



**FOB photos by CALEB NELSON** ABOVE: NV/OM freshman Abby Nelson (right) runs in the Creston cross country meet, where she finished 16th in a time of

LEFT: Wolverine junior Haden Colton was 30th in 19:30 at last Tuesday's cross country meet at Creston.

#### RUNNERS Continued from page 4

made it to state last year and Luke was super close last year, so I would think he would make it this year too."

The Wolverines are doing as well as they have in a few years running as a pack, which can help their team score tremendously, Wilson said.

"The kids get along great, they're fun to be around and are great kids," Wilson said.

The girls have only three runners out, with freshman Abby Nelson usually leading the results. Junior runner Kaylee Van Horn is the team captain, and rounding out the team is another freshman in Kenzie Lilly. Van Horn's times have

dropped from over 28 minutes in the first meet of the season to under 26 minutes in Creston where she finished 44th (25:26). In that meet, Nelson was 16th (22:35.5) and Lilly 58th (29:58.4). "Having three girls on

the team is hard. We try to work individually because we know that's how anybody's going to get into state if they want to," Van Horn said. "I try to keep the girls motivated to the point that even if we don't have a team, it's still worth trying. The girls are working hard. Abby has worked really hard for this and I'm hoping she can get into state this year."

None of Wilson's three girls have quit. For that, she's thankful.

"We want them to enjoy the running and be happy you can do it. I want it to be something they can take with them after high school," Wilson said.

Nelson practices with the boys team, which Wilson thinks helps her out on the course.

"I think that helps her be able to keep up her speed. She doesn't give up, there's no complaining. She does what she's supposed to do," Wilson said. "I think Abby has a chance to make it to state. Creston was a good race, but Ballard was so hot. I don't think we can base that off of anything. We will just have to see. I would expect she'll just get better and better as the season goes on."

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