

BOYS' CROSS-COUNTRY

THE MAHOMET CITIZEN

Bulldogs claim 2nd place at regional

M-S advances to sectional meet in Normal

By JASON BROWN
For The Mahomet Citizen

The Mahomet-Seymour boys' cross-country team officially placed second in the Class 2A Metamora Regional — which featured seven state-ranked teams — at Black Partridge Park last Saturday.

The Bulldogs tied Normal University High for first with 49 points, but the Pioneers' sixth-place runner broke the tie.

The runner-up team finish qualified the Bulldogs' squad for the sectional meet at Normal's Maxwell Park at 11:30 a.m. Saturday.

"Our team had the most amount of all-regional runners we have had with three runners earning that honor," head coach Neal Garri-

son said.

To earn all-regional honors, junior Mathias Powell, senior Ryan Hodge and senior Riley Fortune placed in the top five spots.

Powell was regional titlist with a personal-record time of 14 minutes, 33.82 seconds for the course, which is slightly less than 3 miles.

"Mathias Powell ran the fastest time any Mahomet runner has run in the regional meet," Garrison said.

Hodge followed in second place with a time of 14:39.85.

"Ryan Hodge ran the fastest time any Mahomet senior runner has run in the regional meet," Garrison said.

Powell and Hodge earned a spot on Metamora's top 25 list for runners running the fastest times on that course, dating back 40 years and including any meet the



M-S' Mathias Powell was the individual champion in last week's Metamora Class 2A Regional. The Bulldogs claimed three of the top five individual spots.

Bruce Winter/for The Mahomet Citizen

school has hosted.

Fortune covered the course in 15:03.30 for fourth place.

The four remaining

Bulldogs all finished among the top 50.

Kaelan Davis registered his first sub-16-minute time, finishing

in 15:58.40 for 18th place.

"Riley and Kaelan had a 25-second improvement from their previous season best," Garrison

said. "This really helped our team out."

Evan Burge placed 24th with a time of 16:11.64, and Nate Douglas set a personal-best time of 16:37.96 for 41st.

"Nate Douglas improved 19 seconds from his previous best to run in the 16s for his second time," Garrison said.

Kyle Sheehy ran a season-best 17:17.93 for 49th place.

"Our team set some important team records, showing continued improvement from previous years of our program," Garrison said.

The Bulldogs had the fastest top-five runner time average (15:17.4) that any M-S team has had since first entering the IHSA regional meet 48 years ago.

The Bulldogs also had the fastest top-seven runner time average that any Bulldog team has had (15:36.8).