

## Warrensburg's Knight leads area runners at Gans Creek Classic

By Joe Andrews

joe.andrews@warrensburgstarjournal.com

A top-five finish from sophomore Skyler Knight anchored Warrensburg girls cross country in the Gans Creek Classic on Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Gans Creek Recreation Area in Columbia.

The girls finished fourth out of 29 teams in the green division with 226 points.

Knight placed fifth out of 227 runners with a time of 19:22.60. Senior Falon Hudson finished 33rd with a time of 20:57.30, sophomore Aleyna Michaels finished 66th with a time of 21:43, freshman Molly Christensen finished 79th with a time

of 21:58.40, sophomore Talita Wiederhoeft finished 82nd with a time of 22:03.10 and junior Alex Kientzy finished 96th with a time of 22:31.30.

The Warrensburg boys finished fifth out of 44 teams with 249 points. Junior Carson Heinrich finished 15th out of 347 runners with a time of 16:42.80, senior Elia Morgan finished 19th with a time of 16:49.30, senior Luke Youngblood finished 20th with a time of 16:50.50, junior Ross Broeker finished 82nd with a time of 17:59 and junior Evan Wittmaier finished 120th with a time of 18:31.80.

The Knob Noster girls finished second out of 21 teams in the white division with 101 points. Holden and Crest Ridge

also competed in the race, but did not qualify for team standings.

Knob Noster senior Lyla Stiles finished ninth out of 205 runners with a time of 20:19.40.

Knob Noster freshman Lillian Bridges finished 28th with a time of 21:18.20, Knob Noster sophomore Adeline Applegate finished 31st with a time of 21:35.90, Knob Noster junior Charlie Miller finished 37th with a time of 21:55.60, Knob Noster sophomore Adelaide Sturgill finished 40th with a time of 21:59.50, Holden sophomore Jessie Stringer finished 48th with a time of 22:14.10, Knob Noster junior Jenna Berislavich finished 62nd with a time of 22:43.50, Knob Noster freshman

Corrie Berislavich finished 65th with a time of 22:50.10, Knob Noster senior Trinity Howard finished 69th with a time of 22:57.90, Holden junior Madison Talley finished 92nd with a time of 23:40, Holden freshman Audrey Enneking finished 118th with a time of 24:33, Crest Ridge freshman Jaycee Gower finished 150th with a time of 25:24.60, Holden senior Male Brewington finished 152nd with a time of 25:31.90, Knob Noster junior Lilly James finished 155th with a time of 25:33.30, and Knob Noster junior Lea Leanna-Wilson finished 172nd with a time of 26:48.30.

The Knob Noster boys finished 14th out of 23 teams with 353 points. Holden finished 18th

with 362 points.

Holden sophomore William Claxton finished 25th out of 192 runners with a time of 18:05.10.

Knob Noster sophomore William Cramer finished 52nd with a time of 18:47.50, Knob Noster junior Tyler Leneave finished 57th with a time of 18:53.20, Knob Noster senior Andrew Collier finished 72nd with a time of 19:11.30, Holden junior Evan Robinson finished 100th with a time of 19:49.80, Knob Noster senior Ethan Gentry finished 126th with a time of 20:51.40, Knob Noster senior Cael Cantrell finished 128th with a time of 20:59.20, Knob Noster sophomore Anthony Heppler

See **XC**, Page A11

## AREA ROUNDUP

### Knob Noster volleyball wins home tourney

By Joe Andrews

joe.andrews@warrensburgstarjournal.com

Knob Noster volleyball beat Crest Ridge 25-17, 25-23 to win its home tournament on Saturday, Sept. 27, at Knob Noster High School.

The championship win avenged a 25-21, 27-25 loss to the Cougars earlier in the day.

Knob Noster (7-10-2) also swept Lincoln 25-17, 25-21; Lexington 25-11, 25-12 and St. Paul Lutheran 25-17, 25-12.

Crest Ridge (10-5) went undefeated leading up to the championship match.

Along with their initial win against Knob Noster, the Cougars beat Lincoln 27-25, 25-18; Lexington 25-17, 25-18 and Northwest 23-25, 25-15, 25-20.

#### Kingsville XC runs in Hermitage

Kingsville cross country ran in the Mark Sabala Dam Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 27, in Hermitage.

The boys finished sixth out of 22 teams with 197 points.

Junior Avery Barnes led the Tigers, placing 14th out of 132 runners with a time of 18:49.02. Junior Gideon Melling finished 21st with a time of 19:10.70, freshman Cole Smith finished 22nd with a time of 19:11.47, sophomore Jack Ewing finished 25th with a time of 19:27.18, sophomore Levi Dennis finished 39th with a time of 20:18.57, senior Emanuele Levegue finished 52nd with a time of 20:58.52 and freshman Elisha Terrell finished 98th with a time of 23:13.97.

Sophomore Peyton Kee finished 63rd out of 89 runners in the girls race with a time of 28:24.58.

See **FOOTBALL**, Page A11

See **ROUNDUP**, Page A11



Warrensburg sophomore quarterback Camden Mannering hands the ball off to senior running back AJ Smith as junior offensive lineman Tyler Fox makes a block on Friday, Sept. 26, at Eklund Field. PHOTO BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL

## Warrensburg football's balance, takeaways topple Pleasant Hill

By Joe Andrews

joe.andrews@warrensburgstarjournal.com

PLEASANT HILL — The number five carried several meanings in Warrensburg football's trip to Pleasant Hill.

Of course, five is the number of games the Tigers and Roosters have played this season. It is also the number of times they have met on the gridiron in the last 26 months.

More importantly, it is the number of Warrensburg athletes who ran the ball, the number of athletes who caught the ball, the number of touchdowns it scored and the number of takeaways it tallied.

Whether or not the commonality was a coincidence, Warrensburg beat Pleasant Hill 38-7 on Friday, Sept. 26, at Eklund Field.

"I thought it was a team win tonight in all phases," Warrensburg head coach Chris Cavanah said. "The offense did an amazing job running the ball and killing [the clock] in almost the entire fourth quarter. The defense came up with some big stops all game long. Holding them to seven points, it's huge."

The Tigers (3-2, 1-1 MRVC West) and Roosters (1-4, 1-2 MRVC West) exchanged a defensive battle through the first five possessions of the game.

During the span, Warrensburg punted the ball away twice. Pleasant Hill punted the ball twice as well, while also losing possession of the ball via a fumble recovered by Braun Lamone.

Pleasant Hill's second punt set the Tigers up at the Roosters' 48-yard line. Facing third-and-7 from the 45, sophomore quarterback Camden Mannering connected with junior Theo McCracken for a 30-yard gain.

A play later, senior running back AJ Smith ran the ball in for a 15-yard touchdown. Combining that with a PAT from



Central Missouri redshirt freshman quarterback Donovan Omolo runs the ball against Missouri Western on Saturday, Sept. 27, at Walton Stadium. PHOTO BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL

## Central Missouri football coasts past Missouri Southern

By Joe Andrews

joe.andrews@warrensburgstarjournal.com

WARRENSBURG — Central Missouri redshirt freshman quarterback Donovan Omolo received an opportunity against Missouri Southern.

Omolo cashed in on the situation, leading the Mules to a 62-10 win against the Lions on Saturday, Sept. 27, at Walton Stadium.

Omolo completed 31-of-42 passes for 295 yards and a touchdown, while running for another 31 yards and a touchdown.

"I think today, it gives me confidence," Omolo said. "I think it proves that I can play at this level and just keep building on from it."

The Mules (2-2, 2-0 MIAA) punted on their opening possession, a task that Ethan Brown did not have to do again.

On its second possession, Central Missouri pieced together a five-play 59-yard drive that ended with a 32-yard touchdown run from Omolo.

The touchdown was Omolo's first since the first half of a 29-24 loss to Colorado State

See **MULES**, Page A11



# FOOTBALL

Continued from Page A7

senior kicker Ethan Hook put ‘Burg ahead 7-0 with 1:28 left in the first quarter.

Mannering’s 30-yard completion ended up being his third-longest of the night. Making his fourth career start, he completed a career-best 17-of-23 passes for 268 yards and two touchdowns.

“I think you’re seeing Camden Mannering grow a little bit each week,” Cavanah said. “We’re able to add a little bit more to his plate each week. We’re starting to take off.”

Following Mannering’s first score, Pleasant Hill responded with a drive that ended with a 6-yard pass from senior Sawyer Richcreek to sophomore Odin Hudson on fourth and goal.

After that series, Warrensburg’s defense went on to intercept Richcreek four different times.

The total included three from sophomore Trevin Shaw and one from junior Jalen Ruble.

“I thought that defensively, we had a really good game plan going in,” Cavanah said. “Our kids executed it at a high level on that one ... We’ve played Pleasant Hill enough times in the last couple of seasons that we know what they like to do and how they like to do it. There’s a lot of familiarity there. The kids did a good job in preparation and a good job in making plays.”

Before the first pick was tallied, the Tigers’ offense scored on an 11-yard connection between Mannering and junior Dorian Lee, retaking the lead.

Shaw went on to intercept Richcreek for the first time, coming down at the Pleasant Hill 46-yard line. Warrensburg made it 17-7 via a 26-yard field goal from Hook.

Ruble intercepted Richcreek after, giving Warrensburg the ball at its own 40-yard line. A 60-yard pass from Mannering to sophomore Dominik Maham followed.



Warrensburg sophomore defensive back Trevin Shaw pursues a Pleasant Hill receiver on Friday, Sept. 26, at Eklund Field. He had three interceptions in the game.



Warrensburg junior Dorian Lee trots through the end zone for a touchdown against Pleasant Hill on Friday, Sept. 26, at Eklund Field. PHOTOS BY JOE ANDREWS | STAR-JOURNAL



A wall of Warrensburg defenders, including senior Frank Stephenson, senior Jaidon Williams, junior Trey Murphy, junior Cannon Seever and junior Xanden Johnson rush the the ball against Pleasant Hill on Friday, Sept. 26, at Eklund Field

Shaw also had two other interceptions before the game went into halftime, with Warrensburg up 24-7.

“It was great,” Shaw said. “We all played. All of us on 11 cylin-

ders. Everybody did their job. The ball came to me, and we got one to Jalen ... I was shaking. I saw the ball come my way, like I was getting blessed. It was an awesome sight to see.”

Warrensburg scored twice in the second half, coming via 27-yard and 40-yard runs from sophomore Hunter Michel in the fourth quarter.

The Tigers tallied 520 yards

of offense.

Off of Mannering’s 268 passing yards, McCracken had five receptions for 110 yards, Maham had five catches for 96 yards, senior Cruz Villegas had four catches for 34 yards, Lee had two catches for 15 yards and senior Tucker Small had one catch for 13 yards.

Smith ran for 156 yards, crossing 1,000 rushing yards on the season for the third-straight year.

Michel ran for 99 yards on 11 carries. Villegas had one rush for five yards.

“Our offense continues to evolve to our current personnel,” Cavanah said. “I think our offensive line is getting better each game. We’re able to hang our hats, and they can be physical up front, creating some holes for our running game.”

Warrensburg, which has now held its opponents to single-digits in three of its five games, hosts Odessa on Friday, Oct. 3, at the Warrensburg Activities Complex.

“We’re going to have a lot of confidence coming in the next few weeks, that’s for sure,” Shaw said.

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.

# ROUNDUP

Continued from Page A7

## Holden football routs Lexington

Holden football cruised to a 63-6 win against Lexington on Friday, Sept. 26, at Holden High School.

Sophomore quarterback Truman Wamsley completed 6-of-8 passes for 104 yards and two touchdowns. He also ran for two yards and a touchdown on four carries.

Senior Cohen Drake had three catches for 57 yards and a touchdown, senior Wes Brown had one catch for 28 yards and a touchdown.

On the ground, junior Brody Bockover ran for 64 yards and two touchdowns on six carries, Wes Brown ran for 56 yards and two touchdowns on nine carries, and Levi Hall ran for 55 yards and a touchdown on six carries.

Sophomore Jack Thomas paced Holden with 13 tackles while senior Seth Wright had 12 and sophomore Tucker Wamsley had 10.

Tucker Wamsley, junior Evan Kilion and junior Lane Kendrick each forced fumbles. Senior Owen Doogs and junior Eli Burnham came up with fumble recoveries.

Holden (4-1, 1-0 MRVC East) travels to a winless Lafayette County on Friday, Oct. 3.

## Knob Noster football topples Carrollton

Knob Noster football beat Carrollton 55-22 on Friday, Sept. 26, at Carrollton High School.

The win improves the Panthers to 5-0 for the first time since 2022.

The Panthers took a 6-0 lead 57 seconds in following a four-yard touchdown run by senior Conner Morris. Knob Noster began the possession at its own 25-yard line but used a connection from sophomore Cade Cantell to sophomore Colton McNeel to set up first and goal.

Knob Noster led 42-14 at halftime. Stature was not published online as of 10:30 a.m. Monday.

## Crest Ridge football loses to Midway

Crest Ridge football lost to Midway 40-13 on Friday, Sept. 26, in Cleveland.

The Cougars (2-3, 1-1 WCMO) and Vikings (3-2, 2-0 WCMO) were scoreless at the end of the first quarter, while Midway led 13-6 at halftime and 33-14 at the end of the third quarter.

Senior quarterback Wesley Taylor completed 24-of-36 passes for 294 yards and a touchdown.

Senior Kegan Walsh had eight receptions for 119 yards, sophomore Jace Trobough had eight receptions for 94 yards, junior Cabe Shippy had five

catches for 67 yards and senior Logan Duffy had three catches for 14 yards.

Taylor ran for a team-best 21 yards and a touchdown on 18 carries.

Crest Ridge turned the ball over twice.

Freshman Wyatt Brant and sophomore Colton DeMoss both had a half a sack on defense.

Crest Ridge travels to Lone Jack on Friday, Oct. 3.

## Holden softball finishes UCM Tournament

Holden softball went 1-3 during the UCM Softball Tournament on Friday, Sept. 26, and Saturday, Sept. 27.

Their lone win arrived in 13-4 fashion against Warrensburg

Lily Kephart went 3-for-3 with six RBIs, including a grand slam to center field in the third inning.

The Eagles (11-10) lost to Webb City 10-3. In the championship bracket Saturday, they lost to Lee’s Summit 6-4 and Oak Grove 10-3.

## Warrensburg softball gets second win

Warrensburg softball tallied its second win of the season during the UCM Softball Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 27.

In its first game of the consolation bracket, the Tigers defeated Wright City 9-6.

Warrensburg (2-10) led 7-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning.

Sophomore Aaliyah Derritt went 2-for-4, junior Olivia Johnson went 2-for-4, sophomore Reese Brown went 2-for-4 with three RBIs, junior Nylah Wood went 2-for-4 and junior Ripley Laws went 2-for-3. Junior Osborn Osborn had three RBIs while freshman Savannah Jacobs had one.

Brown tallied a home run.

Osborn pitched all six innings, allowing five runs on six hits, seven walks and four strikeouts.

The Tigers lost to Truman 13-8 in their final win of the tournament. They allowed 11 runs int he third inning.

Warrensburg lost to Holden 13-4 and Webb City 14-1 during pool play on Friday, Sept. 26.

## OTHER RESULTS

### Thursday, Sept. 25

Warrensburg girls tennis 9, Center 0  
Odessa volleyball 3, Warrensburg 0  
Summit Christian Academy boys soccer 6, Warrensburg 0

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.

# MULES

Continued from Page A7

— Pueblo on Sept. 11. Senior Jordan Pachot took over in the fourth quarter of that game and started against Missouri Western on Sept. 20.

“It was a little draw play, which is numbers,” Omolo said of his rushing score. “There are kind of three different decisions on the play. I can throw it here, run it. Just kind of numbers. Pre-snap, we ran three guys over here. They had three. The back was in the box. But then, I just had the ball and I kind of ran out, so it kind of parted. I just took it from there.”

The rushing score was one of six against the Lions (2-2, 0-2 MIAA). UCM had a season-best 325 rushing yards, including 114 yards and two touchdowns on nine carries from junior Latravious Boyd.

Seven different Mules ran the ball in the win. Alongside Boyd and Omolo, sophomore LaAngelo Bell ran for 63 yards on 11 carries while redshirt sophomore Keyon Butler ran for 39 yards and two touchdowns on 12 carries.

“That was kind of a big point of emphasis for us,” Central Missouri head coach Josh Lamberson said of the run game. “We challenged the offensive line. Coach [Joe] Holtzclaw and Coach Hayden [Hawk] did a great job of really kind of creating a game plan in which we thought we could exploit

some things and be successful. Use our strengths to our advantage.”

Omolo’s touchdown was the only score of the first quarter. UCM went on to build up a 42-7 lead by halftime.

The second quarter included a 1-yard touchdown run from Butler, a 63-yard touchdown run from Boyd and a 15-yard touchdown run from Boyd.

“We’re more of a passing team, but we’re going to do whatever we feel is an advantage for us,” Lamberson said. “Today, having 325 rushing and 295 passing, that just speaks volumes about the people we have on this football team, the abilities we have on this football team. We can be a dual threat. It doesn’t have to be where we have to sit there and throw it for over 300 plus yards in order to win. That doesn’t have to be the case.”

UCM also scored on a 20-yard pass from Omolo to junior Marlon Lindsey Jr., along with a pick-6 from redshirt sophomore Trey Patrick, before halftime.

Patrick finished the game with two interceptions. He returned his first 30 yards for a touchdown.

Central Missouri tallied four takeaways in the game, joined by fumble recoveries from redshirt sophomore Kyan Franklin and freshman Iosefa Toia.

“I’m extremely proud

of Trey,” Lamberson said. “He has worked really hard to put himself in the position to have some success today. We went zero blitz on his interception and Rich [Wright] just kind of rolled the dice. They were actually calling the play. They knew the play was coming in that situation. Trey was able to get a jump on it. The next time they go out there, kind of the same thing. If you look at it, he was doing exactly what he should’ve been doing. He was in the right place at the right time because of the scheme and the techniques he is being taught.”

In the second half, the Mules scored through a 3-yard touchdown run from Butler, a 23-yard field goal from redshirt sophomore kicker Will Peacock, a 1-yard touchdown run from redshirt sophomore Mac Harper and a 34-yard field goal from Peacock.

Junior Jake Weber led UCM in receptions, tallying eight catches for 82 yards. Junior Andre Jackson had six catches for 52 yards and Boyd had four catches for 46 yards. The Mules had 10 receivers tally a catch.

Central Missouri continues its season at Central Oklahoma on Saturday, Oct. 4. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. at Chad Richison Stadium.

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.

# XC

Continued from Page A7

finished 146th with a time of 21:47.20, Holden sophomore Paxton Zeikle finished 147th with a time of 21:54.20, Knob Noster junior Seth Bohannan finished 151st with a time of 22:03.20, Holden sophomore Nick Moore finished 153rd with a time of 22:09.80, Knob Noster freshman Roy Arndt finished 156th with a time of 22:11.70, Knob Nos-

ter sophomore Caleb Collier finished 161st with a time of 22:15.80, Holden freshman Porter Eissler finished 162nd with a time of 22:16.10, Holden freshman Luke Tebbenkamp finished 166th with a time of 22:21.30 and Knob Noster junior Kolby Cunningham finished 177th with a time of 24:02.20.

Joe Andrews can be reached at 660-747-8123.