



Dan Chamness/for The Mahomet Citizen

M-S runners, front to back, Mathias Powell, Ryan Hodge and Riley Fortune, swept the top three spots at last week's Class 2A Normal University High Sectional at Maxwell Park in Normal. Powell won the individual title in 15 minutes, 5.3 seconds. The Bulldogs won the sectional and earned a trip to the Class 2A state finals this weekend at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

## CROSS-COUNTRY

# EYES ON THE PRIZE

After sectional win, boys' team looks to defend state title this weekend in Peoria

By JASON BROWN  
For The Mahomet Citizen

The Mahomet-Seymour boys' cross-country team won its sixth-straight Class 2A sectional title at Maxwell Park in Normal on Saturday.

The defending state champions are currently ranked No. 2 in the state (behind No. 1 Normal University High) and will be looking for another top-five state finish on Saturday at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

"I was incredibly pleased with our team at the sectional meet," coach Neal Garrison said. "All seven of them ran with such determination.

"They all knew that they needed to step it up in order to beat U-High, and they each did their job well."

To earn its trip to state

## M-S girls qualify for state

By JASON BROWN  
For The Mahomet citizen

The Mahomet-Seymour girls' cross-country team placed second in the Class 2A Normal University High Sectional last Saturday and qualified for state at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

Saturday's 2A girls' race is scheduled to start at 11 a.m.

Coach Bonnie Moxley's program has advanced to state for three consecutive years.

on a sleeting, cold day, M-S defeated eight state-ranked teams in the 18-school sectional to win with the low

At the sectional meet at Maxwell Park in Normal, the Bulldogs scored 126 points for its runner-up finish on a windy, frigid day.

"We ran well, but we were not at our best on Saturday," coach Bonnie Moxley said. "I believe that we were mentally prepared for the bad weather, but that doesn't change how numb your feet get before the race even begins."

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score of 41, which was 24 points better than runner-up Normal U-High.

"When we arrived it was

in the 30s and sleeting," Garrison said. "With the high winds, it made for a miserable day for the runners and fans.

"Our runners still managed to stay focused despite the weather to run their season best 3-mile times."

Three Bulldogs earned all-sectional honors by sweeping the top three spots.

The team ran its second-fastest top-five runner average and second-fastest top-seven runner average that any M-S team has recorded since joining the sectional meet 48 years ago.

Mathias Powell was meet champion with a winning time of 15 minutes, 5.3 seconds.

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