



THIS WEEK IN TIGER CROSS COUNTRY

Time: Women 11 a.m.; Men 12:50 p.m. Course: LaVern Gibson Course at the

Wabash Valley Family Sports Center

**Event:** Pre-Nationals

Location: Terre Haute, Ind.

Date: Oct. 18

#### 2008 Schedule

Date	<b>Event</b> Time	/Result (M;W)
Sept. 5	at Powerade Invitational (Chattanooga, Tenn.)	1st; 2nd
Sept. 27	at Roy Griak Invitational (Falcon Heights, Minn.)	5th; DNR
Oct. 4	TIGER INVITATIONAL (Auburn, Ala.)	1st; 6th
Oct. 18	at Pre-Nationals (Terre Haute, Ind.)	11 a.m.
Nov. 3	at SEC Championship (Starkville, Miss.)	10 a.m.
Nov. 15	at NCAA South Regionals (Maryville, Tenn.)	тва
Nov. 24	at NCAA Championships (Terre Haute, Ind.)	ТВА

#### **Cross Country Information**

Head Coach	Peter Watson
Year at Auburn	Fourth
Alma Mater	West Virginia, 2001
Office Phone	(334) 944-9799
Email	watsopw@auburn.edu
2007 SEC Finish	
Men	6th
Women	6th
2007 South Regional Fin	nish
Men	6th
Women	14th
2007 NCAA Qualifiers Re	eturning/Lost
Men	1/0
Women	0/0
Letterwinners Returning	g/Lost
Men	5/5
Women	8/4
Newcomers	
Men	5
Women	0

#### **Media Relations**

modia nonationo	
Cross Country Contact	Amanda Dahl
Dahl's Office Phone	(334) 844-9900
Dahl's Cell Phone	(712) 251-9271
Dahl's Email	acd0010@auburn.edu
Media Relations Fax	(334) 844-9807
Media Relations Address	Athletic Complex
	392 S. Donahue Dr.
	Auburn, AL 36849
Website	www.auburntigers.com

#### **Auburn University**

nasain omitoroity	
Location	Auburn, Ala.
Nickname	Tigers
ColorsB	urnt Orange and Navy Blue
	(PMS 172, 289)
	24,137
Conference	Southeastern
President	Dr. Jay Gogue
Athletics Director	Jay Jacobs
Senior Women's Administr	ator Meredith Jenkins
Sr. Assoc. AD/Team Suppor	t Mark Richard

#### At the Starting Line

- ► The No. 16 Auburn men's and women's cross country teams will travel to Terre Haute, Ind., for the Pre-National meet on Saturday.
- ► Pre-Nationals will serve as the Tigers' final tune up before embarking upon postseason action.
- ▶ Auburn's women will race first with the 6K Blue Race at 11 a.m. CT. The Tigers will run against 11 of the nations ranked teams, including No. 1 Washington. A total of 41 teams will run in the women's Blue Race.
- ▶ The men will follow at 12:50 p.m. CT in the 8K White Race. The Tigers are one of 11 ranked squads running in the White Race. No. 3 Colorado and No. 7 Iona lead the way among 40 men's teams in the White Race.
- ▶ The LaVern Gibson Course is described as rolling and challenging. It is also the site for the 2008 NCAA Championships to be held Nov. 24.
- ▶ Auburn's men are coming off of a first-place performance at the Tiger Invitational held Oct. 4. The Tigers captured first through third places with Elkanah Kibet winning his third race, followed by Felix Kiboiywo and Girma Mecheso.
- ► Auburn's women placed sixth at the Tiger Invitational with sophomore Holly Knight crossing the line first for the Tigers in fourth place.
- ▶ In the NCAA South Region rankings, the Auburn women have moved from No. 10 to No. 5 following their showing at the Tiger Invitational. The men remain ranked second in the region behind Alabama.
- ▶ Kibet is the owner of the fastest 8K in the league at 23:55.30. He holds a 22 second advantage over teammate Kiboiywo who has recorded the second-fastest time at 24:17.90. Scott Novack's 25:00.00 ranks 13th. Mecheso is just six seconds back at 25:06.00 to rank 18th.
- ► Kibet's 8K time of 23:55.3 is the fastest 8K for the Tigers since Chris Walsh ran a 23:41.14 at the 2004 SEC Championship.
- ► Kibet is the first Tiger since Angela Homan during the 2004 season to win three or more races. Homan won six straight races during her junior campaign.

#### **AUBURN WOMEN'S PROBABLES**

- 1. Holly Knight (So., Devon, England)
- Sabrina Fischer (Jr., Magdeburg, Germany)
- 3. Laurel Pritchard (Jr., Vestavia Hills, Ala.)
- 4. Amber Riley
  - (So., Morgantown, W. Va.)
- 5. Cathryn Albright (So., Birmingham, Ala.)
- 6. Allison Smith (So., Daphne, Ala.)

#### **AUBURN MEN'S PROBABLES**

- 1. Felix Kiboiywo (Jr., Eldoret, Kenya)
- 2. Elkanah Kibet
- (Jr., Iten, Kenya)
  3. Girma Mecheso
- (Fr., Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
- 4. Scott Novack
- (Jr., Hoover, Ala.)
- 5. Julian Matthews (Fr., Nelson, New Zealand)
- 6. Joby Peake (So., Macon, Ga.)





17 The number of times that the Auburn men and women have finished in the top 10 individually and as a team.





#### **USTFCCCA Men's National Rankings**

Released: Oct. 14, 2008

Team	Previous
1. Oregon (11)	1
2. Oklahoma State (1)	2
3. Colorado	3
4. Portland	4
5. Wisconsin	5
6. Alabama	6
7. Iona College	7
8. Georgetown	8
9. Michigan	9
10. Stanford	10
11. Iowa State	11
12. Virginia	12
13. Florida State	13
14. Minnesota	14
15. North Carolina State	15
16. AUBURN	16
16. Northern Arizona	16
18. BYU	18
19. Tulsa	19
20. Texas A&M	20
21. Texas	21
22. Providence	22
23. UCLA	23
24. William & Mary	24
25. California	25
26. Syracuse	26
27. Arkansas	47
28. Villanova	28
29. Cal Poly	29
30. Michigan State	30

Others receiving votes: Indiana (23), Florida (12), Notre Dame, (12), Butler (8), New Mexico (6), UTEP (4), Washington (2), and Southern Illinois (1).

#### **Kibet Cruises Again to Win Tiger Invitational**

- ▶ Auburn's Elkanah Kibet did it again and so did the Tigers. Kibet cruised to an individual title and the No. 21 Auburn men captured the men's Mel Rosen Orange Race team title with 31 points on Oct. 4 at the Tiger Invitational at Indian Pines Golf Course. Holly Knight placed fourth for the Auburn women en route to a sixth-place women's Mel Rosen Orange Race team finish.
- ▶ Auburn's trio of Kibet, Kibioywo and Mesecho packed a potent punch, taking first through third places. Kibet, who has won all three of his races this season, crossed the 8K line in 22:16.35, 24 seconds ahead of runner-up Kibioywo (22:40.24). Mesecho took third, finishing in 22:55.52, three seconds better than his 8K at the Roy Griak.
- ▶ Freshman Julian Matthews was just shy of a top-10 finisher, placing 11th in 23:26.80. Matthews lowered his 8K by over two minutes after running his first-ever 8K at the Roy Griak.
- ► Scott Novack placed 14th in 23:36.49, Joby Peake was 43rd (24:19.99) and coming in 62nd was freshman Jeff Sanders (24:49.91) to round out Auburn's scorers.
- ► Facing a highly-ranked field with No. 2 Washington, No. 3 Florida State and No. 27 Iowa in attendance, Auburn's women were able to pull together for a sixth-place finish with four Tigers finishing among the top 50.
- ▶ Crossing the 5K line first for the Tigers was Knight in 16:07.83 to take fourth place. The sophomore was the first non-Washington runner to finish, as the Huskies finished first through third and then followed by taking sixth through ninth. In only the second race of the season, Knight has put together a pair of top-five finishes.
- ▶ Pritchard was the second Tiger to finish at 22nd in 17:15.65. Nine seconds back was Sabrina Fischer in 29th (17:24.22) and Riley was 31st (17:30.64). Smith was fifth for Auburn in 18:25.54 and was 76th overall, followed by Cathryn Albright at 87th (18:43.70) and Madeline Collins rounded out Auburn's scoring efforts with an 18:58.58 finish for 98th.
- ▶ Running unattached, Becca Bell completed the course in 18:14.47 for a 76th place finish.

#### Kibioywo Named SEC Athlete of the Week

- ▶ Auburn's Felix Kiboiywo was named Southeastern Conference Cross Country Male Athlete of the Week following his performance Sept. 27 at the Roy Griak Invitational, the league office announced on Sept. 30.
- ▶ Running in his first race of his junior campaign, Kiboiywo placed seventh at the 8K Roy Griak Invitational in a time of 24:17.9. Kiboiywo was one of two top-10 finishers for the Tigers and helped pace the No. 25 Auburn men's cross country team to a fifth-place finish.
- ► This is the second time in Kiboiywo's career that he has received Athlete of the Week honors.

#### **Kibet Captures Roy Griak Title; Auburn Men Place Fifth**

- ▶ Elkanah Kibet captured his second individual title and Felix Kibioywo placed seventh to pace the No. 25 Auburn men's cross country team to a fifth-place finish at the 8K Roy Griak Invitational Sept. 27 in Falcon Heights, Minn.
- ► Kibet cruised to his second title in as many races, crossing the finish line in 23:55.3. He finished 12 seconds ahead of runner-up Hassan Mead of Minnesota.
- ▶ Running in his first race of the season, returning NCAA qualifier Kibioywo completed the course in 24:17.9 for a seventh-place finish.
- ▶ Scott Novack and Girma Mecheso were also top-30 finishers for the Tigers. Novack placed 24th in a time of 25:00.0 and Mecheso was six seconds behind him for a 29th-place finish in 25:06.0.
- ▶ Also running for Auburn were freshman Julian Matthews, placing 79th in 25:44.0 and sophomore Joby Peake, who was 101st with a time of 25:57.5. Freshman Jeff Sanders rounded out the Tiger finishers running the course in 27:09.8 to finish 171st.





#### **NCAA South Region Rankings**

Released: Oct. 13

#### Women

- 1. Florida State
- 2. Florida
- 3. Georgia
- 4. Tennessee
- 5. AUBURN
- 6. Georgia State
- 7. UAB
- 8. Vanderbilt
- 9. Alabama
- 10. South Florida
- 11. Central Florida
- 12. Samford
- 13. Georgia Tech
- 14. Mississippi State
- 15. Jacksonville

#### Men

- 1. Alabama
- 2. AUBURN
- 3. Florida State
- 4. Florida
- 5. Tennessee
- 6. Belmont
- 7. Georgia State
- 8. Georgia Tech
- 9. Middle Tennessee State
- 10. East Tennessee State
- 11. Mississippi State
- 12. Georgia
- 13. UT-Chattanooga
- 14. Vanderbilt
- 15. Mississippi

#### **Pair of Auburn Runners Earn SEC Honors**

▶ Auburn newcomers Elkanah Kibet and Girma Mecheso were named SEC Male Athlete and Freshman of the Week, respectively, following their performances Sept. 5 at the Powerade Invitational, the league office announced Sept. 8

#### <u> Auburn Men Win Team Title; Women Runner-Up</u>

- ▶ The Auburn men's cross country team finished in first place and the women tied for second and both teams had the individual champion as the Tigers opened their 2008 seasons at the Powerade Invitational hosted by the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.
- ▶ The men's team scored 18 points to finish 48 points ahead of instate and conference rival Alabama, while Kennesaw State (91) and UT-Chattanooga (104) finished third and fourth, respectively.
- ► The women finished second with 38 points, just four points back from champion UT-Chattanooga.
- ▶ In the men's 5K race, Auburn captured first through fourth place with junior college transfer Elkanah Kibet and true freshman Girma Mecheso packing the blazing one-two punch in 14:49 and 14:54, respectively. Junior Scott Novack (15:22) and true freshman Julian Matthews (15:31) followed for third and fourth.
- ▶ On the women's side, the Tigers had three top-10 finishers with sophomore Holly Knight and junior Laurel Pritchard placing first and third, respectively. Knight, who was the top finisher at the same event a year ago, cruised to her second title by completing the two-mile course in 10:56 and finished 26 seconds ahead of runner-up Tara Gietema of UT-Chattanooga. Pritchard crossed the line in 11:22 and sophomore Amber Riley placed sixth for the Tigers.





### **Women's Individual Results**

Cath	ryn	Albright
Date	Even	ıt

Finish/Team Pl. Time O4 Tiger Invitational 18:43.70 108/87

#### **Becca Bell**

Finish/Team Pl. Time Date Event Powerade Invitational 17/--12:27 18:14.47 Tiger Invitational

#### **Madeleine Collins**

Finish/Team Pl. Time Date Event Powerade Invitational 12:30 19/16 Tiger Invitational 18:58.58 /98

#### Sabrina Fischer

Finish/Team Pl. Time Date Event O4 Tiger Invitational 17:24.22 32/29

#### **Holly Knight**

Finish/Team Pl. Time Date Event Powerade Invitational Tiger Invitational 16:07.83

#### **Laurel Pritchard**

Finish/Team Pl. Time Date Event Powerade Invitational 11:29 Tiger Invitational

#### **Amber Riley**

Date	Event	Finish/Te	am Pl. Time
S5	Powerade Invitational	6/6	11:47
04	Tiger Invitational	34/31	17:30.64

#### **Allison Smith**

Date	Event	Finish/Te	am Pl.  Time
S5	Powerade Invitational	13/12	12:23
04	Tiger Invitational	90/76	18:25.54

#### **2008 Women's Meet-By-Meet Results**

Date	Event	Location	<b>Team Finish</b>
Sept. 5	at Powerade Invitational	Chattanooga, Tenn.	2nd
Oct. 4	Tiger Invitational	Auburn, Ala.	6th
Oct. 18	at Pre-Nationals	Terre Haute, Ind.	
Nov. 3	at SEC Championship	Starkville, Miss.	
Nov. 15	at NCAA South Regionals	Maryville, Tenn.	
Nov. 24	at NCAA Championships	Terre Haute, Ind.	

#### **Team Results**

UT-Chattanooga Invitational (two miles)

Final Team Standings, Points

1. UT-Chattanooga, 34

1. HOLLY KNIGHT (AUBURN), 10:56

1. UT-Chattanooga, 34

2. AUBURN, 38 3. Kennesaw State. 64

4 Jacksonville State 113

5. West Georgia, 118

2. Tara Gietema (UT-Chattanooga), 11:22

3. LAUREL PRITCHARD (AUBURN), 11:29 4. Mackenzie Howe (Kennesaw State), 11:31

5. Sabrinia Lefort (UT-Chattanooga), 11:36 6. AMBER RILEY (AUBURN), 11:47 7. Lesley Binning (Jacksonville State), 11:48

8. Jordyn Radke (UT-Chattanooga), 11:54 9. Katie Williams (UT-Chattanooga), 12:10 10. Anneli Uys (Unattached), 12:12

Tiger Invitational (5K)

Final Team Standings, Points

1. Washington, 19 2. Oregon State, 98

3. Iowa, 99 4. Georgia, 138

5. Purdue, 158 6. AUBURN, 162

7. Clemson, 195 8. Stephen F. Austin, 234

9. Samford, 262

10. Georgia Tech, 274

Top-10 Finishers (School), Time 1. Kendra Schaaf (Washington), 15:46.13

2. Christine Babcock (Washington), 16:01.52

3. Marie Lawrence (Washington), 16:04.47 4. HOLLY KNIGHT (AUBURN), 16:07.83

5. Racheal Marchand (Iowa), 16:15.50 6. Kaite Follett (Washington), 16:17.12 7. Lauren Saylor (Washington), 16:17.81

8. Amanda Miller (Washington), 16:30.17 9. Anita Campbell (Washington), 16:31 10. Kristin Phillips (Purdue), 16:39.93

Auburn Finishers (scoring position), Time

1. Holly Knight (1), 10:56 2. Laurel Pritchard (3), 11:29

3. Amber Riley (6), 11:47

4. Allison Smith (12), 12:23

5. Madeline Collins (16), 12:30

Auburn Finishers (scoring position), Time

1. Holly Knight (4), 16:07.83

2. Laurel Pritchard (22), 17:15.65

3. Sabrina Fischer (29), 17:24.22

4. Amber Riley (31), 17:30.64

5. Allison Smith (76), 18:25.54 6. Cathryn Albright (87), 18:43,70

7. Madeline Collins (98), 18:58.58





## **Men's Individual Results**

wark rieming					
Date	Event	Finish/Team Pl.	Time		
S5	Powerade Invitational	25/	16:45		

#### **Elkahan Kibet** Finish/Team Pl. Date Event Time Powerade Invitational 1/1 14:49 Roy Griak Invitational 1/1 23:55.3 S27

#### Tiger Invitational Felix Kiboiywo Finish/Team Pl Tim

1/1

S27	Roy Griak Invitational	7/2	24:17.9
04	Tiger Invitational	2/2	22:40.24

Iulian Matthews

Julic	iii iviattiic vv3		
Date	Event	Finish/Team Pl	. Time
S5	Powerade Invitational	4/4	15:31
S27	Roy Griak Invitational	59/74	25:44.0
04	Tiger Invitational	12/11 2	3:26.80

Girma Mecheso			
Date	Event	Finish/Tear	m Pl. Time
S5	Powerade Invitational	2/2	14:54
S27	Roy Griak Invitational	29/29	25:06.0

	-,-	
Charles Mitchell		
Date Event	Finish/Team Pl.	Time

Scott Novack				
	Date	Event	Finish/Tea	m Pl. Time
	S5	Powerade Invitational	3/3	15:22
	S27	Roy Griak Inviataional	24/24	25:00.0
	04	The second second second	10/11	22.26.46

Joby	Peake		
Date	Event	Finish/Tear	m Pl. Time
S5	Powerade Invitational	15/11	16:04
C27	David Cutalities despite and	101/02	25.57.5

S5	Powerade Invitational	15/11	16:04
S27	Roy Griak Invitational	101/92	25:57.5
04	Tiger Invitational	50/43	24:19.99

Jeff Sanders			
Date	Event	Finish/Tear	n Pl. Time
S6	Powerade Invitational	12/8	16:02
S27	Roy Griak Invitational	171/137	27:09.8
04	Tiger Invitational	78/62	24:49.91

Myles Udland			
Date	Event	Finish/Team Pl.	Time
S5	Powerade Invitational	22/17	16:26

Jean-Pierre Weerts		
Date Event	Finish/Team Pl.	Time

### **2008 Men's Meet-By-Meet Results**

Date	Event (Distance)	Location	Team Finish
Sept. 5	at Powerade Invitational	Chattanooga, Tenn.	1st
Sept. 27	at Roy Griak Invitational	Falcon Heights, Minn.	5th
Oct. 4	Tiger Invitational	Auburn, Ala.	1st
Oct. 18	at Pre-Nationals	Terre Haute, Ind.	
Nov. 3	at SEC Championship	Starkville, Miss.	
Nov. 15	at NCAA South Regionals	Maryville, Tenn.	
Nov. 24	at NCAA Championships	Terre Haute, Ind.	

#### **Team Results**

22:16.35

	UT-Chattanooga Invitational (5K)		
Final Team Standings, Points Top-10 Finishers (School), Time		Top-10 Finishers (School), Time	
	1. AUBURN, 18	1. ELKANAH KIBET (AUBURN), 14:49	
	2. Alabama, 66	2. GIRMA MECHESO (AUBURN), 14:54	
	3. Kennesaw State, 91	3. SCOTT NOVACK (AUBURN), 15:22	
	4. UT-Chattanooga, 104	4. JULIAN MATTHEWS (AUBURN), 15:31	
	5. West Georgia, 119	5. Emmanuel Kirwa (UT-Chattanooga), 15:40	
		6. Nicholas Kering (Chattahoochee Tech), 15:4	
		7 Zac Edwards (Alahama) 15:45	

#### 8. Meshack Koyiaki (Chattahoochee Tech), 15:47 9. Paul Guevara (Unattached), 15:49 10. Nathan Haskins (Unattached), 15:52

Roy Griak Invitational (8K)	
Final Team Standings, Points	
(Top 10 teams)	
1. Adams State, 75	
2. Iowa State, 89	
3. Brigham Young, 91	
4. Minnesota, 107	
5 ALIBLIAN 125	

.. C.:-!. !...:\*\*-\*:-..-! /0!/\

7. FELIX KIBIOYWO (AUBURN), 24:17.9 T6. Washington State, 215 T6. New Mexico, 215 8. Hillary Bor (Iowa State), 24:18.7 8. Duke, 248 9. Iowa, 255

#### Tiger Invitational (8K) Final Team Standings, Points (Top 10 teams)

1. AUBURN. 31 2. Washington, 49 3. Iowa, 72 4. Clemson, 155 5. Georgia Tech, 156 6. Georgia, 241 7. McNeese State, 285 8. Louisiana Tech, 286 9. Emory, 294

10. Arizona State. 268

10. Stephen F. Austin

s Top-10 Finishers (School), Time

1. ELKANAH KIBET (AUBURN), 23:55.3 2. Hassan Mead (Minnesota), 24:07.4 3. Mark Korir (Wyoming), 24:10.2 4. Stephen Shay (Brigham Young), 24:12.3 5. Reuben Chebon-Mwei (Adams State), 24:15.6 6. Kyle Perry (Brigham Young), 24:16.7

9. Aaron Braun (Adams State), 24:20.1 10. Kiel Uhl (Iowa State), 24:21.9

#### Top-10 Finishers (School), Time

1. ELKANAH KIBET (AUBURN), 22:16.35 2. FELIX KIBIOYWO (AUBURN), 22:40.24 3. GIRMA MESECHO (AUBURN), 22:55.52 4. Jesse Luciano (Iowa), 23:01.83 5. Jeremy Mineau (Washington), 23:09.87 6. Henry Rop (Southeast Louisiana), 23:17.41 7. Ryley Miller (Unattached), 23:18.81 8. Jon Harding (Washington), 23:19.11 9. Jake Schmitt (Washington), 23:21.98 10. Sam Bryfczynski (Clemson), 23:25.61

Auburn Finishers (scoring position), Time

1. Elkanah Kibet (1), 14:49 2. Girma Mecheso (2), 14:54 3. Scott Novack (3), 15:22 4. Julian Matthews (4), 15:31 5. Jeff Sanders (8), 16:02 6. Joby Peake (11), 16:04 7. Myles Udland (17), 16:26

Auburn Finishers (scoring position), Time 1. Elkanah Kibet (1), 23:55.3

2. Felix Kibioywo (7), 24:17.9 3. Scott Novack (24), 25:00.0 4. Girma Mecheso (29), 25:06.0 5. Julian Matthews (74), 25:44.0 6. Joby Peake (92), 25:57.5 7. Jeff Sanders (137), 27:09.8

#### Auburn Finishers (scoring position), Time

1. Elkanah Kibet (1), 22:16.35 2. Felix Kibioywo (2), 22:40.24 3. Girma Mesecho (3), 25:00.0 4. Julian Matthews (11), 23:26.80 5. Scott Novack (14), 23:36.49 6. Joby Peake (43), 24:19.99 7. Jeff Sanders (62), 24:49.91