



***By Russ Pankonin  
The Imperial Republican***

Freshman Alyssa Moreno gained some valuable experience last Friday, competing in her first state cross country meet.

Moreno finished 52nd in the 90-runner field, with a time of 17:31 in breezy conditions on the state course at the Kearney Country Club.

In comparison, she ran 17:25 at the UNK meet earlier this season on the same course.

As Chase County's only qualifier for the state meet, Coach Carl Zuege said Moreno handled the situation well.

Looking forward to next year

He said Moreno really started to come on at the McCook meet three weeks into the season, with a top 10 finish.

From there, she continued to get stronger, Zuege noted.

Looking forward to next year, Zuege said he has a good nucleus to work with on both the girls' and boys' teams.

The girls will return Moreno, Mallory Coleman, Andrea Hogsett and Charlie Ann Carter.

The boys' team will not lose anyone to graduation and will continue to get stronger.

It's important for the kids to get some miles in over the summer in preparation for next season, Zuege said.

In addition, his cross country teams will be valuable additions for the outdoor track season next spring.

Complete results of the state meet can be found on the web under the cross country link at <http://www.nsaahome.org>.