

Boys' cross country places third at Cornbelt Conference

By **TIM BROZENEK**
The Mahomet Citizen

Justin Sebens and Troy Pittman each ran their way to all-conference honors Saturday at the Corn Belt Conference cross country invitational.

Sebens finished fourth overall with a three-mile time of 16:07, while Pittman's 16:27 finish was good enough for seventh.

As a team, Mahomet finished third behind Bloomington Central Catholic and Normal U-High.

Though disappointed in the final results, M-S coach Neil Garrison acknowledged that in many ways this was a promising finish for the Bulldogs going into the regional race on Saturday.

"Having two all-conference guys was great for our team," Garrison said. "We were hoping for better than third place as a

team, but our finish is still tied for the highest place we've finished in conference in at least the last 10 years. U-High and BCC really just rose to the occasion. Our guys just didn't have their day."

After helping lift Mahomet to a win in last Saturday's Bulldog Invitational, Jacob Mahaffey dropped back a bit but still finished in 21st place with a time of 17:16. Andrew Kumler (17:20) and Devin Lyons (17:23) finished right behind Mahaffey.

Saturday, Mahomet's top seven will compete in the Urbana Regional at 11 a.m. The top five teams will advance to the sectional. Barring unforeseen trouble, Garrison expects his team to make it there.

"I'd be surprised to not be in the top five," Garrison said. "That's not to be overconfident, but we're at a place now where we don't have to fight to be in the top five like we used to."