

Bulldog runners finish in top 60 at Richard Spring Invitational



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By Fred Kroner

The state-ranked (Class 2A) [Mahomet-Seymour](#) boys' cross-country team placed 14th on Saturday (Sept. 18) in the 61-team Richard Spring Invitational at Peoria's Detweiller Park.

In a field of 457 runners, three Bulldog seniors all finished among the top 60.

Setting the pace was **Joseph Scheele**, who ran the 3-mile course in 15 minutes, 20.7 seconds. Scheele entered the chute in 35th place.

The next M-S runners were **Kyle Nofziger** (53rd in 15 minutes, 39 seconds) and **Jonah Singer** (56th in 15:42.2).

Other Bulldogs in the varsity race were **Ben Wallace** (146th in 16:35.6), **Hayden Grotelueschen** (159th in 16:40.4), **Karsten Waisath** (191st in 16:54.6) and **Taylor Fan** (216th in 17:03.6).

Sandburg was the team champion with 63 points. York was second (129) and M-S ended 14th (438).

In the open race, M-S ran 20th in a 38-team meet.



photo by Kristi Lietz



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Downers Grove South was first with a team composite of 50. Chicago Lane was second (101) and the Bulldogs were 20th (590).

Senior [Gabe Wisnasky](#) was the M-S leader in a race featuring 548 competitors. Wisnasky ended 70th in 17:57.5.

Teammates following him were: [Gabe Difanis](#) (109th in 18:37.2), [Avery Seaman](#) (112th in 18:40.6), [Gage Williams](#) (153rd in 19:20.8), [Kaleb Kasper](#) (385th in 22:39.6) and [Alex Carpenter](#) (411th in 23:06.9).

In the freshmen-sophomore race, M-S placed 38th in a field with 49 full teams.

Oak Park-River Forest ran first (71 points), followed by Naperville North (160). M-S was 38th with 956 points.

Freshman **Lukas Nykaza** was the Bulldogs' first finisher. He took 108th out of 362 runners and was timed in 18:14.7.

Other M-S entries were: **Blake Dillman** (167th in 19:04.9), **Grant Smysor** (201st in 19:34.5), **Jaxon Themanson** (279th in 21:09.6), **Zach Wilcoski** (293rd in 21:28.6), **Caleb Xamis** (317th in 22:08.9) and **Will Slezak** (334th in 22:54.5).

M-S, ranked sixth in the latest milepslit.com Class 2A state poll, returns to action on Saturday (Sept. 25) at the East Peoria Invitational at Black Partridge Park.