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Cross country team goes to State: **Coach happy with 10th place finish**

By DOUG OLSEN
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The Bulldog cross country squad finished tenth in the state at the finals in Peoria on Saturday. Before the race, coach John King said he would be happy if his team would finish in the top ten. They did. "The guys were a little disappointed because they thought they could do better," remarked King. "Our times were good, but the guys got separated

and that hurt them a little."

Scott DeWitt was the highest finishing Bulldog, as he crossed the line in 27th place. Grant Isles finished 49th, Phillip Alexander 81st, Josh Smith 103rd, Neil Banwart 106, Chad Avery 126th and Jesse Schweig 160th.

"I think our guys handled the pressure of the state meet very well, and I'm pleased with the effort," King expressed. "This

team has achieved a lot. They really came on at the end of the season."

King also believes the team will do excellent next year. Every Bulldog runner at the state meet was either a sophomore or junior. "This was a confidence booster for us for next season," he said. "The guys are very tight as a group and have good camaraderie."