

Maroons To State Meet; Mahomet Wins Sectional

By The News-Gazette

Central qualified for the Class AA state meet for the first time under the two-class system and Mahomet-Seymour won the Class A team title at Effingham in boys' cross-country sectionals Saturday.

The top five teams, plus five more runners not on qualifying teams, advanced from each of the sectionals to next Saturday's state meet at Peoria's DeWetter Park.

Central finished fourth in the Class AA sectional at Peoria with 161 points. Sterling won with 98.

Central last qualified for the state meet in 1975, the last year of the one-class system.

For the Maroons, Craig Detamore was 24th, Matthew Hewings 35th, Kevin Elam 39th, James Debernian 43rd and Walter Loomis 59th. Loomis passed about 20 runners in the last half-mile, "and that did it for us," said coach Dike Stirrett.

That, and the Maroons' pack running. Only 38 seconds separated Deta-

more and Loomis.

IN CLASS A, Mahomet-Seymour won the sectional at Effingham with 115 points. Also qualifying were Tontopolis, 122; Carmi, 124; Georgetown, 125, and St. Joseph-Ogden, 132.

Gary Bremer of Metropolis won the three-mile race in 15:39. S.J.O.'s Art Freeman, beaten only once all season, finished fifth. Chrisman sophomore Tom Houck, seventh, and Oakwood's Dean Grimes, ninth, were among the individual state qualifiers. Mark Wisnack led Mahomet in 15th.

In the sectional at Washburn, Hoopston-East Lynn and Paxton joined Georgetown to give the Wausau Conference three state qualifying teams. Beecher beat Hoopston 77-78 for the team title and Paxton was fifth with 136.

Tonica's Mike Clark won the three-mile race in 14:19, six seconds ahead of third-place Jeff Stipp of Hoopston. Brothers Mitch and Matt McClure finished 11th and 15th respectively for Paxton.