

BRAD TAYLOR

Information Coordinator

920.492.2905 ext. 1017

E-mail: btaylor@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us



MEDIA RELEASE

For More Information, Contact:

Bernie Rocheleau, Nordic Ski Team Assistant Coach

Ashwaubenon High School

920-492-2955, ext.5165

brocheleau@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Ashwaubenon's Irwin Wins Girls State Nordic Ski Championship, Boys Team Places Second

Ashwaubenon, WI – February 16, 2010 – This past weekend in Wausau, the Ashwaubenon Nordic Ski Team competed at the Wisconsin High School Nordic Ski Championship along with 400 other skiers. The results, an individual state champion and a second place team finish, represent the team's best-ever showing in the state championships.

Deedra Irwin won the overall girls' state title, first winning the classic technique by thirteen seconds and then holding her position in the freestyle technique for a fourteen second victory. Irwin is only the second Ashwaubenon skier to win the title in team history. Other scorers included Mary Kozloski (28th place) and Maggie Jones (39th), giving the girls a sixth place team finish out of twenty teams. Keshia Legios (58th), Lydia Fermanich (81st) and Rachael Busjahn (91st) rounded out the girls' team.

The boys' team won its first state team trophy ever, taking home the silver in the sixteen team field. Led by Junior Olympic team qualifier Paul Schommer, and aided by Phil Anshutz (9th) and Sam Egelhoff (10th), the boys combined for three individual podium appearances which resulted in second place overall. This also marked the first time in team history that three athletes finished in the top ten. Other racers included Joel Egelhoff (39th), Jake Egelhoff (40th), Dustin Keopsel (43rd), Kyler Berg (77th) and Chas Haas (85th).

In the middle school race, Ashwaubenon skiers included Ben Jones (17th), Evan Haas (21st), Elizabeth Slaby (18th) and Siri Block (19th).

The Ashwaubenon Nordic Ski Team, now in its eleventh year, is made up of skiers from a number of area schools including Ashwaubenon, Pulaski, Green Bay Preble, Green Bay East, Notre Dame Academy, and the Wisconsin International School.

For more information please contact Bernie Rocheleau, Ashwaubenon Nordic Ski Team assistant coach, at 920-492-2955 extension 5165 or brocheleau@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us. Pictures and/or video are available upon request.

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