

McQuaid runners are 3rd



Melissa Mahan, Staff photographer

Brighton's Chris Aslin (left) and Clelland Gash were 12th and 14th, respectively, in the AA-2 race.

Knights' Reitz places 3rd on 3-mile course

By Urla Hill

Staff writer

McQuaid High School finished third in the boys' Class AAA seeded race at the McQuaid Cross Country Invitational yesterday.

The Knights scored 122 points to finish behind Walsh Jesuit (99 points) from Ohio and Toronto St. Michael's (99) in the premier race of the 28th annual meet on a three-mile course at Genesee Valley Park.

McQuaid finished fifth a year ago.

"We're pleased with our third-place finish," said Tim Kelly, who placed 28th in 16 minutes, 34 seconds. "I'm not making excuses, but it's hard mentally to get ready for this race every year."

"It's tough to do well and really concentrate on our own event because all week long we've been clearing the course ... trimming trees and cleaning up."

Walsh Jesuit's Josh Ritchie (15:00.11) was the individual winner. Reynaldo Mendez of Fordham Prep in Brooklyn finished second in 15:40.

Adam Reitz (15:43) was the Knights' top finisher, placing third. Dan Lesser (15:57) finished ninth.

In the girls' Class AA seeded race, Fairport placed fifth with 176 points. Section 3's Auburn was first with 57 points.

Lizzy Roche (18:49) of Lakewood, Ohio, was the top finisher. Fairport's Carrie Cocca (19:10) placed sixth and was Section 5's top finisher. Teammate Melissa Salzman (19:18) was seventh.

In past years, the race course took runners throughout the park. But this year's course kept competitors on park land near the golf course.

Reitz, a junior, described it as a "great course for spectators" and "carefully planned."

Winners' circle

BOYS SEEDDED RACES

AAA: Team: Walsh Jesuit (Ohio) 90; Individual: Josh Ritchie (Walsh Jesuit) 15:00.11

AA: Team: Burnt Hills 86; Individual: Derek Rice (Archbishop Curley, Md.) 15:45

A: Team: Lafayette-3 78; Individual: Steven Schroeck (Harbor Creek, Pa.) 15:42

BOYS UNSEEDDED RACES

AAA-2: Team: Lakewood, Ohio 136; Individual: Simon Gron (Michael Power) 15:23

AA-2: Team: Nordon, Ohio, 82; Individual: Neil Whitaker (Beamsville, Ont.) 15:26

A-2: Team: Rocky Grove 122; Individual: Jeff Wells (Allegany-6) 16:17

A-3: Team: Northeastern, Pa. 125; Individual: Rick Badman (Moravia) 16:02

GIRLS SEEDDED RACES

AA: Team: Auburn-3 57; Individual: Lizzy Roche (Lakewood, Ohio) 18:49

A: Team: Clarence-6 51; Individual: 1. Katie McGregor (Willoughby, Ohio) 18:23

GIRLS UNSEEDDED RACES

AA: Team: Liverpool 203; Individual: Mary Jo Ferrigan (Michael Power) 18:34

A-2: Race No. 7: Team: Northeastern, Pa. 188; Individual: Amy Danois (Susquehanna, Pa.) 19:26

Race No. 7A: Team: Wellsboro, Pa., 99; Individual: Heather Houseknecht (Cortland-3) 18:53

A-3: Team: Oswego 94; Individual: Ann Nicholson (Oswego-3) 18:55

McQUAID on page 10E