

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Team tops at East Peoria

By JASON BROWN
Citizen sportswriter

The boys' cross country team retained its No. 1 Class 2A ranking by dominating the other 22 teams in the East Peoria Invitational Saturday.

The Bulldogs placed five runners in the top eight.

Again, senior Alex Keeble, who was ranked 24th in the nation last week, was the meet champion (14:48.0) and ran the fastest time ever by a Mahomet-Seymour runner at the East Peoria Invitational.

Andrew Walmer (15:22.9) was runner-up, and Brian Butcher (15:24.2) took third place.

Gabe Pommier earned fourth place with a time of 15:32.9, and Ryan Hodge finished eighth.

Jack Hyde rounded out the top ten, at tenth, with a time of 16:00.5, and Ben Crow placed 16th (16:09.0).

Seven Bulldogs were also named medal winners, the most medals the team has won while participating in the invitational.

"Our runners showed great depth by placing our top five runners in the top eight in the varsity race," said coach Neal Garrison.

The team scored 18 points, which is the lowest team score the squad has had since joining this invitational in 2005. The previous best was 44 points in 2014.

The team also had the lowest top five-team (15:24.8) and seven-team (15:37.0) time averages since joining the invitational.

The Bulldogs collected seven of 20 medals that the East Peoria officials awarded.

Five runners earned Illinois Elite Status at the



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Mahomet-Seymour senior Joey Magyar runs the varsity course at the East Peoria Invitational on Saturday.

East Peoria Invitational: Butcher, Walmer, Pommier, Hodge and Hyde.

Keeble earned U.S. Top 100 Status.

Freshmen /Sophomores

The freshman/sophomore team placed first out of 17 teams and took five positions out of the top nine.

The Bulldogs scored 21

race, which is the lowest team score and lowest team average (17:02) ever at that level.

Mathias Powell was the meet champion and Garret Williams placed third.

Joe Churm finished in sixth and Kaelan Davis was eighth.

Lucas Chittick and Evan Burge rounded out the top ten and ninth and tenth,

The six finishers also were named medal winners.

Kyle Sheehy placed sixteenth.

The varsity squad does not compete again until Oct. 20, when the Bulldogs are scheduled to enter the Metamora Invitational at Black Partridge Park in Metamora.