

Youth drives Maple Leafs at invite

By **CHRIS STEELE**
Republic Sports Editor

The Maple Leafs' underclassmen showed the cross country team is on the rise.

Neo Colter led the Maple Leafs to a team win with a fourth-place finish in 18:38 in the sophomore race at Richmond Hill, on Sept. 16.

The Leafs finished runner-up in the boys' combined competition, and Geneseo was runner-up in the boys and girls combined totals at the Geneseo Invitational.

Colter sees the Maple Leafs building something special with a young group of runners leading the way.

"We have a whole bunch of kids with talent and even more with dedication," Colter said. "Those two things will get us a long way down the road."

Geneseo's Colby Rapps finished sixth in 18:48, and Spencer Lindstrom ran down 10th in 19:40.

Luke Hankhaus crossed the finish line in 15th place in 20:38, and Ky Ariano finished in 20:41.

Will Sammons nabbed a 20th place in 22:17, and Will McKelvin finished in 22nd place in 22:53.

In the freshmen race, Geneseo earned a second-

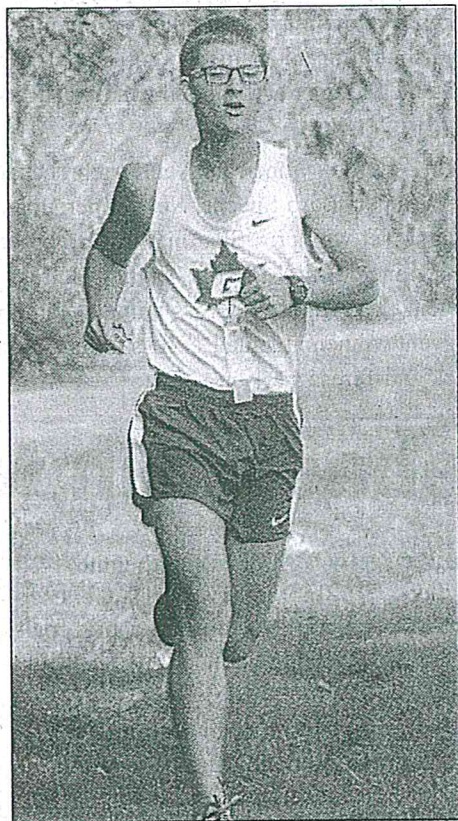


Photo by Chris Steele

NEO COLTER ran to a fourth-place finish in the sophomore race at the Geneseo Invitational.

place finish as a team with William Plumley leading the way with a runner-up in 19:02.

The Leafs' Rafe Morrison finished fifth in 19:39, and Ricky Chavez ran down seventh in 20:21.

Geneseo's Tanner Burgett landed 21st in 24:51.

The Maple Leafs' Raymond Venneberg led the way in the



Photo by Chris Steele

WILLIAM PLUMLEY races to a runner-up finish in the freshmen race at the Geneseo Invitational.

Geneseo senior class race in 19:17, and Geneseo finished in third place as a team.

Thackery Newton crossed the finish line in 16th in 20:31, and Adam Wells finished 18th in 20:48.

Geneseo's Christian Booth was a spot back in 21st place with a time of 21:24.

In the junior race, Andrew Rizzo paced Geneseo with a seventh-place time of 18:42,

and the Maple Leafs finished fifth in the junior competition.

Nathan Carroll grabbed 14th place in 20:19, and Luke Sebastian finished in 24th place in 21:36.

Geneseo's next competition will be at the Rock River Run held at Hoover Park, in Sterling, on Saturday, Sept. 23 starting at 9 a.m.



XC HOMECOMING COURT

Pictured are the Lady Leafs Cross Country Co-Captains Veronica Eilers and Rebekah Beard. They were selected by the student body as the Homecoming Lady (Rebekah) and Duchess (Veronica). We are all very proud of both of them.

They are tremendous young ladies who are also strong Christian Role Models.



"SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER"

Pictured are several members of the Boys XC team taking a moment to snap a quick picture in the hall. The rest of the group is in "da gym" "getting down"

HOMECOMING 2017

Geneseo High School's Homecoming weekend was held over the weekend starting with Friday, September 16th and the Homecoming Parade. Usually, we choose the picture from the parade but opted to go with this shot for a "change of pace". Kudos to all the team members who attended the dance. Hopefully, a good time was had by all.



LEAFS SOPHOMORES LEAD TEAM WITH GOLD MEDAL PERFORMANCE

Pictured are 5 of our 14 sophomores who won the team title in the Geneseo XC Inv. Sophomore Division. Pictured are Spencer Lindstrom, Ky Ariano, Neo Colter, Colby Rapps, & Will Sammons

LEAFS MINE GENESEO XC SILVER

On Saturday, September 16th, the Leafs played host for their annual Geneseo Cross Country Invitational. The meet was hosted at Geneseo's Richmond Hill Park. The 8- team field included teams from: Bettendorf, Davenport West, Geneseo, LaSalle-Peru, Ottawa, Sterling, Streator, and United Township.

The meet's origin come from Crystal Lake's Hall of Famer, Dick Kloepper, who came up with the idea of running races by grade level. When he started his meet, there was no girls' cross country teams. He eventually added two girls races (9th / 10th) and (11th / 12th graders.) The meet was called, "the Grant-Crystal Lake Invitational" (co-hosted with Grant High School in Fox Lake.) Medals were awarded to the top 10 finishers in each race with a team plaque awarded to each team champion at each level. "Ghost Runners" are used if a team doesn't field a "full scoring 5". He then added up all the boys points to get an overall champion (another plaque.) Ditto for the girls. He then added up all the boys and girls points to get an overall champion. His meet no longer exists and we added a few tweaks to come up with our format. 20 medals in each race along with 4 races for the girls instead of 2. We also start the girls 3 minutes after the boys reducing the races from 8 to 4.

We have enjoyed an unusually cool summer and start to the school year. Unusually warm weather arrived late in the week and a forecast high of 90° for Saturday prompted us to combine the freshmen and sophomores races in addition to doing the same thing for the juniors and seniors. Our reasoning was for the protection of the runners. We knew that would complicate computing the results but nothing is more important than the safety of the athletes. Unfortunately, combining the races resulted athletes, not in the top group, being unsure what place they were in their class race. Oh well, no system is perfect.

On to the races. I'll talk about the races in order of grade level. Our Freshmen were racing with only 4 men (that's all we have.) The fact that they placed 2nd anyway (only 13 points out of first place) was extremely impressive. The team was represented by: William Plumley (2nd), Rafe Morrison (5th), Ricky Chavez (7th), and Tanner Burgett (21st place.) Each man ran inspiring races led by the "Usainian" (Usain Bolt) kicks of William Plumley and Tanner Burgett. Even though the race started at 9:00 a.m. the temperature was already north of 80°.

Our sophomores were also racing at the same time and really "stuck their noses" into the fight early. Leading the way were: Neo Colter (4th), Colby Rapps (6th), Spencer Lindstrom (10th), Luke Henkhaus (15th), Ky Ariano (16th), and Will Sammons in 20th place. In case you aren't counting, that's 6 Maple Leafs in the TOP 20!!! No far behind were: Will McKelvain (22nd), Nathan Yoder (26th), Jacob Jorgensen (27th), Kyle State (34th), and Cade Hornback (35th.) When the team points were added up, the Leafs had upset a powerful Bettendorf squad by 13 points by scoring 51 points to Bettendorf's 64. GREAT JOB, MEN!

On to the final race that included both the juniors and seniors. Our juniors placed 3rd taking two "ghost runner" hits. Andrew Rizzo led the way in 7th place, running his best race of the season. Next up was Nathan Carroll (14th) with Luke Sebastian sprinting across the finish line in 24th place. Our lack of junior class depth hurt us in this race. We will have to work hard to recruit additional classmates before next September rolls around.

Last up was our senior class who placed 3rd in the team standings despite running only four of our eight men. Leading the way was Raymond Venneberg who grabbed 8th place in the strong field. Next up were: Thackery Newton (16th), Captain Adam Wells (18th), and Captain Christian Booth (19th.) Four entries and four Top 20 Medals. Well done, Men! We wish you nothing but the best in the remaining weeks of the season.

In summary, placing 2nd overall behind Iowa powerhouse Bettendorf is impressive. Our classes placed Freshmen (2nd); Sophomores (1st); Juniors (5th); Seniors (3rd.) An added challenge was the fact that this was homecoming week. Also, hosting meets is always a disadvantage in regard to coaching. Lastly, of our current 31 men, we only had 22 race. Some were held out due to injuries. Some simply failed to show up (either to work the meet or to race.) That is unacceptable and extremely disappointing. Let's get EVERYONE on board and moving the CORRECT direction. We cannot afford to have any weak links. Don't be a part of the problem. Be a part of the solution. There is a lot of truth in the saying that there is NO "I" in the word TEAM!

Date: 9/16/17						
Site: Richmond Hill Park in Geneseo						
Conditions: Daytime high of 91° with light winds. HOT						
Racing Distance: 3.00 miles						
Team Finish: 2nd out of 8 teams						
	TIME	ATHLETE	PLACE	RACE	1-MILE	2-MILE
1	18:38	Neo Colter	4	10	???	12:11
2	18:42	Andrew Rizzo	7	11	6:08	12:27
3	18:48	Colby Rapps	6	10	???	12:19
4	19:02	William Plumley	2	9	???	12:26
5	19:17	Raymond Venneberg	8	12	6:05	12:45
6	19:39	Rafe Morrison	5	9	???	12:38
7	19:40	Spencer Lindstrom	10	10	???	13:03
8	20:19	Nathan Carroll	14	11	6:21	13:18
9	20:21	Ricky Chavez	7	9	???	13:28
10	20:31	Thackery Newton	16	12	6:33	13:32
11	20:38	Luke Henkhaus	15	10	???	13:21
12	20:41	Ky Ariano	16	10	???	13:57
13	20:48	Adam Wells	18	12	6:35	13:42
14	21:24	Christian Booth	19	12	6:44	14:02
15	21:36	Luke Sebastian	24	11	6:59	14:12
16	22:17	Will Sammons	20	10	???	15:07
17	22:53	Will McKelvain	22	10	???	15:22
18	23:18	Nathan Yoder	26	10	???	14:36
19	23:28	Jacob Jorgensen	27	10	???	15:09
20	24:20	Kyle State	34	10	???	16:12
21	24:36	Cade Hornback	35	10	???	16:46
22	24:51	Tanner Burgett	21	9	???	15:09
	DNC	Blake Ducan-12	Medical			
		Austin Heller-12	Medical			
		Chris Hodshire-12	Conflict			
		Nathan Lambert-12	Medical			
		Juan Mejias-Dansbach-11	Conflict			
		Hayes Murphy-10	Medical			
		Brad Smith-11	Medical			
		Evan Veloz-10	Medical			

	17:58	Freshman Race Leader	1	9	???	???
	17:39	Sophomore Race Leader	1	10	???	???
	17:09	Junior Race Leader	1	11	???	???
	16:24	Senior Race Leader	1	12	???	???
		Geneseo Spread				
		1-5: 0:39				
		1-7: 1:02				
		1-10: 1:53				

Geneseo High School Inv
9.16.2017

<i>Girls Combined</i>	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total	Place
Bettendorf	43	78	40	59	220	1
Davenport West	135	138	125	121	519	8
Geneseo	63	43	62	121	289	2
LaSalle-Peru	106	159	122	107	494	6
Ottawa	119	185	109	66	479	5
Sterling	112	31	58	110	311	3
Streator	98	149	135	134	516	7
United Township	99	149	113	99	460	4

<i>Boys Combined</i>	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total	Place
Bettendorf	52	67	59	68	246	1
Davenport West	82	121	67	105	375	3
Geneseo	68	51	112	88	319	2
LaSalle-Peru	78	135	101	126	440	5
Ottawa	162	160	136	96	554	8
Sterling	93	137	61	108	399	4
Streator	117	146	137	99	499	7
United Township	144	94	158	55	451	6

<i>Overall Combined</i>	Girls	Boys	Total	Place
Bettendorf	220	246	466	1
Davenport West	519	375	894	4
Geneseo	289	319	608	2
LaSalle-Peru	494	440	934	6
Ottawa	479	554	1033	8
Sterling	311	399	710	3
Streator	516	499	1015	7
United Township	460	451	911	5

2017 Geneseo Cross Country Invitational - 9/16/2017

Richmond Hill Park in Geneseo

Rankings

Event 2 Boys 3 Mile Run CC Freshmen Boys

Name	Year	School	Finals	Points
1 Moore, Nick	09	Bettendorf	17:58.00	1
2 Plumley, William	09	Geneseo	19:02.00	2
3 Bruce, Javon	09	Sterling	19:11.00	3
4 Brittin, Jack	09	LaSalle-Peru	19:19.00	4
5 Morrison, Rafe	09	Geneseo	19:39.00	5
6 Hessel, Jackson	09	Davenport West	20:16.00	6
7 Chavez, Ricky	09	Geneseo	20:21.00	7
8 Huffstutler, Jackson	09	Davenport West	20:41.00	8
9 Jennings, Nicholas	09	Bettendorf	20:46.00	9
10 Brown, Samuel	09	Sterling	21:03.00	10
11 Wolf, Carter	09	Bettendorf	22:07.00	11
12 Porter, Brayden	09	LaSalle-Peru	22:20.00	12
13 Carr, Jon	09	Bettendorf	22:27.00	13
14 Parr, Kevin	09	Streator	22:34.00	14
15 Larkey, Benjamin	09	Sterling	22:40.00	15
16 Patel, Het	09	LaSalle-Peru	22:41.00	16
17 Hrovat, Ty	09	LaSalle-Peru	22:56.00	17
18 Pribyl, Layton	09	Bettendorf	23:02.00	18
19 Faison, Bryce	09	Davenport West	23:14.00	19
20 Darrow, Ethan	09	Streator	23:18.00	20
21 Lutz, Bryce	09	United Township	23:34.00	21
22 Burgett, Tanner	09	Geneseo	24:51.00	22
23 Lantau, Ryan	09	Davenport West	26:37.00	23
24 Dobbels, Ethan	09	United Township	26:37.00	24
25 Wilinski, Josh	09	Streator	26:47.00	25
26 Hernandez, Sebastian	09	Davenport West	26:48.00	26
27 Ridge, Kevin	09	Streator	30:55.00	27
28 Phillips, Ben	09	Ottawa	32:00.00	28
29 Foster, Jacob	09	LaSalle-Peru	32:37.00	29
30 Bylor, Kaycee	09	Davenport West	40:32.00	30
31 Lake, Evan	09	Streator	40:32.01	31

Team Scores

Rank	Team	Total	1	2	3	4	5	*6	*7	*8	*9
1	Bettendorf	52	1	9	11	13	18				
	Total Time: 1:46:20.00										
	Average: 21:16.00										
2	Geneseo	68	2	5	7	22	32				
3	LaSalle-Peru	78	4	12	16	17	29				
	Total Time: 1:59:53.00										
	Average: 23:58.60										
4	Davenport West	82	6	8	19	23	26	30			
	Total Time: 1:57:36.00										
	Average: 23:31.20										
5	Sterling	93	3	10	15	32	33				
6	Streator	117	14	20	25	27	31				
	Total Time: 2:24:06.01										
	Average: 28:49.21										
7	United Township	144	21	24	32	33	34				
8	Ottawa	162	28	32	33	34	35				

2017 Geneseo Cross Country Invitational - 9/16/2017

Richmond Hill Park in Geneseo

Rankings

Event 4 Boys 3 Mile Run CC Sophomore Boys

Name	Year	School	Finals	Points
1 Wright, James	10	United Township	17:39.00	1
2 Johnson, Logan	10	LaSalle-Peru	17:50.00	2
3 Castro, Kyler	10	Bettendorf	17:56.00	3
4 Colter, Neo	10	Geneseo	18:38.00	4
5 Swarm, Jonny	10	Bettendorf	18:42.00	5
6 Rapps, Colby	10	Geneseo	18:48.00	6
7 Pantoja, Rafael	10	Streator	19:06.00	7
8 Nitz, Dillon	10	Sterling	19:22.00	8
9 Rhodes, Ben	10	United Township	19:27.00	9
10 Lindstrom, Spencer	10	Geneseo	19:40.00	10
11 Kordick, Anton	10	Davenport West	19:57.00	11
12 Haiston, Connor	10	Davenport West	20:16.00	12
13 Roehr, Aaron	10	Bettendorf	20:16.01	13
14 Janssen, Samuel	10	Sterling	20:33.00	14
15 Hankhaus, Luke	10	Geneseo	20:38.00	15
16 Ariano, Ky	10	Geneseo	20:41.00	16
17 Dunn, Mason	10	Davenport West	20:41.01	17
18 Murphy, Mike	10	Ottawa	21:29.00	18
19 McDermott, Cullen	10	Bettendorf	21:30.00	19
20 Sammons, Will	10	Geneseo	22:17.00	20
21 Bohnstengel, Elijah	10	United Township	22:31.00	21
22 McKelvain, Will	10	Geneseo	22:53.00	22
23 Rashid, Adam	10	United Township	22:54.00	23
24 Robinson, Matt	10	LaSalle-Peru	23:09.00	24
25 Yoder, Nathan	10	Geneseo	23:18.00	25
26 Jorgensen, Jacob	10	Geneseo	23:28.00	26
27 Beck, Parker	10	Bettendorf	23:30.00	27
28 George, Matt	10	LaSalle-Peru	23:41.00	28
29 Dean, Xavier	10	Streator	23:47.00	29
30 Poffenbarger, Zach	10	Ottawa	24:04.00	30
31 Nagle, Keegan	10	Ottawa	24:17.00	31
32 State, Kyle	10	Geneseo	24:20.00	32
33 Hornback, Cade	10	Geneseo	24:36.00	33
34 Lemus, Kevin	10	Sterling	24:50.00	34
35 Mesarchik, Coltin	10	Streator	25:13.00	35
36 Berrryhill, Enrique	10	Streator	25:28.00	36
37 Thomsen, Tyler	10	Bettendorf	25:46.00	37
38 Kenyon, Nikko	10	Bettendorf	27:11.00	38
39 Deleon, Alessandro	10	Streator	30:21.00	39

Team Scores

	51	4	6	10	15	16	20	22	25	26
1 Geneseo										
Total Time: 1:38:25.00										
Average: 19:41.00										
2 Bettendorf	67	3	5	13	19	27	37	38		
Total Time: 1:41:54.01										
Average: 20:22.81										
3 United Township	94	1	9	21	23	40				
4 Davenport West	121	11	12	17	40	41				
5 LaSalle-Peru	135	2	24	28	40	41				
6 Sterling	137	8	14	34	40	41				
7 Streator	146	7	29	35	36	39				
Total Time: 2:03:55.00										
Average: 24:47.00										
8 Ottawa	160	18	30	31	40	41				

2017 Geneseo Cross Country Invitational - 9/16/2017

Richmond Hill Park in Geneseo

Rankings

Event 6 Boys 3 Mile Run CC Junior Boys

Name	Year School	Finals	Points
1 Morgan, Kameron	11 Davenport West	17:09.00	1
2 Baker, James	11 Bettendorf	17:22.00	2
3 Martinez, Mikio	11 Sterling	17:27.00	3
4 Moorman, Isaiah	11 Sterling	17:47.00	4
5 Gravert, Jordan	11 Davenport West	18:10.00	5
6 Scott, Brendan	11 Bettendorf	18:25.00	6
7 Rizzo, Andrew	11 Geneseo	18:42.00	7
8 Wisor, Brett	11 Davenport West	18:44.00	8
9 Schaefer, Logan	11 LaSalle-Peru	18:53.00	9
0 Bean, Connor	11 LaSalle-Peru	19:05.00	10
11 Leal, Ruben	11 Sterling	19:19.00	11
12 Blakely, Noah	11 Ottawa	19:24.00	12
3 Ramon, Chase	11 Streator	20:14.00	13
4 Carroll, Nathan	11 Geneseo	20:19.00	14
15 Pocivasek, Jacob	11 LaSalle-Peru	20:50.00	15
16 Calihan, Ty	11 Bettendorf	20:53.00	16
7 Arevalo, Chris	11 Bettendorf	21:02.00	17
8 Markovich, Patrick	11 Bettendorf	21:06.00	18
19 Palcenia, Carlos	11 Bettendorf	21:07.00	19
0 Nahnybida, Nicholas	11 Davenport West	21:13.00	20
1 Ivarson, Andrew	11 Sterling	21:13.01	21
22 Brown, Marquez	11 Sterling	21:17.00	22
23 Bland, Connor	11 Sterling	21:29.00	23
4 Sebastian, Luke	11 Geneseo	21:36.00	24
5 Elmizwghi, Haroun	11 United Township	21:45.00	25
26 Huaracha, Miguel	11 Sterling	22:30.00	26
27 McGurk, James	11 Streator	22:52.00	27
8 Serna, Marcos	11 Ottawa	23:27.00	28
9 Perry, Nolan	11 Ottawa	24:09.00	29
30 Darrow, Damon	11 Streator	24:18.00	30
1 Rogers, Ray	11 United Township	26:14.00	31
2 Quick, Logan	11 Bettendorf	26:38.00	32

Team Scores

Rank Team	Total	1	2	3	4	5	*6	*7	*8	*9
1 Bettendorf	59	2	6	16	17	18	19	32		
Total Time: 1:38:48.00										
Average: 19:45.60										
2 Sterling	61	3	4	11	21	22	23	26		
Total Time: 1:37:03.01										
Average: 19:24.61										
3 Davenport West	67	1	5	8	20	33				
4 LaSalle-Peru	101	9	10	15	33	34				
5 Geneseo	112	7	14	24	33	34				
6 Ottawa	136	12	28	29	33	34				
7 Streator	137	13	27	30	33	34				
8 United Township	158	25	31	33	34	35				

2017 Geneseo Cross Country Invitational - 9/16/2017

Richmond Hill Park in Geneseo

Rankings

Event 8 Boys 3 Mile Run CC Senior Boys

Name	Year	School	Finals	Points
1 Gebhardt, Jacob	12	Sterling	16:24.00	1
2 Martin, Dalton	12	United Township	16:31.00	2
3 Wright, Andrew	12	Davenport West	17:01.00	3
4 Klatt, Drew	12	Ottawa	17:45.00	4
5 Jones, Adrian	12	Streator	17:47.00	5
6 Curry, Ben	12	Bettendorf	18:34.00	6
7 Parker, Joey	12	Bettendorf	19:10.00	7
8 Venneberg, Raymond	12	Geneseo	19:17.00	8
9 Cortes, Luis	12	United Township	19:18.00	9
10 Rathburn, Tre	12	Streator	19:23.00	10
11 Laud, Mason	12	United Township	19:25.00	11
12 Ambrose, Matt	12	LaSalle-Peru	19:26.00	12
13 Garcia, Colton	12	United Township	19:36.00	13
14 Ratigan, Nick	12	Bettendorf	19:41.00	14
15 Syverson, Richard	12	Ottawa	19:59.00	15
16 Newton, Thackery	12	Geneseo	20:31.00	16
17 Huesmann, Kyle	12	Bettendorf	20:38.00	17
18 Wells, Adam	12	Geneseo	20:48.00	18
19 Booth, Christian	12	Geneseo	21:24.00	19
20 Poon, Ivan	12	United Township	21:30.00	20
21 Eckhardt, Chane	12	Davenport West	21:55.00	21
22 Saver, Korbin	12	Ottawa	22:31.21	22
23 Everett, Richard	11	Sterling	22:31.57	23
24 McDermott, Dylan	12	Bettendorf	24:16.00	24
25 Smith, Jason	12	United Township	24:34.00	25
26 Richlen, Brady	12	Davenport West	24:39.00	26

Team Scores

Rank	Team	Total	1	2	3	4	5	*6	*7	*8	*9
1	United Township	55	2	9	11	13	20	25			
	Total Time: 1:36:20.00										
	Average: 19:16.00										
2	Bettendorf	68	6	7	14	17	24				
	Total Time: 1:42:19.00										
	Average: 20:27.80										
3	Geneseo	88	8	16	18	19	27				
4	Ottawa	96	4	15	22	27	28				
5	Streator	99	5	10	27	28	29				
6	Davenport West	105	3	21	26	27	28				
7	Sterling	108	1	23	27	28	29				
8	LaSalle-Peru	126	12	27	28	29	30				