

By Craig Hoffman
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Andrew Maile placed 83rd and Alexis Genke 68th as Kiel's representatives last Saturday in the WIAA State Cross Country Championships held at The Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids. Both runners competed at state a year ago when the Kiel boys and girls teams both earned state berths.

Maile ran Saturday's meet in 17:46.10 bettering his 2009 totals of 124th place and 18:31.8. Valders sophomore Michael Evans is the Division 2 state champ. He won with a time of 16:07.90. Shorewood claimed the team title.

But Maile thought he could have done even better.

"I did the same thing as last year. I wanted to attack the hills better," he said.

"The course was in great shape. One small wet area in the final mile. I thought my time could have been even better."

Genke's time of 16:24.39 was slightly off her two previous state performances. The junior was 36th a year ago with a time of 16:00.7 and 51st as a freshman in 2008, where she ran individually. Her time then was 16:07.8.

"I wasn't totally pleased. The hills were the biggest problem," said Genke.

"The weather was perfect and the course was pretty dry."

She added that running at state with the team seemed more comfortable to her.

Green Bay Notre Dame's Ellie Woodward won the girls race coming in at a blistering 13:59.53. Dodgeville/Mineral Point won the Division 2 team title on a sixth runner tie-breaker with Onalaska. Two Rivers Sectional winner Chilton placed fourth at state.