

Bulldogs burying '85 disappointment

By JOE MILLAS
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Mahomet-Seymour's girls' cross-country team is running with a look of determination in its eyes that was not present last year.

That could mean trouble for everyone else in the area this fall.

The Bulldog girls had it their own way Saturday morning, running away from the rest of the field at the ninth Annual Tuscola 5K Cross-Country meet.

Led by seniors Karen Welke and Mary Seal and sophomore Laura Datsie, Mahomet-Seymour put the first three runners in the finish chute for the 3.1-mile race run through the streets of Tuscola.

They finished with all five of their scorers in the first eight.

Team scores were not kept for the girls' race, but the Bulldogs would have finished with 19 points, easily outdistancing the rest of the field.

Welke, whose personal determination following a sub-par campaign in 1985 reflects the team's resolve, said she is committed to having the best season possible.

"I decided, after the cross-country season last year, that I wanted to run when I get to college, and I think that's making me run the best I can," she said. "If there's a scholarship possible somewhere, I want to get it."

"I got hurt in track last spring, which kind of

ruined things then, but I worked hard all summer. I've never compared my times with times from around the state before, but I do this year. I want to see how I stand against the other girls."

The Bulldogs have won three straight invitational meets. They opened with a win at Chrisman, then captured the title at Paxton last week.

In the boys' race, Lebanon, the 1985 runner up, used a strong finish by its fifth man to top Chrisman 69-95 for the team championship.

1985 titlist Cumberland was third with 113 while Mahomet-Seymour's boys, led by junior Jamie Fancher's seventh-place individual finish, jumped from 10th last year to fourth this time with a score of 148 points.

The Bulldogs were followed by Neoga at 152, Monticello with 170, Tri-Valley 190, Sullivan 193, Shelbyville 227, Uni High 248 and Warrensburg-Latham with 251 among the top 10.

Junior Doug Light won the individual varsity title with a time of 16 minutes, 20 seconds, four seconds ahead of Lebanon's Jeff Breckel. Chrisman's Jon Morris was third at 16:40.

In the boys' open race, Richard Wilson, a freshman from Maroa-Forsyth, was the winner with a time of 18:03.

Fancher's time was 16:47. Senior teammate Steve Echols was 17th in 17:24, followed by sophomore James Busey, 27th in 17:49; junior William Masters, 47th in 18:41; and freshman Hans Wa-

ters, 50th in 18:43 in the M-S top five.

The results of both races left Mahomet-Seymour head coach John King understandably pleased.

"I really think they feel that they have something to prove," said King of his girls' team. "So many girls start out so well as freshmen and sophomores, then go downhill so it's pleasing to see what they're doing. We just need to keep them injury-free and healthy.

"The boys ran well, too. We had guys competing all the way. We had several boys and girls set personal bests today, and that's the best part of the whole thing, that they're working to improve."

At Bismarck

Westville won the boys' varsity championship and Uni High claimed the girls' title at the Bismarck-Henning Invitational.

Uni High rolled past runner-up Unity despite the individual winning effort by Unity's Jamey Meneley, who was timed on the 1.9-mile course at Bismarck in 11:42. Her teammate, Teresa Calvin, finished third in 11:48.

But the Illineks, beginning to show the form that carried them to the state meet last year, placed four runners in the top 10. The leader was Kathleen Liu, who finished second individually in 11:46. She was joined by Kim Clausung, sixth in 12:04; Tamar Shapiro, eighth in 12:06 and Michay Brown, ninth in 12:07.