

## Trejo back for one more season in Lyons

**By MIKE COURSON**  
Last year was an up-and-down season for then Lyons junior Samantha Trejo. Sometimes quite literally. The three-time state cross country qualifier battled some health issues in 2015 that hampered some otherwise strong races.

This year, the senior Trejo is joined by senior Oscar Jaime on the boys' side as the only two seniors on the Lyons cross country squad.

"Sam and Oscar will be leading the running Lions this season," said Coach Larry Dumler, back for a 36th season. "I look for really good things to happen with those two."

Trejo was headed for an easy top-10 finish at the Central Kansas League meet last October before collapsing near the finish line. She was unable to finish that race. Three of the top-four runners in the CKL graduated in May, leaving the door wide open for Trejo to make a move toward the top. Pratt senior Halle Helfrich is the reigning league champion and should be back for her senior season.

Lyons junior Julianne

Snyder ran 43rd in the CKL race, followed by sophomore Janeeth Martinez in 44th. Both are back in 2016.

Trejo was able to get back on track at the 3A regional meet in Cimarron the following weekend. There she placed third to punch her ticket to a third-straight state cross country meet. At state, Trejo was running for another medal before another collapse ended her race.

For the boys, Jaime returns as a two-time letter winner. He finished 29th at the league meet last year. Last spring, he put up a big finish at the Class 3A regional track meet in Lyons to qualify for state in the 1600m run. In Wichita, he ran 11th in a field that included just four seniors.

Dumler also expects newcomer Marc Reyes to make an impact for the boys. Seth Clayton is another varsity runner to watch, and Carlos Valerio could make an immediate impact. They join returners Tanner Deering and Zayne Jaime.

"Right now, we have three really strong runners for the boys in Seth, Marc and Oscar," Dumler said. "For the girls, I look

for Sam to have another outstanding season. Tanner and Zayne just need to break from their shell and find their niche to run in."

Dumler is assisted by second-year coach Zack Vogel, who brings a lot of energy to the program.

This fall, the Lions will run just one time at home on Sept. 27. The CKL meet will be held in Halstead on Oct. 13.



2016 Lyons cross country runners

### Lyons XC 2016

Sept. 3	@Hays-TMP
Sept. 10	@Pratt Skyline
Sept. 15	@Stafford
Sept. 22	@Larned
Sept. 27	HOME
Oct. 6	@Sterling
Oct. 13	CKL @Halstead
Oct. 22	Regional
Oct. 29	State @Rim Rock

## Lyons football team looking for trip back to playoffs

**By MIKE COURSON**  
The first playoff game in six years did not go so well for Lyons last year. Dylan Newill scored the touchdown that secured that playoff berth but died just days later in a tragic house fire.

Later that week, Lyons lost a 40-7 game against a then-unbeaten Hoisington team. The reward for finishing second in district play was a long trip west before falling to another 3A powerhouse in Scott City.

That the Lions made the playoffs was remarkable in and of itself. Lyons went just 1-8 in 2014 with the one win coming against a winless Sterling team. Struggles continued into 2015 as Lyons lost its first five games. That was followed by a five-game win streak, including wins against Sterling and Ellsworth to open district play.

Coach James Johnston will continue to have his work cutout for him with the loss of several skill players to graduation. The biggest losses are Drake Link and Blaine Shea, who provided much of the Lion offense out of the backfield.

Back for Lyons will be senior quarterback Tyler Edwards, who will enter 2016 as a three-year starter at that position. He would

double as a safety on defense.

Mostly, Johnston has back defensive players. They include Riley Kirkhart at free safety; Jack McClure at defense end; and Kaleb Morris on the line. All will be part of a new defense this season.

"We are in the process of installing a new defensive system," Johnston said. "We are looking forward to reaping the benefits of the new system."

Jordan Cedenio returns as an all-league punter and kicker, and Charlie Pando returns to the offensive line.

Lyons will mix-up its schedule a little in 2016. The squad opens against Hillsboro, a team it beat last season. Four of the next five games will be against Class 4A schools. Minneapolis, the lone 3A school in that group, went 0-9 in 2015.

District play will also have a new lineup as the Lions will play Larned instead of Sterling. Lyons fell to Larned 35-13 in last year's CKL contest.

Week two of district play will see Ellsworth coming to town, and the Lions will have to travel to play Hoisington in the district finale. The Cardinals, with seven starters back on offense, are expected to push for another 9-0 regular season.

### Lyons football 2016

Sept. 2	@Hillsboro
Sept. 9	NICKERSON
Sept. 16	@Minneapolis
Sept. 22	PRATT
Sept. 30	HAVEN
Oct. 7	@Smoky Valley
Oct. 14	LARNED
Oct. 21	ELLSWORTH
Oct. 27	@Hoisington

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