

JUNIOR HIGH SPORTS REPORT

Junior High boys' team, two individual girls' runners excel at IESA state meet

The Mahomet-Seymour boys' cross country team placed seventh in the IESA Class 3A state finals at Maxwell Park in Normal on Saturday.

Top finishers for the Bulldogs, all of whom recorded personal bests, included Riley Fortune (53rd, 11:07), Mathias Powell (63rd, 11:16), Ryan Hodge (66th, 11:16), Bryson Keeble (76th, 11:22), Kaelan Davis (84th, 11:27), Callan Whitehouse (89th, 11:30), and Evan Burge (97th, 11:32). A total of 206 runners competed in the race.

"This team had a spread of twenty seconds for the top five

and twenty-five seconds for the top seven. This is an amazing statistic and proves that our boys' pack is one of the strongest in the state. We had all seven boys across the finish line before most teams had their top five boys across the finish line," Coach Lisa Martin said. "The coaching staff is proud of how the boys ran and of the three boys that we had as alternates, Jacob Peterson, Jacob Hamilton and Kyle Sheehy. They were ready to run if needed and would have done very well."

The Lady Bulldogs sent two runners to compete in the state

finals - Maddie Louis and Abby Kyle. Louis, a seventh grader, placed 18th overall with a time of 11:58, while Kyle, also a seventh grader, finished 108th and a time of 12:57.

Because of her Top 25 finish, Louis received All State honors. "Maddie ran a lifetime best time in order to become All State. She ran strong the whole race, peaking at just the right time of the season," Martin said. "Abby ran a great race, working hard to come back from a start in which she got boxed in. She pushed the second mile to gain back her position in the race."