

# ace to the state et for c-c runners

By JOE MILLAS

News-Gazette Sportswriter  
preliminaries are over.  
v, as University of Illinois  
country coach Gary Wieneke  
d of saying, it's time for the  
pionship portion of the sea-

h School boys' and girls'  
-country teams will begin  
quest for trips to the state fi-  
Nov. 8 in Peoria with regional  
etition this weekend.

e Class A boys' regionals,  
h include all area teams, will  
place Friday afternoon at Pax-  
nd Chrisman.

e Class AA boys' and the single  
girls' regionals, involving lo-  
ad area teams, will take place  
day morning at Rantoul.

CE TIME IN Paxton Friday is  
m. The race at Chrisman will  
at 4:30.

Saturday, at Rantoul's Brookh-  
olf Course, the girls will run at  
n. and the boys will follow at  
clock.

e teams will be competing for  
s in sectional meets the fol-  
ing week. The boys' teams in  
A and AA will be seeking to  
one of four team berths in  
sectional meets. In addition,  
ive top boys' runners not on  
our qualifying teams in each  
onal will advance.

e 18 full girls' teams at Rantoul  
seek one of five team berths to  
ectional meet. In addition, the  
ive individual finishers not on  
fying teams will also advance.  
ld of 137 girls is expected.

At Paxton, which is hosting its  
first regional meet, three schools  
appear likely to battle it out for the  
team title. They are Monticello, Ma-  
homet-Seymour and the host Mus-  
tang.

**PAXTON WON** A regional title  
last year at the Illini Meadows in  
Urbana and is always tough on its  
home course. Monticello has put to-  
gether a sparkling dual meet re-  
cord this fall, but has faltered in  
larger competitions. Mahomet-Sey-  
mour has displayed improvement  
all season and an ability to run well  
in big meets.

Other schools entered at Paxton  
include Armstrong, Bismarck-Hen-  
ning, Hoopston-East Lynn, Poto-  
mac, Rankin, St. Joseph Ogden and  
Uni High.

Several individuals could vie for  
the top spot at Paxton. They include  
junior David Crockett of Monticel-  
lo, Jamie Fancher of Mahomet-Sey-  
mour, Todd Treat of St. Joseph-Og-  
den and Eugene Peppers of Uni  
High.

The qualifiers from Paxton will  
also run in the sectional meet at  
Parkland College.

Saturday, at Rantoul, the field of  
boys' teams will be a repeat of last  
weekend's Big 12 Conference with  
the addition of Charleston, which  
has had a strong season including a  
win over Big 12 champion Bloo-  
mington in September. Mattoon was  
sidelined for last week's conference  
meet by a teachers' strike. Lincoln  
does not have a cross-country team  
this year.

am title chase  
way battle fea-  
s' top 10 Class  
ontenders are  
arm, ranked  
Timely Times"  
sman, ranked  
a winner over  
arm in last  
ace meet.  
ly tough for  
arm and West-  
ville since Chrisman coach Roger  
Beals always has his team primed  
for the championship portion of  
the schedule and the Cardinals are  
tough to handle on their home  
course.

**OTHER TEAMS** competing at  
Chrisman include Unity, Shiloh,  
Oakwood, Danville Schlarman and  
Tuscola.

The qualifiers will compete next  
Friday at the sectional meet being  
hosted by Unity High School on the  
Parkland College course.

The favorite for the individual  
championship at Chrisman is  
Georgetown-Ridge Farm senior Jo-  
ey Fender, who won the Illini Cen-  
tral title and has been a front run-  
ner in most area meets this fall.

Fender will be challenged by  
Chrisman's Jon Morris, Oakwood's  
Brian Harmeson, runner-up in the  
ICC meet, and a Westville trio of  
Joe Brown, Brian Towell and Tim  
Ritter.

Bloomington must still be consid-  
ered the favorite for the team title,  
however, after an impressive per-  
formance in the Big 12 meet last  
weekend over the same Brookhill  
course. Danville, Charleston, Nor-  
mal Community, Champaign Cen-  
tral and the host Eagles will all  
contend for team honors and  
berths in the sectional meet, to be  
held at Springfield the following  
week.

In the girls' race, six teams seem  
likely to battle for the five section-  
al berths. They are defending  
champion Uni High, Big 12 titlist  
Normal Community and runner-up  
Bloomington, Mahomet-Seymour,  
which has had the best record  
among area girls' team this fall,  
Unity and Chrisman.

**THE GIRLS' INDIVIDUAL** race  
shapes up as a battle between sever-  
al girls led by Mahomet-Seymour's  
Karen Welke and Olympia's Tara  
Morris. Welke has beaten Morris 2  
out of 3 times the two have met this  
fall.

Other top contenders are Bloo-  
mington's Suzanne Hurst, the Big  
12 Conference winner, Normal  
Community sisters Tracy and Ann  
Mueller, Unity's duo of Teresa Cal-  
vin and Jamey Meneley, Uni lead-  
ers, Michay Brown, Kathleen Liu  
and Kim Clausing and Chrisman's  
Karen and Kathy Morris.

The girls' qualifiers will compete  
in the sectional meet in Springfield  
the following Saturday.