

Girls' team earns top-10 finish at Class 3A state meet

By ISAAC TROTTER
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MAHOMET — The Mahomet-Seymour Junior High cross-country teams finished off their seasons on a high note. The girls' squad placed eighth last Saturday. More than 27 teams competed, and the Bulldogs' top-10 finish is a great sign for the future.

"After getting bounced around at the start of the race, the team fought back to regain some lost time that was the result of a big crowd of the state's fastest runners all vying for top honors," M-S coach

Lisa Martin said. "Eighth place is the highest finish we have had as a team since joining the ranks of the class 3A competition in 2013."

Avah Turner placed 38th overall. Turner finished the 2-mile course at Normal Parkside in 12 minutes, 25 seconds. Ava Boyd was three seconds behind Turner and placed 43rd. Reese Gallier (12:48) placed 90th and Emmaline Culp's time of 12:51 meant that she also finished inside the top 100.

Ava Jansen (128th), Phoebe Truax (153rd) and

Chloe Bundren (197th) also had terrific showings.

"Our girls' team is full of young runners who know what it will take to bring home some hardware in next year's state meet and they are eager to do so," Martin added.

Davin Tietz was the lone member of the M-S boys' cross-country team to qualify for state. Tietz finished 193rd out of 233 runners.

The Bulldogs have proven themselves as one of the top cross-country programs in the state, and Martin believes they'll be

right in the mix for a state crown next season.