

THE BUFFALO NEWS

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Around the course

The **East Aurora** girls are ranked 15th in the country by The Harrier magazine — a rating that pits teams from all levels against each other. The defending Class B state champs are also fourth overall in the dyestat.com rankings for New York, which include schools of all sizes. New York is such a talented cross country region that it is one of nine divisions ranked by dyestat.com — all the others include groups of states. Among an outstanding group of returning runners for EA are seniors Catharine Lusardi and Jenna Hulton.

Defending Class AA champion Kailey Sullivan and sister Emily will help **West Seneca West** be a power again on the state level for girls. Class A runner-up Brenna Symoniak of **Amherst** is a junior. **Lockport** will be strong again after winning the Niagara Frontier League. Class C champion Samantha Kopp is back for her junior year at **Franklinville**.

Defending Class A champion Joe Whelan, a junior at **Hamburg**, was Section VI's fastest competitor at the state meet last year, finishing fourth in the Class A race. The **Clarence** boys return everyone from the AA champions. The **Fredonia** boys will again try and chase down East Aurora in Class B, while **Wilson** has nearly all of its components back from last year's Class C title team. **Canisius** and **Nardin** are expected to lead the Catholic pack.

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