

MSJH CROSS COUNTRY



Submitted photos

Mahomet-Seymour Junior High's Olivia Bunting (left, center) and William Larson (right) navigate the course at the Class 3A IESA State Final this weekend. Bunting led the girls' team to a top 10 finish, and placed fourth individually.

LEADERS OF THE PACK

Bulldogs pull off ninth-place finish at State thanks to personal bests achieved at just the right time

By **JASON BROWN**
Citizen sportswriter

Junior High cross country runner Olivia Bunting achieved her best performance at just the right time to help the Bulldogs pull off a ninth-place finish (out of 112 teams) at the Class 3A IESA State Cross Country meet.

"To be in the top 10 at the state meet is something to really celebrate," said coach Lisa Martin. "The girls came together and all ran personal records at just the right time."

Bunting ran a personal record by 23 seconds and earned a fourth place medal with a time of 11:35. She placed ahead of runners who have previously outran her this season.

"At the mile mark, Olivia was running in the 7th position in the meet," said Martin. "She poured it on in the second mile and proved herself as one of the state's best runners."

Individual placers from

Mahomet-Seymour were:

4th place- Olivia Bunting (7th grade)- 11:35 (23-second lifetime record).

36th place- Megan Churm (8th grade)- 12:09 (7-second lifetime record).

66th place- Elizabeth Sims (6th grade)- 12:30 (18-second lifetime record).

128th place- Madi Balbach (8th grade)- 12:58 (17 second lifetime record).

141st place- Chloe Buzicky (8th grade)- 13:00 (25-second lifetime record).

149th place -Grace Lietz (6th grade)- 13:02 (22-second lifetime record).

166th place- Kelsey Jacobs (7th grade)- 13:11 (24-second lifetime record).

For the boys, eighth-grader William Larson ran an 11:28, a personal record by 13 seconds, which paced him 108 out of 206 runners.

He was the lone M-S representative at the boys' meet.



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State qualifiers from Mahomet-Seymour Junior High celebrate their top 10 finish at State this weekend, which was marked by a number of personal best times.

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Mahomet-Seymour Junior High cross country runners race in the IESA state meet last weekend. Story, page B3.