

Harlan County was first Saturday in the Berea Invitational, defeating 17 other boys varsity squads.

The Bears finished with 110 points, beating second place Bryan Station by 14 points. Southwestern (135), Lincoln County (141) and Bell County (142) rounded out the top five.

"I'm awfully proud of our kids," Harlan County coach Ryan Vitatoe said. "Any time you can go up north and win, it's a big deal. We've been working really hard the last two months, and the kids are starting to see all that hard work pay off. The key now is to stay hungry, and not be content with what we've done so far. We still have some big goals to reach."

Senior David Lee had the best time for the Bears at 17:28.3 to place sixth. Hunter Middleton was eighth at 17:54.5 Jacob Carroll and Corey Hornsby placed 31st and 32nd, respectively. Other Harlan County runners included Josh Hamlin, 42; Josh Wynn, 55; Caleb Bailey, 56;

Harlan County placed seventh in the girls varsity division with 160 points. Southwestern was first with 70 points, followed by North Hardin with 82, Rockcastle County with 84, Lincoln County with 114 and Wayne County with 142.

Kim Miller, a senior, was the top finisher for the Lady Bears with a time of 22:12.1 to place 11th. Other runners for Harlan County included Miranda Epperson, 33; Rebecca Middleton, 53; Kassie Rouse, 59; Jennifer Graham, 60; Cassidy Hall, 74 and Cellina Hatmaker, 75.

Harlan County won the junior varsity race with 31 points. Bryan Station was second with 46 points, followed by Wayne County with 57 and Knox Central with 84.

Caleb Justen was the top runner for HCHS, finishing fifth, just ahead of Donovan Johnson and Noah Hughes. Tyler Turner placed ninth. Steven Engle was 19th, and Nate Miller placed 22nd.

Jade Goodwin was second in the girls division with Jessica Cottrell placing third. Jessica Hall was eighth. Summer Garrett finished 11th.

Allison Cornett was the top finisher for Harlan County in the girls middle school race, placing 11th.

Several Harlan runners competed in the boys division, led by Andrew Mills and Mason Miller, who placed fourth and fifth, respectively. Alex Mills was 24th and Jeremiah Mills was 27th.