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Hank Carl

Loggers, Tigers take H-DNC titles

by Jackie Christensen, 11/4/2007

As expected, the Eureka boys and Arcata girls repeated as Humboldt-Del Norte Conference cross country champions on Saturday in the league championships at Patrick's Point. Unexpectedly, however, their celebrations were short lived.

About three-quarters of a mile into the 3.1-mile varsity girls race, Eureka's premier senior runner, Nina Carson, slipped on the course and was rumored to have a broken femur.

Although there were plenty of reasons for local runners to be excited, with more than 14 individuals and four teams qualifying for the Meet of Champions Nov. 17 at Hayward High School, there was much more concern circulating at the meet than joy.

For the boys, Eureka scored 33 points to advance to the MOC in Division III, while Arcata (48 points) qualified in Division IV and South Fork (51 points) made the cut in Division V.

Not surprisingly, South Fork's Hank Carl and Michael Radenbaugh finished first and second individually with times of 16 minutes, 20 seconds and 16:33, respectively.

Eureka's Jason Haase (16:42, third), Robin Harkins (16:49, fourth), Tyson Brown (17:06, sixth) and Nick Krause (17:10), and Arcata's Joaquin Smith (16:59, fifth) all finished in the top seven to earn All-Conference White Stars.

For the girls, only the Arcata Tigers will advance to the MOC as a team.

Arcata had four runners place in the top five, with sophomore Allie Maher (19:47) leading the way for her second consecutive league title.

Arcata's Montana Larson (19:55) and Anya Ritter (20:36) finished second and fourth, respectively, while Kira Tangney (20:53) took fifth.

Other runners to finish in the top seven and earn All-Conference White Stars were Fortuna's Nochella Ozard (20:19, third) and Eureka's Imogene Carson (21:06, sixth) and Brook Marino (22:10, seventh).

Ozard, Imogene Carson and Marino will all advance to the MOC as individuals.

Eureka head coach Bill Morris was unavailable for comment at press time.



Arcata's Allie Maher