

M-S boys run 3rd at Chrisman

by E. W. Hesse

Chrisman's annual cross country meet for small-school preps, now cleverly billed at "The Cowchip Classic," doesn't necessarily hint of how the chips may fall in the Class A state finals at Peoria in early November.

Chrisman may be the one constant among the contenders. Coach Roger Beals' Cardinals won both boys and girls titles in its own meet last year, then proceeded to post encores in all remaining 1988 Class A competitions, including the state windup.

Cross country fans, however, noted something special about the girls category: The 1-2-3 finishers at Chrisman—the Cardinals, Unity and Urbana Uni High—placed in the same order at the state meet.

Will something similar be recorded this year?

Chrisman again ruled both boys and girls events in its classic last Saturday. The Cardinal

boys were first with 19 points. St. Joseph-Ogden followed with 39, Mahomet-Seymour with 45, Georgetown-Ridge Farm with 46 and Effingham St. Anthony with 51 . . . plus 23 more schools. Chrisman paced the girls with 42. Then came Unity 52, St. Joseph-Ogden 58, Urbana Uni High 99, Paxton 137, Oakwood 164, St. Anthony 174 and Mahomet-Seymour 184.

Entrants were assigned specific races (their regular-season slots). Among the boys, Mahomet's Danny Nielsen placed second in Race 1 with a 3-mile time of 15:11; Nielsen, moreover, was voted the top junior in the meet. Other M-S performances: Brian Easter won Race 2 in 15:56, Burt Huddleston was second in Race 3 in 16:23, Hans Waters was 10th in Race 4 in 18:08, Derek Short was fifth in Race 5 in 17:33, David Wagoner was 16th in Race 6 in 19:40 and Jim McKinney was ninth in Race 7 in 19:18.

As for the girls, Barbara King paced M-S runners, placing 20th in 14:22. Jill Yost was 48th in 15:49, Beth Mattingly 49th in 15:50, Kate Williamson 58th in 16:12 and Missy Lake 63rd in 16:26.

In the Bulldogs' season opener at Champaign Centennial Aug. 29, the M-S boys placed second to Centennial's 31 with 44, while Bloomington was third with 46. Nielsen ran second in 17:00, Easter was sixth in 17:44 and Huddleston was ninth in 17:56.

Mahomet's young girls team, scoring 116, trailed Centennial's 20, Bloomington's 47 and Decatur Eisenhower's 46. No Bulldog placed in the first 10.

Coach John King's team and Clinton are scheduled at Stanford Olympia Thursday, and will vie in Peoria Woodruff's Invitational Saturday.