

October 7, 2015

Goshen Cross Country team defeats Port Jervis at home

The Goshen Varsity Cross Country team hosted Port Jervis in their first home meet of the season Sept. 29 at GHS. Over the past four years, PJ has built a solid program, winning the county championship in 2013 and winning sections in 2012 and 2013.

With precarious weather forecasted, when the boys race started it was 78° and humid. Within six minutes of the start, the skies opened up and soaked the boys as they continued the 3.1 mile race.

Sophomores Louis Greco and Liam Higgins once again worked together for the duration of the race to finish a few seconds behind senior Lucas Reilly of PJ. In doing so, Greco set a new Goshen athlete home course record of 17:05, breaking Jesse Chain's record set last year. Higgins finished in third place, running 17:11. Nicolas Paneto ran 18:31 to finish in 5th place, followed by Kyle Haller (7th), who crossed the finish line in 18:46.

Rounding out the top five scoring athletes for Goshen was Joe Medina (9th), who ran 18:51. Thanks to some strong finishes from the Goshen top five, who passed some Port runners in the last mile and held their positions through the finish line, the boys went on to beat Port Jervis, 26-29.

Most impressive were the time improvements on our home course between last year and this year. Ivan Torres cut 2:30 from his best time last year to finish in 19:32. Jesse Shih chopped 2 minutes from his time last year, to finish in 19:41. Patrick McGill ran 50 seconds faster, crossing the finish line in 20:08, and Fernando Vilamil ran more than a minute faster, finishing in 21:15.

The heavy downpour continued through the girls' race. Port did not have a full team, so the Lady Gladiators won by default. The girls used the race as a training opportunity, running as a pack. This helped to push a couple girls to a new personal best time.

The Gladiators hosted Warwick Oct. 6 and will attend the prestigious Manhattan College Cross Country Invitational at VanCortlandt Park Oct. 10. For full coverage from these meets, follow Goshen Cross Country teams on Twitter @GoshenXCTF & @LadyGladsXC.

- Coaches Kyle Lewis & Kerri Wright

