

# A BOYS

From F1

Coach's taper really worked for me."

Lutkehaus, the highest finisher in U High history, nearly surpassed his coach's high school best of 15:08.

"I don't think people believed that John would be anywhere near the front of that race," Hampton said. "He put himself in position to win."



John Lutkehaus

No. 1-ranked Petersburg Porta scored 86 points to regain the title it captured in 1979. The Pioneers tallied 108 while No. 3-ranked Urbana Uni High grabbed third with 135.

U High junior Rinsola Adelekan was the fifth non-senior, placing 14th in 15:45.

"I didn't get my goal (of 12th), but I'm still happy," Adelekan said. "That was my fastest time of the



Matt Kaufman

year. I tried to stay in the top 11 or 12. At the finish, I didn't feel I had anything left."

U High's third man was senior J.J. Simpson in 36th (16:13).

"I knew he had one more good race left in him," Hampton said.

Other Pioneer scorers were sophomore Brandon Fifer in 55th (16:21) and senior Nick Barrows in 59th (16:23).

"He (Fifer) is a young man with a bright future," Hampton said.

As for Barrows, who was within two seconds of Adelekan in the sectional, an overly ambitious first mile added time later.



Rinsola Adelekan



Phillip Alexander

"He did a nice job hanging in there for the team," said Hampton, admiring Barrows' damage control.

No. 6-ranked Mahomet-Seymour earned its best finish in school history with 173 points in fourth. Eureka also captured its best finish with 239 points in eighth.

"It's been a great year," said Mahomet-Seymour coach John King. "If someone has a bad day, someone else picks it up."

Junior Phillip Alexander had a good day for the Bulldogs, earning all-state honors with a top-25 finish in 22nd (15:55).



Ryan Young

"I felt real good the last mile," said Alexander, who was only 17th in the sectional. "I thought it was realistic goal to be in the top 25."

The goal of Eureka junior Matt Kaufman, who was 22nd last year, was to send his coaches, Ron Eeten and Roger Washburn, out on a positive note as they are stepping down pending the hiring of a new coach.

Kaufman accomplished his mission with an eighth-place finish in 15:35.

Prairie Central freshman phenom Ryan Young exceeded Coach Nathan Sweet's expectations with an 18th-place finish in 15:48. The only freshman to beat him was Tuscola's Robert Hanners in 15th (15:45).

Young spoke for many on the topic of the 20-degree weather conditions.

"You couldn't feel your muscles," said Young, who later felt the medal around his neck.

Gardner's David Wilkey, 14th among sophomores, ran 77th in 16:34.