



## **Barton strolls to victory in Div. 1**

**By Joe Reardon Boston Herald**

**Sunday, October 15, 2006**

NORTHFIELD - A big smile is nothing new for Newton North's Jessica Barton. Yet when the Tigers harrier broke into an ear-to-ear grin, 2 1/2 miles into a race peppered with hills and one monstrous incline, you just knew the 2004 Division 1 state champion was in a zone all her own on the 3.1-mile Northfield Mountain course at yesterday's Bob McIntyre Bay State Invitational.

With the race well in hand, Barton slowed and crossed the finish line with a smile on her face in 19 minutes, 49 seconds. Lincoln-Sudbury junior Dana Jameison, who dueled with Barton in the early going, was second in 19:53, the first of six L-S harriers in the top 20.

The strong showing by the Warriors was good for the team title (37 points) ahead of Dennis-Yarmouth (81) and Marshfield (83).

Wary of the uphill start, Barton stayed in the pack until she reached the summit. Heading downhill, she put distance between herself, Jameison and Natick sophomore Rebecca White (third, 20:00) until she could no longer see them on the winding course. Barton said she felt sharper than usual and is looking to reclaim the Div. 1 title she won as a sophomore two years ago. "There will be more competition next time and the pack will go out faster," she said.

For Lincoln-Sudbury, coach Chris Tarello put the race in his team's hands and they responded. "Usually I give them a whole race plan," Tarello said. "I've been doing that so much this season and foresee it in the future that I sat them down last night and said, 'This race is yours.'"