

mine qualifiers for the following Saturday's state finals meet in Peoria.

This will be an opportunity to see senior runners Jama Ryan, John Arbuckle and Jim Mortland compete for the last time on their home course. Sports fans should take this opportunity to show them appreciation for their hard work and success over the past four years. Junior Stacy Elkins also qualified as an individual by finishing as one of the top five runners not on a team which qualified for the sectional meet. The remainder of the boys team is made up of underclassmen. It is unusual to have three freshmen (Scott DeWitt, Grant Isles and Phillip Alexander) and two sophomores (Josh Smith and Neil Banwart) on the seven man team. These runners have made the step up from running two mile races in junior high to the high school distance of three miles and have been immediately competitive. The girls team likewise consists primarily of

underclassmen and I expect them to qualify for the sectional meet next year.

One of the best aspects of cross country is that you are allowed on the course while the runners are competing. Try that at a football, basketball or baseball game. As long as you provide the runners plenty of room, you can be right there with them to encourage them during the race. It is possible to see the girls twice during their two mile race and the boys three times during their three mile race. Come out and watch the runners, it is exciting to see these well trained athletes compete. The course also offers a nice morning walk.

Bruce Winter

To the editor:

On this Saturday morning, Oct. 30, Mahomet-Seymour High School will be hosting a sectional cross country meet at the Barn course. This will feature St. Joseph-Ogden's defending state champion team. Also included will be some of the other outstanding area Class A cross country teams such as Chrisman, Normal U-High and Georgetown-Ridge Farm. Mahomet-Seymour has qualified its boys team and two individuals from the girls team to compete in this meet which will deter-