

## Ross boys advance to state; girls finish sixth at regional

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Jeremiah Smith was 14th for Ross in 16:15, followed by Dane Snyder 35th in 16:58, Kurt Snyder 37th in 16:59 and Doug Jibilian 45th in 17:05.

Toeppe, still not fully recovered from an illness that began two weeks ago, led the race until Amherst Steele's Christine Thompson caught and passed her about 200 meters from the finish. The Ross freshman finished in 19:05, eight seconds behind Thompson.

The top 15 runners earned a spot in the state meet.

The Ross girls had 198 points. The five teams finishing ahead of Ross are state-ranked teams. Top-ranked Toledo Central Catholic won with 68 points, followed by No. 5 Sylvania Southview with 106, No. 3 Strongsville with 112, No. 6 Rocky River Magnificat with 114 and No. 2 Toledo Notre Dame with 119.

"I knew it was going to be tough for us to be able to advance, knowing who would be here," Ross coach Cathy Mallia said. "As I looked at times, I figured us to be around seventh or eighth, but we did better than that. Considering the strength of this region, to finish sixth in it makes me feel like we're the sixth best team in the state."

Another freshman, Alison Kelly, was 41st for Ross in 20:42. Other finishes were junior Sarah Williams 46th in 20:52, freshman Krystyn Warner 57th in 21:08 and senior Carey Gill 84th in 21:45.