



(Photos/Brooke Pond)

Boylan Central Catholic High School's boys varsity soccer team and its coaches pose with their ISHA 2A state championship trophy, Nov. 6.

They've finished the race

High school athletes win state victories Boylan Boys Soccer

ROCKFORD—The Boylan Central Catholic High School boys varsity soccer team, led by coaches Bart Boguszewski, Taylor Meyers and Kiley Beck, won all nine of their NIC-10 conference games to snag the NIC-10 Conference Championship before dominating every team they faced in the postseason.



Jack Bonavia runs to the fans after scoring the game-winning goal.

Heading into the State Championship final tournament, Boylan held a 25-1 record with one loss to Huntley High School (non-conference) in their season opener. The Titans were unstoppable ever since.

In the first game of the State Final Tournament, Boylan defeated Chicago Washington with a 2-1 victory. On Nov. 6, Boylan faced Troy Triad High School for the State Title.

With less than 50 seconds left, Jack Bonavia '22 was awarded a penalty kick that broke the 0-0 score and won the team their IHSA State Title.

—Brooke Pond

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
—2 Tim 4:7

Aquin Girls Volleyball

FREEPORT—Aquin Central Catholic High School's girls volleyball team (the Bulldogs) placed third in the state, defeating Springfield Lutheran High School in two sets, 25-22 and 25-17.

The victory closed the Freeport team's season on a high note.

Aquin Bulldogs team

members are (back, from left) head coach Robyn Stovall, Donna Kaewmool, Megan Miller, Isabelle Talbert, Meghan Carlisle, Ava Theisen, Regan Curry, Hanna Broge, Kristin Lamm, assistant coach Maddie Dower and assistant coach Leah Hauser. In the front row, from left, are Megan Holder, Bentleah Stovall, Ava Hiveley, Ainsley Stovall,



(Photo provided)

Rosary High School's cross-country team in front poses with coaches and fans, displaying the IHSA 1A sectional trophy after the 5K contest Oct. 30 at Lisle High School.

Rosary Cross-Country

AURORA—Rosary High School student Lianna Surtz led the Rosary Royals cross-country team to place in the top five in the IHSA Class 1A state cross country championship, Nov. 6. Surtz ran the three-mile course in 17:21.45 to defend her 2019 championship.

Overall, the Aurora cross-country team placed fifth in the state with 182 points.

Rosary coach Vic Mead said, "We had the first race of the day (9 a.m.) and a close team battle. Lianna took the early lead and never looked back. Rosary's team finish was the best in the history of

the school."

Previously, Rosary High School's highest state finish was ninth place, in 2019.

During the team's long race to the state championship, Lianna Surtz and her sister Chiara Surtz medaled at the sectional contest Oct. 30.

Rosary Royals team members are Lianna Surtz, Chiara Surtz, Olivia Kunio, Vivian Wyller, Ava Ketterman, Katie Ubertino and Natalie Goettsch, led by coach Vic Mead and assistant coach Lisa Hardekopf.

—Compiled with contributions by Allan F. Benson



(Photo/Allan F. Benson)

Lianna Surtz poses with coach Vic Mead after she finished in first place in the IHSA Class 1A state cross country championship Nov. 6.



(Observer screengrab/aquinschools.org)

Members of the girls volleyball team celebrate after winning the regional match against Galena High School, as seen on the school's website.

Lucy Arndt, Elyse Luecke and Hanna Pizzolato.



(Photo provided/Elizabeth Heitkamp)

Aquin Central Catholic High School's girls volleyball team poses with their IHSA 1A third-place state trophy.