M-S runners eye repeat at Chrisman

"Our boys team could be stronger than last year's, which placed 10th in the state in Class A," said Mahomet-Seymour's prep cross country coach John King. "Our girls team should be fairly strong, too."

Both teams certainly figure to be prime contenders for top honors in Chrisman's annual Invitational, slated to draw a score of teams to the competition beginning at 9 am Saturday.

King's boy Bulldogs, in fact, are favored to win; they've lost only two runners from the lineup which ran away with the title last year. They registered the remarkable score of 17 in

'87. Chrisman was runnerup with 36.

King's girls settled for fifth at Chrisman last September, outpointed by Urbana Uni High, Unity, Chrisman and Robinson, in that order.

M-S boys who scored impressively last year were Jeff Jankowski and Dave Seifert, now seniors; Brian Easter and Hans Waters, now juniors; and Danny Nielsen, Jason Lasater and Burt Huddleston, now sophomores.

Laura Batsie, now a senior, was most noteworthy of Mahomet-Seymour's girls contingent in '87; she ran second at Chrisman with a two-mile time

of 13:05. Senior Jacqui Harland, juniors Barbara King and Sarah Brucker, and sophomore Mindy Carpenter also are back. Junior Tara Treat is a transfer from St. Joseph-Ogden.

King and his teams were approaching the Chrisman meet as though it were the first of the season. But a phone call received Monday changed all that; Champaign Centennial, Bloomington and Decatur Eisenhower reminded King that they would be in Mahomet for a meet Tuesday.

"I don't know exactly what threw us off our schedule," said King, "but we had to hustle to get ready to host the meet."