

The Sports Page 1995 All-Area Boys XC Team

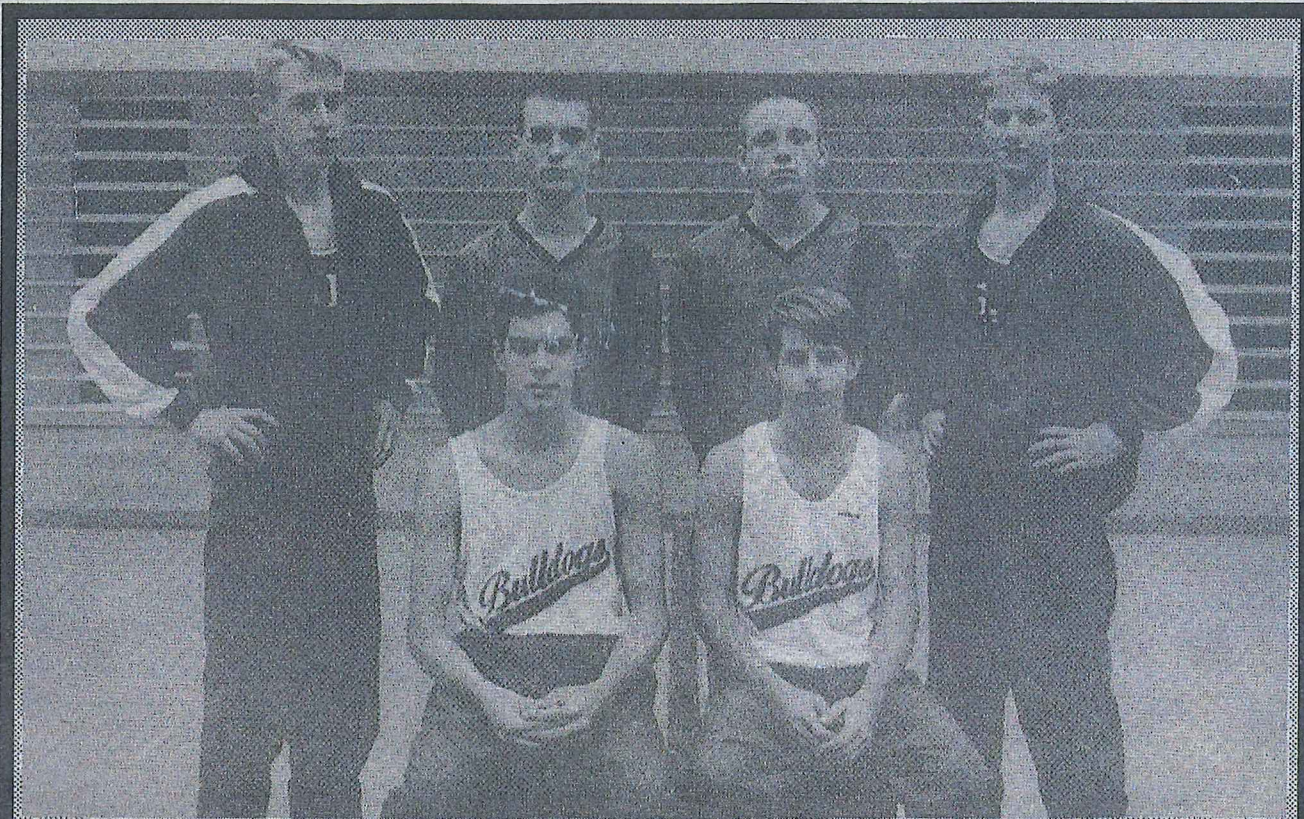
◆ *Marriott digs deep for big finish*

Last year St. Joseph Ogden High School junior Adam Marriott was denied a trip to the state meet by five seconds. This year he made it and earned all-state honors with a 16th place finish at the state championship to help SJO finish 10th as a team.

"He has a real ability late in a race to draw from deep within to come on strong at the end of races," Head Coach Jim Acklin said, "He puts what we talk about to work."

Marriott finished second this year in the Illini Central Conference Championship to earn all-conference honors for the third straight year.

He has the school's fifth fastest time on the



The Sports Page 1995 All-Area Boys Cross Country Team

Front row from left: the Mahomet-Seymour duo of Neil Banwart and Chad Avery. Back row from left: Jon Jamison of SJO, Josh Smith of M-S, Phil Alexander of M-S, and Josh Hale of SJO. Not

finished 61st overall to help M-S place fourth as a team.

"He was a welcome addition," Coach John King said. "He was a soccer player and moved here last year. This year when he got into soccer he decided to run cross country and the team achieved its goal of being at the state meet."

"We're glad he got out and competed."

Avery placed 13th in the Spartan Classic and 13th at the Invitational.

Last year he was a member of the B team that placed 13th at the state.

He has the school's second fastest time on the Mahomet Seymour course.

◆ *"Improve" 1*

The Sports Page 1995 All-Area Boys' Cross Country Team



Phil Alexander



Josh Hale



Chad Avery



Jon Jamison



Neil Banwart



Adam Marriott



Josh Smith

into state's best.

Mahomet Seymour senior Josh Smith began this season by fighting off an illness that kept him from being 100 percent for over a month.

By the end of the season Smith was fighting off opponents as he placed 47th in the Class A State Championship to help the Bulldogs place fourth as a team.

"He's done what he always done and that's come on strong in the end," Head Coach John

through for us in the big meets."

Smith earned all conference honors by placing seventh in the Cornbelt Conference Championship.

He was 18th at the Spartan Classic and 26th at the M-S Invitational.

Last year Smith was a member of the Bulldog team that placed 10th in the state.

He has the school's fifth fastest time on the Mahomet Seymour H.S. course.

with a big Sr. year

St. Joseph Ogden High School senior Josh Hale came up with a big senior year as he finished 29th in the Class A state championship to help SJO place 10th as a team.

"He has the ability to push himself in races. That can't be coached. It's a killer instinct," Head Coach Jim Acklin said, "He's not real fast, but he races real well."

It was Hale's first state meet appearance which makes what he did even more incredible.

"It's hard to appreciate what he did," Acklin said.

conference honors by placing fourth in the Illini Central Conference Championship as SJO won another team title.

Hale ranks 15th on the school's all-time Kickapoo Park course list with a 17:01.

Hale is a two-time all conference performer and was named the team's most improved runner.

◆ *Banwart gets better & better.*

Mahomet Seymour High School senior Neil Banwart helped the Bulldogs get their season long goal of placing in the

Banwart placed 45th at the state meet to help M-S finish fourth as a team.

"He kept getting better and better as the year went on," Head Coach John King said, "He ran his best when we needed it the most."

He earned all conference honors by placing 10th at the Cornbelt Conference Championship.

Banwart placed 15th at the Spartan Classic and 25th at the M-S Invitational.

Last year Banwart helped M-S place 10th in the state meet.

He has the school's third fastest time on the Mahomet Seymour H.S. course.

He was named team captain for the season.

◆ *Avery makes right M-S move.*

Mahomet Seymour High School senior Chad Avery got sick around regional time, but did not look sick at the Class A State Championship as he

fourth in the state championships as he earned all-state honors by finishing 22nd overall.

"He ran competitively for us all year long," Head Coach John King said. "He works hard and it's nice to see someone like him be successful."

"He ran cross country for the first time his freshmen year. I told people then that he could be one of the best at M-S."

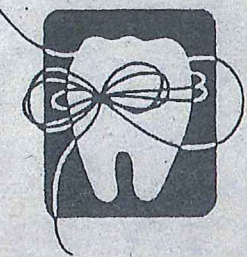
Alexander holds the top junior time on the M-S H.S. course as well as the school record for the course.

He earned top junior honors this year at the Tuscola Invitational. He also earned all-conference honors by placing fifth at the Cornbelt Conference Championship.

Alexander finished fifth at the Spartan Classic and sixth at the M-S Invitational.

Alexander was named the team's captain, Most Valuable Runner, and earned the Bulldog Award.

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