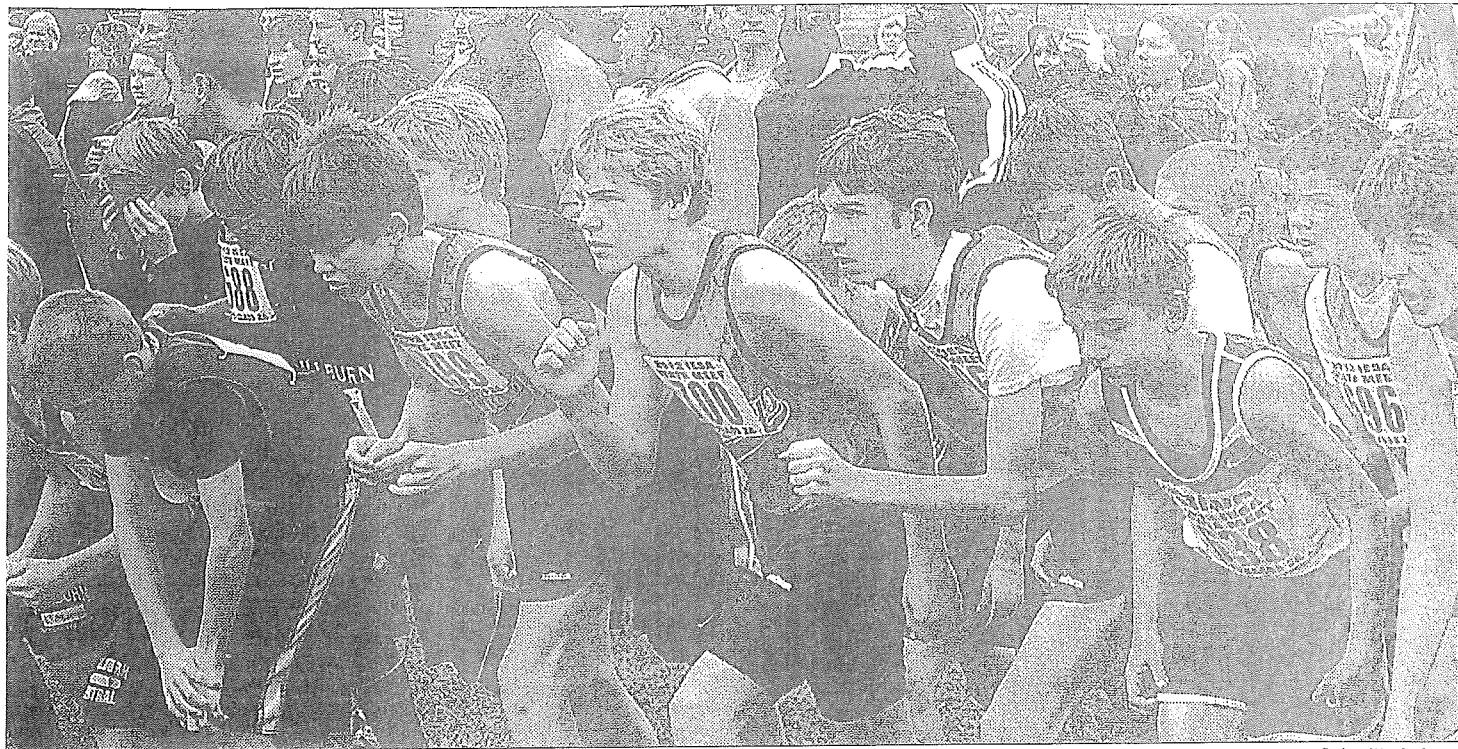


## JUNIOR HIGH CROSS-COUNTRY



Submitted photo

Mahomet-Seymour Junior High runners get ready to race at the IESA State Cross-Country Finals on Saturday.

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# Runners shine at state finals

## Teams bring home pair of top 10 finishes

By **TERRY GREENE**  
Mahomet Citizen sportswriter

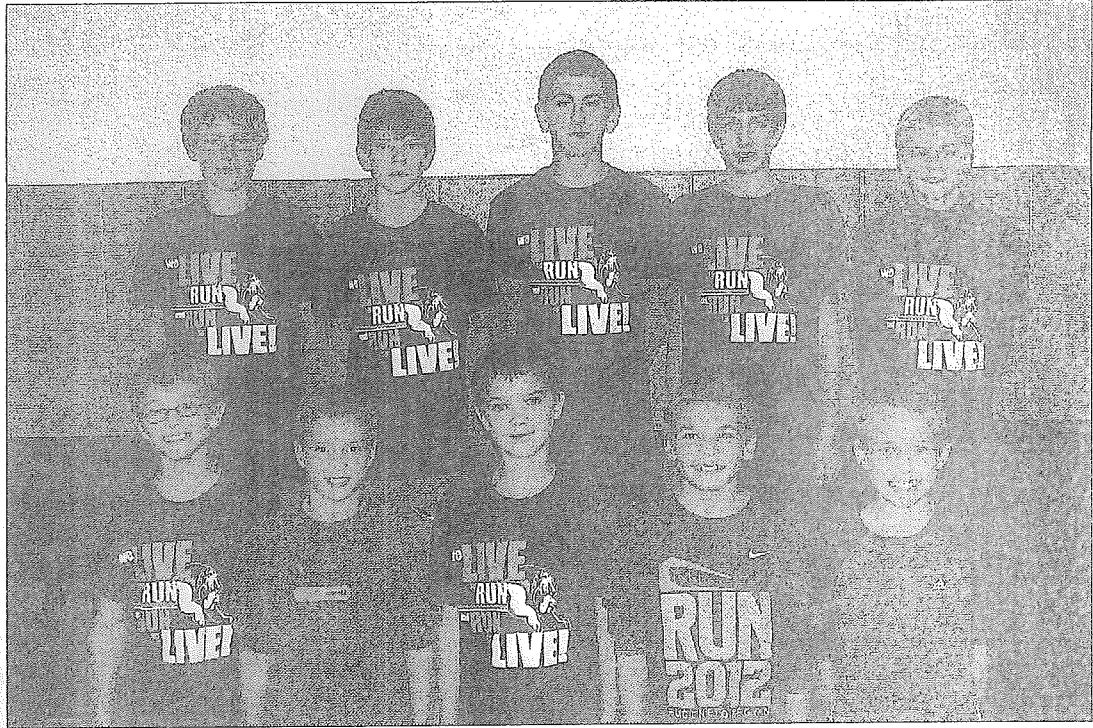
The Mahomet-Seymour junior high boys and girls cross country teams successfully battled the wind and rain to bring home a pair of Top 10 finishes at the IESA state finals on October 13 in Normal. The M-SJH boys team, behind a seventh place performance by Gabe Pommier (10:59), captured fourth place overall with score of 153. With a score of 221, the girl's team took home seventh place honors.

According to Coach Lisa Martin, the wet and windy weather was a challenge not only because of the conditions outside, but inside as well. "We were in a crowded gym with most of the other teams in the state, it got warm and uncomfortable real fast," she said. "However, we were one of the only teams that appeared to remain calm and focused. Our kids did a wonderful job of waiting out the storms."

The boys' field was comprised of 21 teams and 182 individual runners from throughout Illinois. The Bulldogs put three runners in the top 25 and all seven M-SJH participants finished in the upper half of the competition. "Our boys' team all finished the muddy wet course with times that were very strong," Martin said. "All seven runners ran the course under 12:30, not many teams can say that from what this day dealt to competitors."

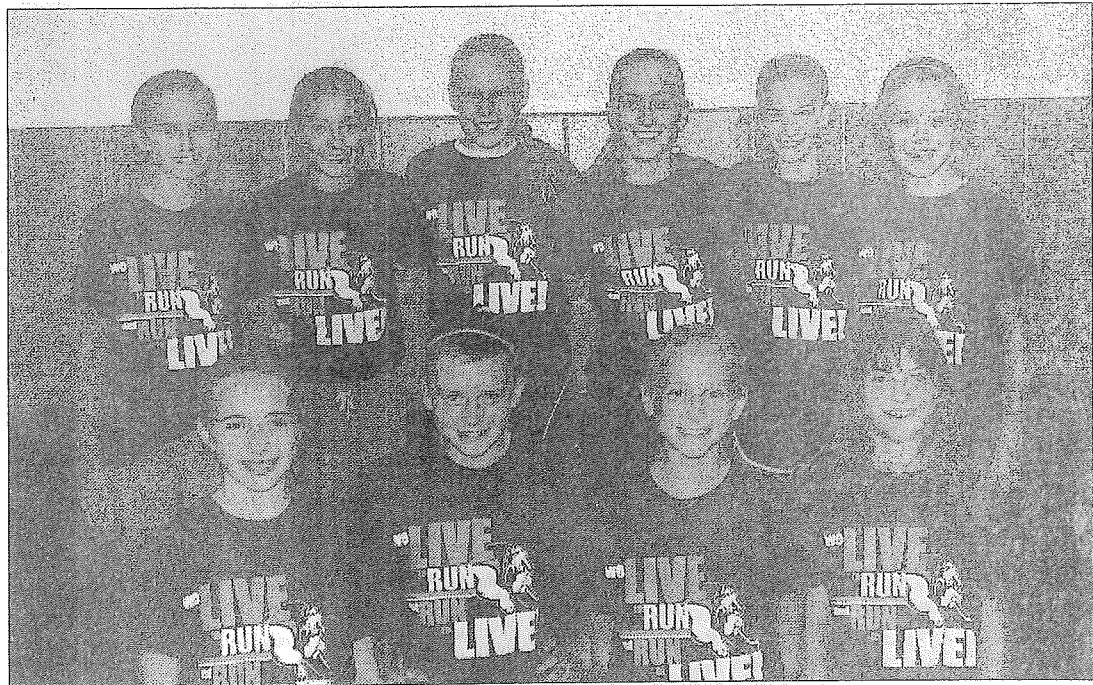
Besides Pommier's strong finish, other M-SJH scores included Andrew Walmer (15th), Ben Craw (23rd), Callan Whitehouse (47th), Riley Fortune (62nd), Ryan Hodge (69th), and Bryson Keeble (85th).

On the girl's side, 184 runners representing 21 schools went to the starting line. Maddie Louis was the first to finish for the Lady Bulldogs, good enough for 21st place. She was followed by teammates Abby Kyle (31st), Janie Magyar (74th), Jocelyn Thrasher (85th), Olivia Meyer (96th), Sydney Riley-Treat (118th), and Mariah McAnally (135th). "Our girls' team ran really well



Amelia Benner/Mahomet Citizen

State qualifiers on the junior high boys' cross-country team were (front row) Callan Whitehouse, Bryson Keeble, Riley Fortune, Ryan Hodge, Zach Przytulski, (back row) Andrew Walmer, Gabe Pommier, Myles Jones, Ben Craw and Evan Burge.



Amelia Benner/Mahomet Citizen

State qualifiers on the girls' team were (front row) Sydney Reilly-Treat, Morgan Scharf, Kailyn Northrup, Jamie Magyar, (back row) Jenna Straub, Abby Kyle, Maddie Louis, Jocelyn Thrasher, Mariah McAnally and Olivia Meyer.

als' first place teams and that all three of our sectional teams were in the top seven."

we had runners that would have been varsity on almost every other team in the state," she said.

thy of competing at state, but found themselves on very good teams. Evan, Kailyn and Jenna