

Iowa Cross Country Contact: Natalie Johnson

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**IOWA CROSS COUNTRY****IOWA FINISHES 13TH AT NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Terre Haute, IN** – The University of Iowa men’s cross country team competed at the NCAA Championship today hosted by Indiana State University. Iowa finished in 13<sup>th</sup> place (30 teams) with 371 team points. The Hawkeye’s 13<sup>th</sup> place finish is the highest Coach Wieczorek has coached his squad to in his duration as head coach. Iowa was the second Big Ten team to cross the finish line beating Minnesota (18<sup>th</sup>), Indiana (19<sup>th</sup>), Ohio State (22<sup>nd</sup>), Michigan (26<sup>th</sup>), and Michigan State (28<sup>th</sup>). Wisconsin took second place with 94 team points. This is the third time in seven years that Iowa has competed at the championship. Iowa recorded a 21<sup>st</sup> place finish in 1998 and 29<sup>th</sup> place in 2002.

Sophomore **Micah VanDenend** led the Hawkeyes in the men’s 10,000-meter placing 52<sup>nd</sup> (242 runners) in 32:21. Freshman **Eric MacTaggart** finished 59<sup>th</sup> in 32:27. Senior teammate **Matt Esche** finished just three places behind **MacTaggart** in 32:28 for 62<sup>nd</sup> place. Sophomore **Adam Roche** placed 69<sup>th</sup> in 32:32. Senior **Tony Rakaric** ran 33:17 for 129<sup>th</sup> place. Sophomore **Jeff Kent** and junior **Dan Haut** finished 144<sup>th</sup> and 152<sup>nd</sup> respectively in 33:27 and 33:30.

The University of Colorado was crowned the NCAA champions with 90 team points. The Buffaloes were led by two top five competitors, fourth place finisher Brent Vaughn (30:49) and fifth place finisher Bret Schoolmeester (30:57). Wisconsin’s Simon Bairu won the individual title in a time of 30:38, leading Wisconsin to its second place finish. Arkansas placed third with 202 team points.

**MEN’S TEAM RESULTS**  
**(top five plus IOWA)**

1. Colorado	90
2. Wisconsin	94
3. Arkansas	202
4. Butler	243
5. Brigham Young	267
<b>13. IOWA</b>	<b>371</b>

**MEN’S INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**  
**(top three plus IOWA)**

1. Simon Bairu (Wisconsin)	30:38
2. Matt Gonzales (New Mexico)	30:41
3. Josphat Boit (Arkansas)	30:42
<b>52. Micah VanDenend (IOWA)</b>	<b>32:21</b>
<b>59. Eric MacTaggart(IOWA)</b>	<b>32:27</b>
<b>62. Matt Esche (IOWA)</b>	<b>32:28</b>
<b>69. Adam Roche (IOWA)</b>	<b>32:32</b>
<b>129. Tony Rakaric (IOWA)</b>	<b>33:17</b>
<b>144. Jeff Kent (IOWA)</b>	<b>33:27</b>
<b>152. Dan Haut (IOWA)</b>	<b>33:30</b>

