

KENTUCKY CROSS COUNTRY

MEET FIVE: SEC CROSS COUNTRY

CHAMPIONSHIPS

......@KentuckyTrack

......Kentucky Track



KENTUCKY RACE NOTES

Men's Team

- In each of the last two events the Wildcats have ran, a Kentucky man has won the individual title.
- The Kentucky team has finished in the top five in each of its three team events this season.
- Freshman Collins Kiprop Kipngok won his first collegiate title at the Bradley Pink Classic Red Invite, taking first in the 8k in a personal best--and meet record-- time of 23:32.7. He is the fourth fastest freshman in the SEC this season.
- Sophomore Ed Bird won the Gans Creek Classic 8k in a personal best time of 23:07.6. The win was the first of his collegiate career in his only start this season. His time was a course and meet record.
- No. 3 Arkansas, No. 11 Alabama, and (rv) Texas headline the Men's field.
- The Wildcats are looking to build upon last year's 8th place finish at the conference meet.

Women's Team

- Junior Ally Kruger has led the Wildcats in scoring at every meet this season, finishing in the top 20 at all three races. She ran a personal best 6k at the Gans Creek Classic in 20:25.6.
- Senior Phoebe McCowan has saved her best running for her last season, recording personal bests in both of her starts this season while also serving as the Cats' second-leading scorer both times.
- Sophomore Lyric Olson and senior Mollie Roden each recorded personal best times and finishes at the Bradley Pink Classic.
- No. 7 Alabama, No. 14 Florida, No. 28 Texas, (rv) Arkansas, and (rv) Tennessee headline the Women's field.
- The Wildcats are looking to build upon last year's 12th place finish at the conference meet.

PROJECTED RUNNERS

Men's Team:

 Alex Alston, Miles Brush, Ed Bird, Sami Hattab, Alex Justus, Collins Kiprop Kipngok, Caden Miracle, Jack Pendergast, William Russell, Jackson Watts

Women's Team

- o Jayla Atkinson, Morgan Dick, Ava Hendren, Ally Kruger, Phoebe McCowan,
 - Chesney McPherson, Lyric Olson, Mollie Roden, Jenna Schwinghamer, Julz Williams

2024 SCHEDULE

AUGUST

30 **EKU Triangular** (Richmond, Ky.)

SEPTEMBER

- Southern Showcase 13 (Huntsville, Ala.) M: 4th, 142 | W: 6th, 185
- Gans Creek Classic 27 (Columbia, Mo.) M: 5th, 185 | W: 9th, 243

OCTOBER 18

Bradley Pink Classic (Peoria, III.) M: 2nd, 160; W: 8th, 230

NOVEMBER

- SEC Championships 1 (Bryan-College Station, Texas)
- 15 NCAA Southeast Regional (Rock Hill, S.C.)
- 23 NCAA Championships (Madison, Wisc.)

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY





WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY





Roster

Men		
Name	Year	Hometown (Previous School)
Alex Alston	So.	Bedford, England
Theo Bachmann	So.	Crestwood, Ky.
Ed Bird	So.	Dorchester, England
Miles Brush	So.	Chelsea, Ala.
Cade Byer	Jr.	Corvallis, Ore.
Sami Hattab	So.	Louisville, Ky.
Alex Justus	Sr.	Maineville, Ohio
Collins Kiprop Kipngok	Fr.	Nakuru, Kenya
Max Liao	Fr.	Mason, Ohio
Caden Miracle	So.	Pineville, Ky.
Liam Naughton	Fr.	Mt. Prospect, Ill.
Jack Pendergast	Sr.	Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Iowa)
William Russell	So.	Columbus, Ind. (Xavier)
Jackson Watts	Sr.	Slaughters, Ky.
Caden Weber	Fr.	Downers Grove, Ill.

Women		
Name	Year	Hometown (Previous School)
Jayla Atkinson	Fr.	Munroe Falls, Ohio
Noel Barlette	Fr.	Orchard Park, N.Y.
Brooke Berber	So.	Elmurst, Ill.
Logan Brennan	So.	Naperville, Ill.
Morgan Dick	Fr.	Aurora, III.
Ainsley Edwards	Jr.	Winston-Salem, N.C.
Aubree Hay	So.	Ashland, Ky.
Elly Heine	Jr.	Medina, Ohio (Walsh)
Ava Hendren	Fr.	Naperville, Ill.
Clara Heppner	So.	Marietta, Ga. (Florida State)
Ally Kruger	Jr.	St. Louis, Mo.
Elaina Lahmers	So.	Marysville, Ohio
Phoebe McCowan	Sr.	London, Ky.
Chesney McPherson	Fr.	Flippin, Ky.
Lyric Olson	So.	Savannah, Ga.
Mollie Roden	Sr.	Colorado Springs, Colo.
Jenna Schwinghammer	Sr.	Springboro, Ohio
Julz Williams	Sr.	Beavercreek, Ohio
Baylor Wolfe	Fr.	Denver, Colo.

Sw-ING-ham-mer

Pronunciation

Men Women			
Theo BACHMANN	BAAK-man	Noel BARLETTE	BAR-let
Sami HATTAB	Ha-TAAB	Brooke BERGER	BUR-GER
Alex JUSTUS	JUST-us	Elly HEINE	High-KNEE
Collins KIPROP KIPNGOK	Kip-ROP Kip-GAWK	Ally KRUGER	crew-GER
		Chesney MCPHERSON	mick-FER-son

By State/Country

Jenna SCHWINGHAMER

Men		Women	
Kentucky	4	Ohio	5
Ohio	2	Illinois	4
Illinois	2	Kentucky	3
England	2	Colorado	2
Alabama	1	Georgia	1
lowa	1	Missouri	1
Indiana	1	North Carolina	1
Oregon	1	New York	1
Kenya	1		







MEDIA INFORMATION

CREDENTIALS

All media credential requests should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to home meets. Credentials can be picked up on site on the day of a meet. Requests should be made through the Communications & Public Relations Office by contacting **Ben Slack**.

MEDIA SERVICES

During meets, media will be provided with notes and updated results. Final results will be available shortly following each meet.

POST-MEET INTERVIEWS

Interviews with athletes and coaches are done in an informal manner on track following each meet. For assistance in locating any member of the Kentucky team, find Ben Slack for help. For assistance with opposing athletes and coaches, please see the opposing SIDs.

PRACTICE/INTERVIEWS

Player are available for interviews upon request. All practices take place at the Jim Green Indoor Track & Field Center and the UK Track and Field Complex, depending on season and weather, and are subject to change based on class schedules of the athletes and travel as well as meet schedules. Interviews with coaches and/or athletes are after practice and phone interviews may be arranged. Advance notice is requested for all interviews. Please arrange all interviews through the Kentucky ACPROffice and track and field contact Ben Slack.

PHOTOS

The UK ACPR office sometimes provides media with high-resolution digital images for use upon request. Please contact Ben Slack to request photos of UK Cross Country runner and/or coaches.

INTERNET

The official website for UK athletics, www.UKathletics.com is the place to find updated rosters, schedules, results and statistics.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Kentucky Cross Country and Track & Field program's story is told primarily through its social media accounts. Be that via facebook, twitter or Instagram, the best way to get to know the Wildcats and follow the season in-depth is by following @KentuckyTrack.

The Week Ahead

October 30 -- Travel to SEC Championships in Bryan-College Station, Texas October 31 -- Practice in Bryan-College Station November 1 -- SEC Championships November 1 -- Return travel

QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY

Location: Lexington, Ky. Founded: 1865 Enrollment: 34,000 Nickname: Wildcats Colors: Blue (PMS 286) and White Conference: Southeastern Conference Stadium: UK Track & Field Complex (Outdoor) President: Dr. Eli Capilouto (Alabama, 1971) Athletics Director: Mitch Barnhart (Ottawa, 1981)

CROSS COUNTRY STAFF

Head Coach: Lonnie Greene (7th Year) Alma Mater: Murray State (1990) Assistant Coach (Distance/XC): Hakon DeVries Director of Operations: Pristina Jones Sport Administrator: Jason Schlafer

CROSS COUNTRY HISTORY

Best SEC Finishes Women's - Champions (1985, 1988, 1989) Men's - Champions (1958, 1959,1970, 1988) Best NCAA Finishes Women's - Champions (1988) Men's - Eighth (1988) SEC Individual Champions Women - Two (Last: 2012) Men - Nine (Last: 2003) All-Americans Women - 13 (Last: 2021) Men - Seven (Last: 1995)

2023 RECAP

SEC Finish Women's - 12th (292 points) Men's - 8th (197 points) NCAA Southeast Regional Finish Women's - 17th (463 points) Men's - 14th (369 points)

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Cross Country/Track and Field Contact: Ben Slack CPR Office: 859-257-3838 CPR Fax: 859-257-4310 Slack Cell: 270-893-4546 Slack E-Mail: bslack012@uky.edu Website: www.UKathletics.com Twitter/Instagram: @KentuckyTrack





BACK2BACK

In each of Kentucky's last two regular season meets, a Wildcat runner won the Men's 8k individual title. Ed Bird took home the Gans Creek Classic crown in a course--and meet--record time of 23:07.6. Collins Kiprop Kipngok followed that performance up with a win at the Bradley Pink Classic in a meet record time of 23:32.7. Both runners picked up their first collegiate win in the process.

MS. CONSISTENT

Ally Kruger has been a model of consistency for the Cats this season, leading her team in scoring at all three regular season meets. Additionally, she has finished within the top 20 in all three races.

FIRST OF MANY

Collins Kiprop Kipngok picked up his first career SEC honor on October 1, as he was named the SEC Freshman of the Week for his performance at the Gans Creek Classic. The Nakuru, Kenya native improved his collegiate debut time by some 12 seconds, running 23:33.0. While only placing 15th, the time was better than the previous course and meet record.

BIRD IS THE WORD

Sophomore Ed Bird ran the race of his life at the Gans Creek Classic, storming down the stretch to earn the first individual win of his career. His only race of the 2024 season to date, Bird ran the second fastest time in the SEC in September. The 2023 SEC All-Freshman Team member smashed his previous personal best as well, besting his mark from 2023 by over a minute. Bird also won the bronze medal in the 3000m at the World Athletics U20 Championships in August.

LAST ONE, BEST ONE

Senior Phoebe McCowan is enjoying a breakout season campaign for the Cats. In both of the races in which she has ran, she has bettered her personal best by 15 seconds (one in the 5k, one in the 6k) and served as the team's No. 2 scorer.

FAST GREENS

At the Gans Creek Classic, 19 Wildcats ran personal best times. All 10 men in the Kentucky lineup set new personal standards while 9 of the 10 women also clocked their lifetime best.

JACK ATTACK

Graduate transfer Jack Pendergast has enjoyed a breakout final season in his only year in Lexington. Transfering in from Iowa, he has lowered his personal best in each of his three races this year. Most recently, he earned his first career top ten finish, placing 8th at the Bradley Pink Classic.

A DEBUT FOR THE AGES

Collins Kiprop Kipngok kicked off his collegiate career in style, placing fifth at the Southern Showcase in a time of 23:45.9. His run was the fastest 8k collegiate debut by a Kentucky runner since AT LEAST 2012 and was the fastest 8k season opener by a Wildcat runner since 2017. He has since gone on to become the fastest freshman in the tenure of Coach Hakon DeVries.

MEN'S SCORING CHART	SOUTHERN SHOWCASE	GANS CREEK CLASSIC	BRADLEY PINK CLASSIC
Collins Kiprop Kipngok	1	2	1
Jackson Watts	5	З	З
Alex Alston	З	5	-
Jack Pendergast	4	4	2
Caden Miracle	5	-	-
Ed Bird	-	1	-
Miles Brush	-	-	4
Sami Hattab	-	-	5

WOMEN'S SCORING CHART	SOUTHERN SHOWCASE	GANS CREEK CLASSIC	BRADLEY PINK CLASSIC
Ally Kruger	1	1	1
Phoebe McCowan	2	2	-
Chesney McPherson	З	-	4
Ava Hendren	4	-	-
Jenna Schwinghamer	5	З	5
Lyric Olson	-	4	2
Mollie Roden	-	5	3

2024 SEASON HONORS

Collins Kiprop Kipngok.....SEC Freshman of the Week (10/1)Bradley Pink Classic Champion (Meet Record)

Ed Bird Gans Creek Classic Champion (Course and Meet Record)

TOP 25 FINISHES 2024 SEASON

<u>IVIEN</u>	
SOUTHERN SHOWCASE	
Collins Kiprop Kipngok	5th
Jackson Watts	24th
GANS CREEK CLASSIC	
Ed Bird	1st
Collins Kiprop Kipngok	15th
BRADLEY PINK CLASSIC	
Collins Kiprop Kipngok	1st
Jack Pendergast	8th

WOMEN

SOUTHERN SHOWCASE	
Ally Kruger	19th
CANS ODEEK CLASSIC	
Ally Kruger	17th
Ally Kruger	14th
Lyric Olson	



<u>MEN'S 8K</u>

Ed Bird	8th
Collins Kiprop Kipngok	20th
Jackson Watts	40th
Jack Pendergast	44th
Alex Alston	77th

WOMEN'S 6K

Ally Kruger	27th
Phoebe McCowan	
Lyric Olson	54th
Mollie Roden	63rd
Jenna Schwinghamer	69th





2024 Results

MEN

Southern Showcase

September 13					
	8k Race				
Jo	hn Hunt Park - Hunt	tsville Alab	ama		
Place 5. 24. 28. 39. 51. 71. 78. 100. 127.	Runner Collins Kiprop Kipngok Jackson Watts Alex Alston Jack Pendergast Caden Miracle Max Liao William Russell Sami Hattab Caden Weber	Time 23:45.9 24:36.2 24:39.1 24:49.2 24:57.5 25:18.4 25:28.2 25:36.7 25:48.0	Points 5 pts 24 pts 28 pts 37 pts 48 pts 		
127. 133.	Theo Bachmann	25:52.6			
168.	Cade Byer	26:14.9			
TEAM F	INISH				
1.	[9] Alabama	41			
2.	Belmont	107			
2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	Georgia Tech	126			
4.	KENTUCKY	142			
5.	Georgia	153			
ь. 7.	Louisville	164			
7. o	Lee (TN) Anderson (SC)	205 264			
8. 9.	Vanderbilt	291			
10.	Middle Tennessee	309			

Gans Creek Classic

September 27					
-	8k D1 Ra				
Gans	s Creek XC Course - C	olumbia, M.	issouri		
Place 1. 15. 38. 50. 87. 111. 133. 146. 169. 175.	Runner Ed Bird Collins Kiprop Kipngok Jackson Watts Jack Pendergast Alex Alston Caden Miracle Sami Hattab Caden Weber Max Liao William Russell	Time 23:07.6 23:33.0 23:58.2 24:07.4 24:31.4 24:41.6 24:49.2 24:56.8 25:08.8 25:10.5	Points 1 pt 15 pts 37 pts 48 pts 84 pts 		
TEAM FINISH					
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 5. 7. 8. 9. 10.	[10] Stanford Tennessee Auburn Missouri KENTUCKY Lipscomb [28] Ole Miss North Florida Illinois State Florida	31 163 167 180 185 164 238 271 280 291			

Bradley Pink Classic

	N	October 18 8k Red Invitational Newman Golf Course - Peoria, Illinois				
Place 1. 8. 37. 65.		Jackson Watts Miles Brush	Time 23:32.7 24:01.9 24:27.5 24:41.9 24:57.8 24:58.7 25:29.0	Point: 1 pt 5 pts 28 pts 52 pts 74 pts 		
	TEAM F	INISH				
	1. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.	North Dakota St. KENTUCKY Iowa [14] Michigan Wichita St. Drake Illinois-Chicago Bradley Cincinnati IU Indianapolis	139 160 165 165 177 178 203 207 219 248			

Southern Showcase

	September 13				
	5k Rac	e			
Ju	ohn Hunt Park - Hun	tsville Alab	ama		
Place	Runner	Time	Points		
19.	Ally Kruger	17:14.0	18 pts		
29.	Phoebe McCowan	17:20.0 17:28.6	28 pts		
	33. Chesney McPherson		32 pts		
54.	Ava Hendren	17:50.2	49 pts		
65.	Jenna Scwinghamer	17:57.2	58 pts		
67.	Jayla Atkinson	17:58.2			
68.	Julz Williams	17:58.7			
75.	Lyric Olson	18:02.8			
96.	Morgan Dick	18:16.7			
101.	Mollie Roden	18:19.23			
	TEAM FINISH				
IEAMF	INISH				
1	[12] Alabama	52			
2	Louisville	68			
2. Louisville 3. Georgia Tech		86			
4. Belmont		116			
5. Vanderbilt		125			
1. [12] Alabama 2. Louisville 3. Georgia Tech 4. Belmont 5. Vanderbilt 6. KENTUCKY 7. Samford		185			
7.	Samford	225			
8.	Mississippi State	235			
9. Lee (TN) 272		272			
10.	Chattanooga	331			
	-				

WOMEN

Gans Creek Classic				
Gans	Septembe 6k D1 Ra Creek XC Course - C	се	issouri	
Place 17. 38. 57. 60. 83. 87. 95. 112. 155. 175. TEAM F	Runner Ally Kruger Phoebe McCowan Jenna Schwinghamer Lyric Olson Mollie Roden Chesney McPherson Jayla Atkinson Julz Williams Ava Hendren Morgan Dick NISH	21:14.2 21:28.1	Points 17 pts 38 pts 54 pts 57 pts 77 pts 	
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.	[8] Stanford [9] Tennessee [26] Ole Miss [6] Florida Georgia Tech Auburn Air Force Tulsa KENTUCKY Missouri	44 91 120 131 164 182 189 214 243 336		

Bradley Pink Classic

October 18					
	6k Red Invito	ational			
N	ewman Golf Course	- Peoria, Illi	nois		
Place	Runner	Time	Points		
14.	Ally Kruger	20:41.0	14 pts		
21.	Lyric Olson	20:59.4	21 pts		
31.	Mollie Roden	21:06.2	31 pts		
75.	Chesney McPherson		73 pts		
95.	Jenna Schwinghamer		91 pts		
126.	Jayla Atkinson	22:13.3			
134.	Ava Hendren	22:21.0			
TEAM F	TEAM FINISH				
1.	[rv] Northwestern	44			
2.	Loyola (Chicago)	123			
З.	Bradley	151			
4.	Indiana State	192			
5.	Ohio	194			
6.	Butler	200			
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.	Tulsa	208			
8.	KENTUCKY	230			
9.	North Dakota St.	246			
10.	lowa	275			



2024

TIC Y **OSS COUNTRY**

USTFCCCA COACHES' TOP-30 (OCTOBER 22, 2024)				
Men's	Women's			
1 Oklahoma State	1 BYU			
2 BYU	2 Washington			
3 Arkansas	3 Nothern Arizona			
4 Iowa State	4 West Virginia			
5 Stanford	5 Notre Dame			
6 New Mexico	6 Utah			
7 Wake Forest	7 Alabama			
8 Northern Arizona	8 New Mexico			
9 Wisconsin	9 Georgetown			
10 Notre Dame	10 NC State			
11 Alabama	11 Wisconsin			
12 Syracuse	12 Providence			
13 North Carolina	13 Florida State			
14 Cal Baptist	14 Florida			
15 Harvard	15 Stanford			
16 Virginia	16 Gonzaga			
17 Villanova	17 Oregon			
18 Washington	18 Oklahoma State			
19 Utah State	19 North Carolina			
20 Wyoming	20 Furman			
21 Georgetown	21 Virginia			
22 Princeton	22 Minnesota			
23 Furman	23 Syracuse			
24 Colorado	24 Penn State			
25 Oregon	25 Lipscomb			
26 Eastern Kentucky	26 Michigan State			
27 Butler	27 Villanova			
28 Iona	28 Texas			
29 Portland	29 Toledo			
30 Texas Tech	30 Boston College			

USTFCCCA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL RANKINGS (OCT. 21, 2024)

da				
na	Men's		Women's	
as	1	Wake Forest	1	NC State
ee	2	North Carolina	2	North Carolina
iss	3	Virginia	3	Virginia
M	4	Furman	4	Furman
SU	5	Eastern Kentucky	5	Liberty
as	6	Virginia Tech	6	Louisville
rn	7	Charlotte	7	South Carolina
oilt	8	NC State	8	Clemson
uri	9	Liberty	9	Wake Forest
na	10	Kentucky	10	Virgnia Tech
ky	11	Louisville	11	William & Mary
na	12	Duke	12	High Point
te	13	Norfolk State	13	Charlotte
gia	14	Appalachian State	14	Kentucky
	15	William & Mary	15	Elon
	1			

CROSS COUNTRY
AWARDS

WEEKLY HONORS

SEC Athlete of the Week Men's Freshman: Collins Kiprop Kipngok - October 1

SEC PRESEASON POLLS

Men's	
1	Arkansas
2	Alabama
3	Texas
4	Ole Miss
5	Texas A&M
6	Auburn
7	Tennessee
8	Florida
9	Missouri
10	Kentucky
11	Oklahoma
12	Georgia
13	LSU
14	Vanderbilt
Women's	
1	Florida
2	Alabama

1	Florida
2	Alabama
3	Arkansas
4	Tennessee
5	Ole Miss
6	Texas A&M
7	LSU
8	Texas
9	Auburn
10	Vanderbilt
11	Missouri
12	South Carolina
13	Kentucky
14	Oklahoma
15	Mississippi State
16	Georgia





TV Chart



ALEX ALSTON Sophomore



Miles BRUSH

Sophomore



BYER

Junior

Sami

SAMI HATTAB Sophomore



JUSTUS

Senior



Collins Kiprop Kipngok Freshman



WOMEN



JENNA Schwinghamer Graduate



