

Tremont hurries to U High title

By **RANDY SHARER**
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One thing Tremont High School cross country coach Mike Lynn was concerned about was his team's time split among its top five runners.



Gingrich

The No. 5-ranked Turks surprised even their coach by posting a season-low 53-second split while dominating yesterday's University High Invitational at Normal's Maxwell Park.

Tremont scored just 22 points. Among the vanquished was No. 4-ranked Mahomet-Seymour, which finished a distant second with 75 points. No. 7 U High placed third with 77.

"We knew we had the potential to get our split down," said Lynn. "That's what you have to do if you want to be good."

Leading Lynn's legions was sophomore Chad Gingrich, who won the 3-mile event in 16 minutes, 4 seconds. Mahomet-Seymour's Dan Nielsen finished eight seconds back in second.

Completing Tremont's top five were Jason Anderson in third (16:16), Brad Kaufmann in fourth (16:38), Mike Jay in sixth (16:55) and Ty Petro in eighth (16:57).

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Tremont coach Mike Lynn

Lynn said this is "without a doubt" the best team he's had in 10 years as coach.

"We didn't run as well as we're capable," said Mahomet-Seymour coach John King, whose team will battle Tremont and U High again Monday in the Columbus Day Invitational at Amboy. "We had a couple guys with the sniffles."

U High ran without No. 1 man Brian Nourie, who was ill.

"That was good to be that close to Mahomet-Seymour without Brian," said U High coach Lester Hampton, who expects Nourie back by Monday.

Greg Robertson placed fifth in 16:47 to lead U High. Jason Good's seventh place finish (16:56) led Olympia to fifth place with 153 points.

In the girls race, No. 7-ranked Urbana Uni-High won with 47 points. Mahomet-Seymour edged Olympia for second, 70-74.

St. Joseph-Ogden's Ashley Wright won the individual crown in 12:02 on the 1.9-mile course. Mahomet-Seymour's Laura Batsie led Pantagraph area finishers in fourth at 13:03.