



R un Run

As Fast as You Can

"Thirty kids ran cross country making it the most successful season we have ever sported," Coach Al Reitman declared, after reviewing the team's ups and downs.

The latter was quite minute, as the team's only casualties included an injured hip and a sprained ankle. The brighter side of things stemmed from both new found quality and quantity. This resulted in part because the drastic rebuilding that occurs every year wasn't necessary. Six out of last year's twelve participants returned in addition to twenty-four rookies.

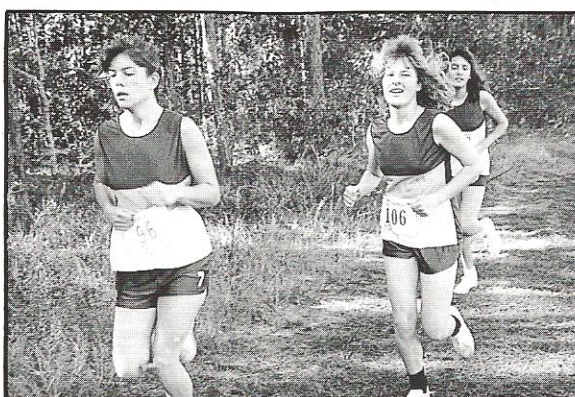
"The kids are realizing not only that cross country isn't a bad sport but also that anyone can do it. So they aren't all flocking to football, volleyball, cheerleading, and band," stated Coach Reitman.

These realizations benefited and bettered most, especially MVP's Jodi Packard and Tony Cockrum. They competed in the state meet. Jodi, a freshman, came in the top forty. Tony, a senior, placed in the top one hundred. Josh White and Jenny Sarvis improved enough to claim cross country's MIP awards.

All the runners made a great deal of progress, although Coach Reigman felt that with a bit more seriousness and continued participation next year's team could accomplish even more. For the past two years the team held the fourth spot in the conference with nine cross country teams. In this position the runners were just missing the third place requirement for the state meet held in Columbia.

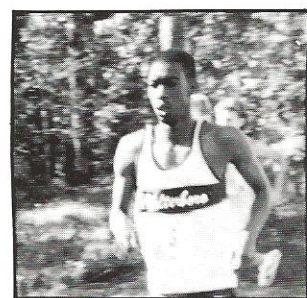
Coach Reitman expected to lose only four from the squad to graduation. If his top runners return, they will move to the third spot in the conference.

— Hallie Gregory



SHARING the thrill of victory with her mother, Jodi Packard takes a break after running the 3.1 mile course.

SOPHOMORE Paige Hiers and Freshmen Sarah Nelson and Dawn Newton run to the end of the 3.1 mile race.



SCORING in the top 100 at the state tournament, Senior Tony Cockrum runs the last lap with great stride.