

# Lopez brings home state medal

For Larry Lopez, it was a bit of redemption and a nice cap to his high school cross country career.

For the Festus and Herculaneum teams, both boys and girls, it was a double 1-2 punch with two team championships, two second places and an individual championship at the state cross country meet on Saturday at Oak Hills Golf Center in Jefferson City.

Lopez, a Fox senior, and teammate Cyle Quick ran as individual qualifiers in the Class 4 boys race, with Lopez earning a medal in 18th place, clocking 16:32 on the hilly five-kilometer course. Quick placed 36th in 16:52.

"I'm really proud of them. They ran well," Warrior head coach Eric Van Matre said after the race. "The sectional (meet) was disappointing (Fox finished sixth and didn't qualify as a team for state) but this made up for it. Last year, Larry came in 33rd after being up around 20th. Today he was running around 22nd in the final stretch and I yelled to him, 'Don't let it happen again,' and he passed some guys late."

Festus won the boys team championship in Class 3, regaining a crown they first wore in 2009. They totaled 58 points to turn the tables on runner-up Warrensburg (65 points). Last year War-



Gordon Bess photo  
**Larry Lopez in the final mile of the boys Class 4 race.**

rensburg edged the Tigers by 24 points for the championship. The Festus girls, meanwhile, came in second behind Ste. Genevieve on Saturday with 100 points to the Headhunters' 42.

It was just the opposite for Herculaneum as individual champ Kaitlyn Fischer led the Black Cat girls to the Class 2 team championship while the boys grabbed second place. For the girls, it was their second consecutive state title and their 11th in program history.

## 2012 STATE CROSS COUNTRY MEET Jefferson City, Nov. 3

**Class 1 girls:** 28. Josie Miller, Crystal City, 22:48; 42. Virginia Rice, Crystal City, 23:32.

**Class 2 girls:** 1. Kaitlyn Fischer, Herculaneum, 18:41; 25. Maylin Manes, Herculaneum, 21:15; 29. Sam Jarvis, Herculaneum, 21:28; 31. Mary Moloney, Herculaneum, 21:36; 38. Brittany Bishop, Herculaneum, 21:45; 88. Kristen Keeney, Jefferson, 23:12; 97. Meghan Karoly, St. Pius, 23:33; 120. Sarah Cook, Herculaneum, 24:19; 132. Bailey Stilwell, Herculaneum, 24:59. **Team score:** 1. Herculaneum, 89

**Class 2 boys:** 19. Tristan Mock, Herculaneum, 17:56; 30. Austin Haas, Herculaneum, 18:15; 32. JT Jenkins, Herculaneum, 18:16; 40. Drake Smelser, Herculaneum, 18:23; 49. Colton Kassen, Jefferson, 18:27; 61. Josh Ferguson, 18:33; 72. Adam Maxwell, Herculaneum, 18:41; 122. Nick Cook, Herculaneum, 19:43. **Team score:** 2. Herculaneum, 108.

**Class 3 girls:** 11. Kaitlin Eibl, Festus, 20:04; 12. Jamie Kempfer, Festus, 20:05; 33. Crystal Beffa, Festus, 20:51; 40. Claire Darnell, Festus, 21:01; 41. Carolyn White, Festus, 21:02; 95. Carmen Christopher, Festus, 21:59; 97. Lizze Ohlemeier, Festus, 22:02. **Team score:** 2. Festus, 100.

**Class 3 boys:** 7. Michael Karls, Festus, 16:48; 14. Christian Hunter, Festus, 16:57; 15. Dakota Hunter, Festus, 16:57; 20. Aaron Dugan, Hillsboro, 17:06; 21. Tyler Gillam, Festus, 17:07; 24. Max Manansala, Festus, 17:10; 26. Dustin Price, Festus, 17:17; 52. Hunter Darnell, Festus, 17:56. **Team score:** 1. Festus, 58.

**Class 4 girls:** 70. Katelyn Evans, Seckman, 20:36.

**Class 4 boys:** 18. Larry Lopez, Fox, 16:32; 36. Cyle Quick, Fox, 16:52.