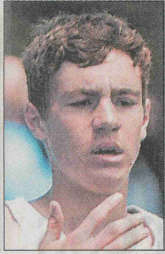


14TH ALL-AREA BOYS' CROSS-COUNTRY



DIXON



FORTUNE



HALL



HELMUTH



HODGE



MANOLAKES



POWELL

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

| NAME | YEAR | SCHOOL |
|----------------|------|-----------------|
| Garrett Dixon | Jr. | Monticello |
| Riley Fortune | Sr. | Mahomet-Seymour |
| Logan Hall | Sr. | ALAH |
| Alex Helmuth | Sr. | Monticello |
| Ryan Hodge | Sr. | Mahomet-Seymour |
| Luke Manolakes | So. | Centennial |
| Mathias Powell | Jr. | Mahomet-Seymour |

ALL-AREA SECOND TEAM

| NAME | YEAR | SCHOOL |
|------------------------|------|---------------|
| Justice Carter | Sr. | Urbana |
| Kody Harrison | Sr. | PBL |
| Trey Houmes | Sr. | Hoopston Area |
| Bryson Keeble | Jr. | M-S |
| Sincere Williams-Davis | Sr. | Danville |
| Wyatt Wolfersberger | Sr. | SJ-O |
| Cameron Woodard | Jr. | Unity |

ALL-AREA HONORABLE MENTION

ARTHUR-LOVINGTON-ATWOOD-HAMMOND — Layton Hall, Fr.
ARMSTRONG-POTOMAC — Austin Bridgman, Jr.
BEMENT — Daniel Reed, Jr.
BISMARCK-HENNING/ROSSVILLE-ALVIN — Gabe Martinez, So.
CENTENNIAL — Antonio Buchanan, Jr.; Chance Yentes, So.
CHAMPAIGN CENTRAL — Alex Ahmari, Fr.; Robert Mercer, Jr.; Kyle Treakle, Jr.
CHRISMAN — Dylan Bogard, Jr.; John Flynn, Sr.
CLINTON — Ethan Black, Fr.; Ty Brennan, So.
DANVILLE — Noah Hile, Jr.; Lenox Li, Jr.; Michael Moreman, So.; Dylan Watson, So.
IROQUOIS WEST — Connor Price, Fr.
JUDAH CHRISTIAN — Philip Coulter, Jr.
LA SALETTE — Nicholas Halligan
MAHOMET-SEYMOUR — Evan Burge, Sr.; Kaelan Davis, Jr.; Nate Douglas, Jr.
MONTICELLO — Luke Sokolowski, Fr.
OAKWOOD — Cameron Helka, Jr.; Andy Hohn, Jr.
PAXTON-BUCKLEY-LODA — Alec St. Julien, Jr.; Trevor Morse, So.; Nikolas Sch-nabel, So.
PRAIRIE CENTRAL — Jake Maquet, Sr.
RANTOUL — Elijah Hall, Jr.
ST. JOSEPH-OGDEN — Riley Baker, Sr.; Isiah McCune, Jr.; Braden Pridemore, Sr.
ST. THOMAS MORE — Ian Clapper, So.; Dominic Magrini, Jr.; AJ Wrobel, So.
SCHLARMAN — Andy Craig, Fr.
SULLIVAN/OKAW VALLEY — Isaiiah Plank, Sr.
TUSCOLA — Michael Holmes, Sr.; Bradley Kramer, Sr.; Noah Woods, Jr.
UNITY — Jarrett Cox, Fr.
UNI HIGH — Alex Dolcos, Fr.; Henry Kraatz, So.; Aryan Lalwani, Fr.; Nicolas Ram-kumar, So.
URBANA — Payton Borich, Jr.
VILLA GROVE/HERITAGE — Ian Price, So.



Rick Danz/The News-Gazette

Neal Garrison is getting used to holding state championship trophies. The Mahomet-Seymour boys' cross-country coach guided the Bulldogs to their second straight Class 2A title this year.

Coach of the Year: Neal Garrison, Mahomet-Seymour

Why he's Coach of the Year: After his Bulldogs dominated the Class 2A state meet last season for the program's first championship, they faced an uphill battle to repeat. M-S lost seniors Andrew Walmer, Brian Butcher, Ben Crow and Gabe Pommier from that victorious unit, but that couldn't stop the Bulldogs. They edged out Normal U-High by 23 points for a second straight state title behind top-10 individual finishes from Mathias Powell, Riley Fortune and Ryan Hodge.

Season highlights "I really think it's the team coming together and winning state. I do think it was somewhat of a challenge because we lost a lot of stable guys. These (younger) guys had to step it up quick, and they did. I'm super

proud that they did it, but it was tough, it was hard for them. They won the Charleston Invitational, the East Peoria Invitational, the Metamora Invitational, the Apollo Conference and they won sectional and state."

A few of my favorites ...
Favorite foods: probably pizza and ice cream. ... **First car:** a 1973 Plymouth Roadrunner. ... **Favorite non-sports hobby:** spending time with my wife and my kid. We vacation a lot, and my wife and I walk with our dog. ... **Favorite restaurant:** It was Atlanta Bread, but they closed on me. Probably Noodles (and Company). ... **Dream vacation destination:** probably Venice. I've been there a couple times. ... **Favorite sporting event you've attended live:** I have gone to

the 1984 and 1996 Olympics, and my family also went to the 2012 Olympic Trials out in Oregon. ... **Favorite college sports team:** Eastern Illinois cross-country. They have a nice bond. ... **Favorite band/musician:** I always say the Mahomet-Seymour marching band.

Three things on my bucket list I'd like to travel to St. Petersburg, Russia, with my family, and probably travel with my family to two more places.

What I enjoy most about coaching "The people. I enjoy my current runners, my past runners, the families and a lot of people who supported me along the way. Just the community. That's been the good part."