



Sports

MSU roundup

Men's cross country qualifies for nationals

WAYNE, NEB. — Sometimes fourth place is as good as first.

Although the Minnesota State University men's cross country team didn't win, a fourth-place finish at Saturday's North Central Conference Regional qualified the Mavericks to the Division II national championships.

Adams State won the meet with 26 points, followed by Western State (55), Colorado School of Mines (71) and MSU (138).

James Krajsa, running in his first-ever 10-kilometer race, finished in 32:07 for 18th place to lead the Mavericks. Other MSU runners included: Jason Rengo in 32:11 (20th), Jesse Merkel in 32:25 (27th), Jeff Stuckenbroker in 32:55 (35th), Dan Ristau in 33:02 (38th), Dustin Fier in 33:28 (47th) and Jonathan Stoltman in 33:47 (58th).

Western State's Kim Hogarth took first place (30:33).

The Division II championships are Saturday, Nov. 18 in Pensacola, Fla.

Women's cross country

Minnesota State ended its season with an 11th-place finish Saturday at the North Central Region Championships in Wayne, Neb. The Mavericks finished with 325 points and were led by Jenny Hoese's 36th-place finish in 23:14.

MSU's other finishers were Samantha Smith in 24:00 (62nd), Meagan McConnell in 24:13 (68th), Amanda Dettman in 24:33 (76th), Lindsay Broughten in 24:46 (83rd), Rachel Smalley in 25:24 (102nd) and Libby Gemberling in 25:53 (112th).

Western State's Esther Komen took the individual crown with a time of 20:58 and led her team to the championship with 40

points.

Volleyball

Stef Sandstrom had a career-high 77 set assists in Minnesota State's regular-season finale but it wasn't enough as the Mavericks dropped a five-set match to Augustana Saturday in a North Central Conference clash at Bresnan Arena.

Game scores were 24-30, 32-30, 32-30, 29-31, 15-11. Sandstrom finished just five set assists shy of tying MSU's school record.

Cassie Wolpern had 26 kills and 25 digs and Cathy Turner had 15 kills and seven blocks for MSU. Ashley Nachreiner delivered 17 kills with five digs and Megan Stroud had 10 kills and seven blocks.

Lisa Rohret had 23 digs while Dana Ostertag and Sandstrom each added 18 digs. MSU drops to 17-12 overall and 6-6 in NCC).

Women's hockey

The Mavericks remained even with top-ranked Wisconsin for the first period, but fell apart in the final two periods and lost 6-1 Saturday in a Western College Hockey Association game at All Seasons Arena.

Wisconsin's Jinnelle Zaugg opened the scoring at 4:11 of the first period and the Mavericks' Maggie Fisher tied the game at 7:29. MSU assists went to Ashley Young and Jodi Helminen.

Wisconsin then scored two goals in the second and three in the third to pull away.

Minnesota State was outshot 59-29. Britni Kehler made 46 saves in the loss before being taken out in the third period.

The Mavericks (3-6 overall, 2-6 in WCHA) play Friday against Wayne State in Detroit.