

**Buildogs print by regional opponents**

By **ERIK ANDERSON**  
Editor

The Mahomet-Seymour boys and girls cross country teams traveled to Paxton-Buckley-Loda (PBL) High School Oct. 19 for regional competition. The boys took first place as a team, and the girls finished second behind St. Joseph-Ogden.

In the boys competition, Mahomet-Seymour finished with 44 points. Urbana University High placed second with 50 points, St. Joseph-Ogden was third with 55, Oakwood claimed fourth with 104 and PBL took fifth with 138.

The M-S girls scored 49 points to St. Joseph-Ogden's 38. Georgetown Ridge Farm (GFR) took third with 68 points, Urbana Uni High was fourth with 87 and Hoopston Area placed fifth with 148.

Cross country head coach John King said both teams ran extremely well.

For the boys, Josh Mock finished second with a time of 16:05. Phil Alexander was fourth with a 16:18; Jesse Schweig ran 12th with a 16:52; Scott DeWitt finished 13th with a 16:53; Grant Iles placed 16th with a 17:03; Ryan Pittman was 17th with a 17:04; and Ryan Clements capped the team effort with a 30th place finish and a time of 17:58.

King said Mock and Alexander both have a legitimate shot at achieving All-State honors this year.

Alexander was named to the All-State Cross Country Team last season when he finished 22nd at the Illinois High School Association's (IHSA) Class A state finals competition in Peoria.

King said Alexander went all out at the regional competition and probably "gave too much" in the beginning of the race and slowed down toward the end. However, King is still counting on him to lead the team into sectional competition this Saturday, at Mahomet-Seymour High School.

"Phil has basically been our number one runner all year," King said.

For the girls, Sarah Bobsin finished sixth with a time of 13:09. Sara McElmurry was seventh with a 13:15; Sarah Dietrich ran 10th with a 13:22; Shannon Dietrich finished 11th with a 13:24; Sinead O'Sullivan placed 19th with a 13:52; Angela Telthorst was 31st with a 14:46; and Jamie Leverich capped the team effort with a 41st place finish and a time of 15:25.

King said the regional was the best he had seen McElmurry run since coming back from an injury earlier in the season.

As for state rankings coming into this week, the M-S boys are ranked fifth, and the girls are 12th.

King said advancing to the state tournament from the Mahomet-Seymour sectional will be challenging because eight of the state's top 20 boys teams and girls teams are slated to compete in this sectional.

King said the teams to keep an eye on in the boys competition are Uni High and St. Joe-Ogden. He said the girls will need to compete well against Delavan, St. Joe-Ogden and Havana High Schools.

The Mahomet-Seymour Sectional will start this Saturday at 10:30 a.m. for the girls and 11 a.m. for the boys at the high school.