

Prep pulse: Nov. 5, 2018

Mon, 11/05/2018 - 7:00am | Colin Likas (/author/colin-likas)

This most recent weekend wasn't a bad one for Mahomet-Seymour High School.

There were some exciting accomplishments afoot for both current and former Bulldogs across Friday and Saturday.

First, Cory Noe made his collegiate debut with Illinois Wesleyan men's basketball. A two-time News-Gazette All-Area first-team hoopster at M-S, Noe suited up for the Titans as they took on coach Brad Underwood's Illinois squad in an exhibition.

Though the outcome was negative for Wesleyan — an 83-67 loss to the Illini — Noe grabbed a rebound and dished out an assist in his brief stint on the hardwood.

This was documented by former Bulldogs boys' basketball boss Chad Benedict, who appeared pretty close to courtside at State Farm Center and tweeted out an image of Noe stepping onto the floor.

The message garnered 13 retweets and 180 likes as of press time, showing the M-S community doesn't forget about its alumni.

There was more to come the following Saturday, as some present-day Bulldogs traveled to Peoria's Detweiller Park for IHSA state cross-country action.

The entire M-S girls' team competed in Class 2A, while the boys were represented by Mathias Powell and Bryson Keeble.

And there was plenty for those in orange and navy to be excited about on a cool, overcast morning.

First, freshman Elizabeth Sims toured the relatively flat 3-mile layout in 17 minutes, 34.09 seconds to finish an astonishing eighth of 216 athletes.

It didn't seem Sims was even fazed by the stage, even in her first prep season, as she led the Bulldogs to 10th as a team out of 26 programs.

"I knew we needed to start out fast, and I wanted to go with the top pack," Sims said afterward. "That really helped me to focus on the people in front of me."

The biggest issue she faced all day was prior to receiving her medal, when teammates gave her a little playful ribbing before she went on the awards stage.

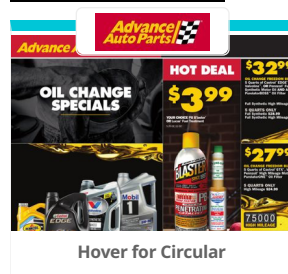
"They were like, 'Don't trip,'" Sims said. "But they were happy."

M-S received even more to be happy about when Powell exploded past the 2A boys' field to win a state championship. His time of 14:31.77 was good enough to set the Bulldogs' program record.

Powell's success was a hot topic on my Twitter feed Saturday, as I reported live from the races. My two tweets about his win were the most popular I posted all morning and afternoon.

It's nice to see the people of Mahomet and Seymour rallying around their youngsters.

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