

Hawks start XC season at Cherokee meet

Real competition began for the Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn cross country teams at the Deb Hankens Invitational, hosted by Cherokee on Aug. 28. Both lineups featured several runners who were competing in a high school meet for the first time.

“I thought it was a good first outing,” said Hawk coach Naet Hoaglund. “The race plan was to run very conservatively. Our overall goal was to just get them feeling comfortable and confident, and then finish the last 1,000 meters strong.”

The Top 2 finishers for the girls were freshmen. Viviana Delacruz finished 18th (25:36) and Delilah Boynton came in 28th (28:14). Then came Brooklyn Erickson, 34th (29:42); Trinity Tovar, 37th (30:47); Jozelyn Romero, 39th (34:44); and Ellie Pals, 41st (36:51). Tovar, Romero and Pals were first-time competitors.

“Viviana puts a lot of time and hard work into her running,” Hoaglund said. “There’s a little learning curve in that transition to high school, but I thought she did well for her first time out and competed hard.”

Ridge View won the team title with 23 points and Cherokee was second with 45. WC-KP-RV (Woodbury Central, Kingsley-Pierson, River Valley) scored 77 points and H-M-S finished fourth with 97.

Evelyn Steffen was a JV competitor and finished 15th (34:03).

The boys’ team came into the meet with a mix of experienced runners and those stepping into new situations. Easton Teal, 17th (20:21) and James Carlin, 18th (20:26) were the top finishers for H-M-S.

“James and Easton have put in a lot of time and effort. They practice really hard and aren’t afraid to get out of their comfort zone,” Hoaglund said.

Dylan Boynton finished 44th (23:31), Karter Zimmer was 46th (23:43), Carter Dolphin placed 53rd (28:23) and Hayden Dolphin came in 57th (33:29).

“Carter and Karter have some bigger roles this year. I’m confident they will grow into those roles,” Hoaglund noted. “I was really pleased with Dylan Boynton in his first race. I was impressed with his time, given how green he is in the sport. I think he’s got an exciting future.”

Ridge View completed the team sweep, finishing first with



Viviana Delacruz was the top finisher for H-M-S during the girls’ varsity race at the Cherokee meet.



H-M-S’s Easton Teal and a Cherokee vie for the lead around the final curve at the meet hosted by Cherokee.

49 points. Cherokee finished second with 55, followed by Alta-Aurelia 76, MVAOCOU 95, South O’Brien 122, WC-KP-RV 135, and H-M-S in seventh place with 161 points.

The Hawks will compete in the Iowa Great Lakes Invitational on Sept. 4, at Brooks Golf Club, and at the Sibley-Ocheyedan Invitational on Sept. 9.



S-O quarterback Hunter Kauffman tries to cut between two defenders Friday in the season opener against the Rockes. Kauffman had 114 yards on the ground. Photo by Kerry Krogman

Generals look to improve offense and defense during practice

Hunter Kauffman threw for two touchdowns while Sibley-Ocheyedan’s offense rolled up 232 total yards Friday night in their season opener at Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley. The Generals played right with their hosts, who compete in Class 2A, but fell 40-13.

“I felt we had a good week of practice and that we would be capable of winning this game,” Coach Mike McCarty said. “I did not have the team properly prepared and we were dominated by their varsity squad. We will do things differently this week and make some changes.”

S-O got the first win of the night, winning the coin toss. The Generals received the opening kickoff and started the season at midfield. Unfortunately, they could not find the end zone.

BHRV scored four times in the first half.

S-O got on the board late in the half. Capping a 12-play drive, Hunter Kauffman found Tate Marco, who scampered 67 yards for the Generals’ first touchdown of the young season. Dougl Macias split the up-rights to make it a 22-7 game with 38 seconds remaining in the half.

BHRV stretched the margin to 40-7 with a pair of third-quarter scores.

S-O’s final score came with 10:26 remaining in regulation. Kauffman hit Dawson Kreykes

for an 11-yard touchdown. The Nighthawks foiled S-O’s extra point attempt, accounting for the final score.

S-O finished the night with 10 first downs, They accumulated 140 rushing yards and 92 through the air. The defense allowed their hosts 18 first downs, 171 rushing yards and 165 through the air.

Kauffman completed four of 15 pass attempts and a pair of touchdowns. Marco caught two balls for 72 yards while Kreykes caught two for 20 yards.

Kauffman was the team’s leading rusher, picking up 114 yards. Jaxon Pedley gained 14 yards while both Gavin Hensch and Avery Maker each picked up six.

Tristen Wingate and Marco led the defense, each recording seven tackles. Gavin Stanton, Kyler Elser and Luke Heilman each had five stops. Aiden Beyer added four.

Evan Beltman punted three times averaging 36.67 yards per punt while Kauffman punted twice with an average of 24.5 yards per punt. Macias kicked off three times, averaging 32.33 yards per kick.

• **Schedule**

The Generals will play their home opener Friday when they host Gehlen Catholic. The Jays are also seeking their first win of the season. They are coming off a 32-12 loss to Hinton. Game time is 7 p.m.

Poineers roll over Hawks in football opener

Okoboji scored on its opening possession and went on to defeat Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn, 49-0, in the opening game of the 2025 football season.

The Pioneers scored 35 points in the first quarter of the game played on Aug. 30 in Hartley. They reached the end zone on passes of 79, 40 and 20 yards, a 19-yard run and a 25-yard interception return. A 29-yard reception late in the second quarter made the score 42-0 at half time.

Three interceptions and a failed fake punt contributed to the scoring.

“We have to get fundamentally better,” Hawk coach Jeremiah Delzer acknowledged. “We did a lot of good things; a lot of different times guys were doing things well. But if one guy doesn’t do his job you can’t be very effective.”

The Pioneers’ final touchdown came on a 15-yard pass in the third quarter.

The Hawk offense struggled to sustain drives. Daniel Kellert gained 34 yards on nine rushing attempts, Hunter Daggett rushed for 30 yards on 14 carries, and Alex Billings carried the ball four times for 18 yards. Jackson Vogt had two pass receptions.

Okoboji passed for 247 yards and rushed for another 124.

Leading the Hawk defense were Billings with seven tackles, Isaac Schierholz with four tackles and Kellert with three .



The Hawks’ Jackson Vogt fields the ball during a kickoff return against Okoboji.

• **Next up: at South O’Brien**

H-M-S opens Class A District 1 play on the road at South O’Brien on Sept. 5. The Wolverines were 39-14 winners over West Monona in their opening game.

Delzer said the Hawks will continue to work on improving as they prepare for what he expects will be a challenging game.

“We will take what we do and adjust it to what they do. It will be very physical,” he said.

Hawks compete in Early Bird tournament at Spencer

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn had its opportunities to win at least one match at the Spencer Early Bird Tournament. But in the end, the Hawks finished 0-3 during the season opener on Aug. 26.

A 21-12 win in the first set of the match with Okoboji put H-M-S in front. But the Pioneers rallied, winning 21-9 and 15-6 to claim the match.

Moriah Otto led H-M-S with four kills, and Jordan Lux and Eva Stammer each had two. Setter Kenadie Van Loon recorded nine assists.

Stammer also had a solo block and a block assist, and contributed four digs. Hannah Tessum had five digs, and Payton Diehm and Lindsey Van Es each had four.

The Hawks were successful on 31-of-33 serve attempts. Tessum was 8-of-8 with an ace, Van Loon was 7-of-8, Diehm was 6-of-6, Van Es was 5-of-5, Stammer was 3-of-3 and Otto was 2-of-3.

Following a 21-6 loss in the first set against Manson Northwest Webster, the Hawks battled in the second set but eventually lost, 21-19.

At the net, Otto had five kills and Van Loon had two. Van Loon also had five set as-



Moriah Otto gets in the way of an attack by an Okoboji player during a match at the Spencer tournament.

sists and led the back row defense with three digs. Van Es also came up with three digs and Otto had two.

At the serving line, Otto was 9-of-10 with four aces, Van Es was 4-of-5, Van Loon was 3-of-4, Diehm and Tessum were 2-of-3 and Stammer was 2-of-2. H-M-S concluded the tournament with two competitive sets against Spencer, but the Tigers

(Continued on page 3)

S-O menu

• **Breakfast**

Thursday, September 4: Fruit and/or juice, milk, cereal or ham, egg, cheese breakfast bar.

Friday, September 5: Fruit and/or juice, milk, cereal or Long John.

Monday, September 8: Fruit and/or juice, milk, cereal or par-fait, hard boiled egg.

Tuesday, September 9: Fruit and/or juice, milk, cereal or breakfast pizza.

Wednesday, September 10: Fruit and/or juice, milk, cereal or

Sausage, egg, cheese on a bun.

• **Lunch**

Thursday, September 4: Fruit bar, veggie bar, milk, chicken salad wrap.

Friday, September 5: Fruit bar, veggie bar, milk, Hamburger on a bun or General’s chicken salad.

Monday, September 8: Fruit bar, veggie bar, milk, chicken nuggets or mini corn dog.

Tuesday, September 9: Fruit bar, veggie bar, milk, pizza crunch-

er or chef salad.

Wednesday, September 10: Fruit bar, veggie bar, milk, build your own burrito bowl, beef or chicken, rice, taco toppings.

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Bids due September 18, 2025

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