Swagger 11

Billy Johnson 11

1998 GIRLS' CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM



GIRLS' CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM: (front row, left to right) Jaime Gunnison, Karin Skelton, Krista Wiedenhoeft; (second row, left to right) Kari Reagin, Andrea Blondell, Mary Terronez, Emily Rowlands, Kim Zigler; (third row, left to right) Irene Knapp, Erin Schneider, Rachel Pobanz, Codi Hultman, Rhonda Loftus, Jill Hinrichs, Megan Irish, Jann Johnson; (back row, left to right) Taren Komadina, Alysa Snyder, Jenny Lake, Kelli O'Dell, Nikki Sellon, Angie Swagger, Ashley Paulson.

1998 BOYS' CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM



BOYS' CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM: (front row, left to right) Brandon Johnson, Josh Franks, Jason Cherry; (second row, left to right) Nathan Thompson, Mike Skelton, Tim Nelson, Kyle Lichthardt, Andy Beuster, Justin Fluck, Josh Fleming; (third row, left to right) Brandon Sandoval, Mark Gleason, Jeremy Heaton, Billy Johnson, Bill Bean, Adam Kuban, Jared Betcher, Mike Stone; (Back Row, left to right) Mark Keplinger, Bobby Ristau, Chris Studer, Grant Venema, Chris Cashman, Matt Travis, Mike Sundstram.

Boys Cross Country

"This may have been the best overall combined team in school history." **Don Fredericks, Head Coach**

"It was a great team, running a great team race to achieve a team goal that had never been obtained before." **Chris Studer, commenting on the Sectional Championship.**

"Roads? Where we're going, we don't need roads." **Bobby Ristau**

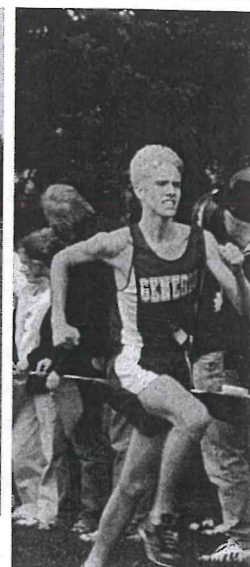
"I owe everything I am to certain members of this team. Thank you for all of your support." **Matt Travis**

"It's almost depressing to know I'll probably never be a member of a team this good ever again." **Mark Keplinger**

"Not everything went the way we planned, but we made the best out of what we had." **Tim Nelson**



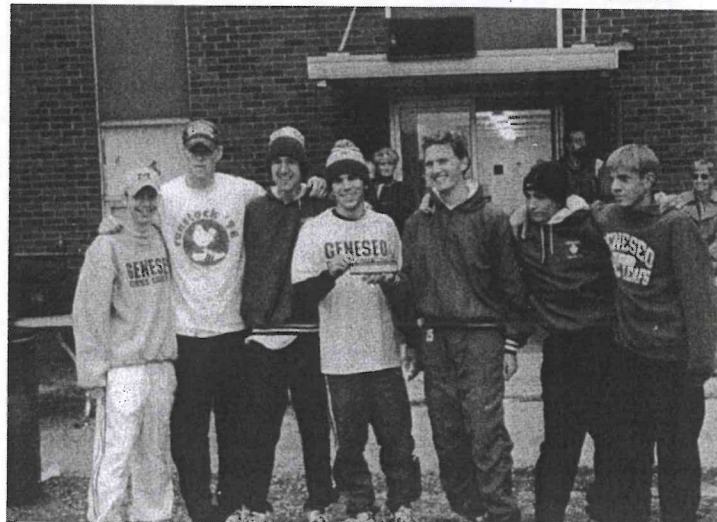
First row: Brandon Johnson, Josh Franks, and Jason Cherry. Second Row: Nathan Thompson, Mike Skelton, Tim Nelson, Kyle Lichthardt, Andy Beuster, Justin Fluck, and Josh Fleming. Third row: Brandon Sandoval, Mark Gleason, Jeremy Heaton, Billy Johnson, Bill Bean, Adam Kuban, Jared Betcher, and Mike Stone. Fourth row: Mark Keplinger, Bob Ristau, Chris Studer, Grant Venema, Chris Cashman, Matt Travis, and Mike Sunstrom.



Above: People from every come to watch Bobby Ristau the Maple Leafs run on Sat



Above: The gun goes off at the 72 team Peoria Notre Dame Invitational.



Above: We only win conference for the huge trophies that we get. Left: Senior Josh Fleming and Junior Matt Travis lead, fearless of banishment.

Harriers Shoot to the Finish Line

The Geneseo Boys Cross Country team wrapped up yet another successful season, starting out fast, and finishing with a bang.

Along with my teammates, the varsity boys team finished the regular season with another duel meet record of 11 wins and 0 losses. "We endured a long, injury filled season, but came out ready to go at the end of the season," according to Leafs' coach "Disco" Don Fredericks. We were peaking just in time for the championship meets. With the fresh/soph team taking the top 3 spots at the conference meet, and the varsity team sweeping 6 out of the top 10 spots at the conference meet in Sterling to claim their second straight N.C.I.C. title, we were ready for bigger and better things.

The regional meet did not go as well as expected; finishing second to Rock Island, but qualifying for sectionals. The second place finish inspired us for the next week to go out and prove ourselves.

The next week, we returned to Sterling for the sectional championship meet, and for the chance to advance to the state finals. This was something that we had talked about since July at our team camp, Runstock, and that something was winning our sectional, and qualifying for the state finals. We entered the race with confidence, aggressiveness, and our high expectations. There ended up being an uncanny three way tie for the championship. The mighty Leafs prevailed for their first sectional championship in school history over second place Rockford Guilford and third place Rock Island, with our sixth runner, Bobby Ristau, beating out the other two sixth runners for the tie-breaker.

The stage was then set for us at the state finals, in Peoria on November 7th. In cold, fair conditions, the Leafs pulled out a 23rd place finish. Chris Studer led the Leafs with a 101st place finish. Six out of the seven Leaf harriers, though, ran personal bests.

Mark Keplinger, Justin Fluck, and Studer were chosen as the team captains for the season. The M.V.P. award ended up going to Tim Nelson and Studer in a close contest. Fluck was named Most Inspirational Runner while Mark Keplinger was given the "Top Dog" award for the seniors, Grant Venema for the juniors, Bill Bean for the sophomores, and Kyle Lichthardt for the freshmen class.

An outstanding and historical year was had, but with the young talent and leadership returning, the Leafs should be set for years to come.

By: Justin Fluck



Above: Moments after announcing the champion, the team holds the sectional plaque.

Fresh/Soph team results

(lowest score is 15 points)

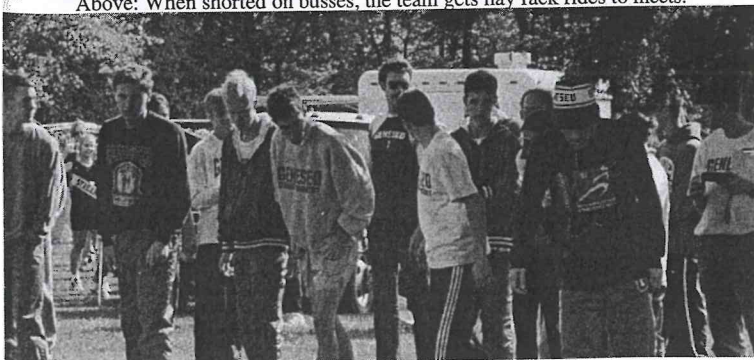
Kewanee	W 15-48
Rock Falls	W 18-42
Lasalle Peru	W forfeit
Alleman	W 19-41
Rock Falls	W 15-47
Mendota	W 15-50
Dixon	W 17-46
United Township	W 15-42
Sterling	W 15-49
Ottawa	W 15-48
Galesburg Invite	2nd
N.C.I.C.	1st

Varsity team results

Kewanee	W 16-44
Rock Falls	W 16-50
Lasalle Peru	W forfeit
Alleman	W 15-42
Rock Falls	W 15-46
Mendota	W 15-50
Dixon	W 19-42
United Township	W 17-45
Sterling	W 15-50
Ottawa	W 20-42
Galesburg Invite	1st
Peoria High Invite	4th
N.C.I.C.	1st
Regional	2nd
Sectional	1st
State	23rd



Above: When shorted on busses, the team gets hay rack rides to meets.

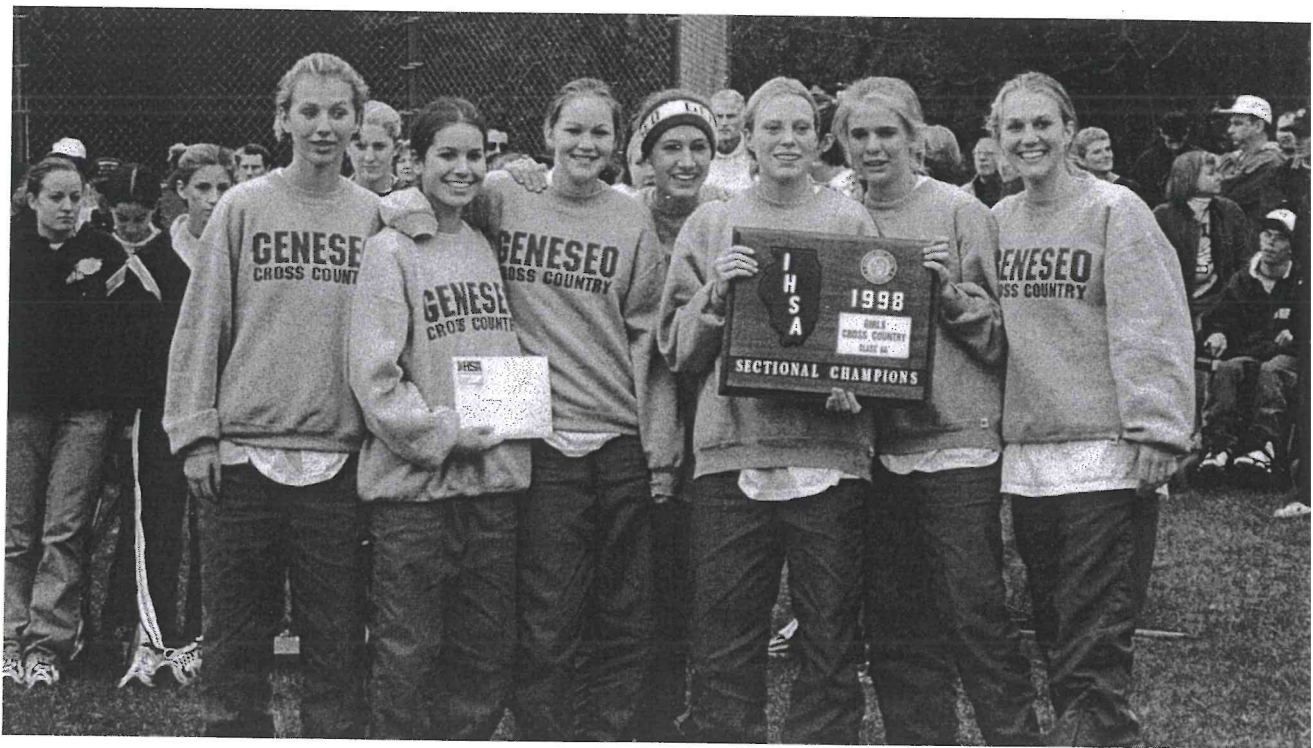


Chris Cashman, Josh Fleming, and Matt Travis enjoy themselves at the state cross country meet.

Left: Chris Studer second guesses his race plan.

1998

Cross Country Girls



Nicki Sellon, Andrea Blondell, Taren Komadina, Jenny Lake, Rhonda Loftus, Alysa Snyder, Jill Hinrichs

1998

Running for the Stars

By Jill Hinrichs

A galaxy of stars filled our cross country team this year. At the beginning of the season our girls knew that the sky was the limit when it came to setting goals for their bright future. The cross country coaches, Don Fredericks and Mel Snook, made us want to sprint for the stars.

As the regular season progressed, the girls' duel record ended at 9-1. The one loss was to the Alleman girls who were currently ranked first in their class in the state. We ended up reclaiming the loss at the state meet.

At the speed of light, the championship season was in front of us. With the shooting star,

Jenny Lake, in front of them, the two captains, Rhonda Loftus and Jill Hinrichs, led the amazing galaxy to another conference, regional, and sectional championship!

This entire season was full of emotion, passion, and love. The girls have never been closer. This shined through at the conference and sectional meets when the Geneseo Maple Leafs won every race. For the first time in school history, both boys and girls won their sectional.

This talented galaxy will be back next year to defend what they have earned! Remember girls: Always run for the stars!



Front: Jenny Lake, Alyssa Snyder, Rhonda Loftus, Jill Hinrichs, Taren Komadina, Krista Wiedenhoef. Second: Karin Skelton, Andrea Blondell, Kelli O'Dell, Nikki Sellon, Kari Reagin, Megan Irish, Jana Johnson, Kim Zigler, Irene Knapp.