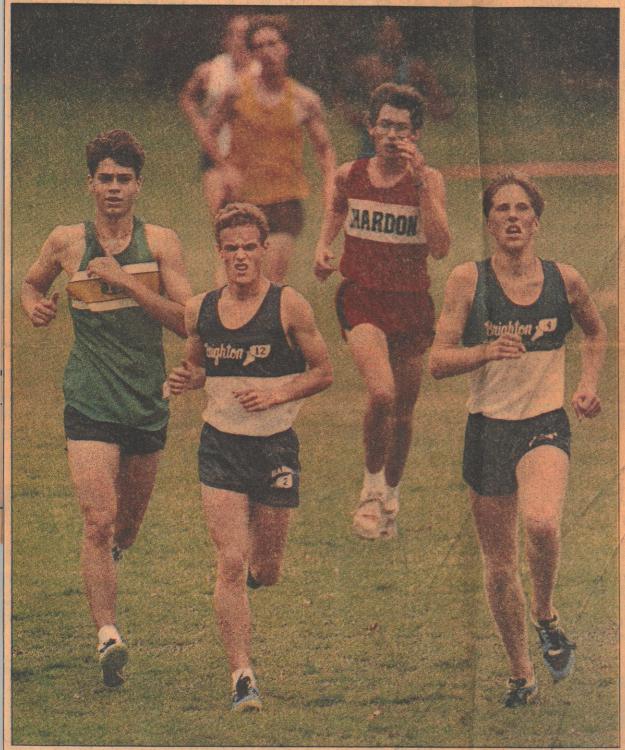
McQuaid runners are 3rd



Melissa Mahan Staff photographer

Brighton's Chris Aslin (left) and Clelland Gash were 12th and 14th, respectively, in the AA-2 race.

Knights' Reitz places 3rd on 3-mile course

By Urla Hill

Staff writer

McQuaid Hgh School finished third in the boys' Class AAA seeded race at the McQuaid Cross Country Invitational yesterday.

The Knights scored 122 points to finish behind Walsh Jesuit (99 points) from Ohio and Toronto St. Michael's (99) in the premier race of the 28th annual meet on a threemile course at Genesee Valley Park.

McQuaid finished fifth a year

ago.

"We're pleased with our thirdplace finish," said Tim Kelly, who
placed 28th in 16 minutes, 34 seconds. "I'm not making excuses, but
it's hard mentally to get ready for
this race every year.

"It's tough to do well and really concentrate on our own event because all week long we've been clearing the course ... trimming trees and cleaning up."

Walsh Jesuit's Josh Ritchie (15:00.11) was the individual winner. Reynaldo Mendez of Fordham Prep in Brooklyn finished second in 15:40

Adam Reitz (15:43) was the Knights' top finisher, placing third. Dan Lesser (15:57) finished ninth.

In the girls' Class AA seeded race, Fairport placed fifth with 176 points. Section 3's Auburn was first with 57 points.

Lizzy Roche (18:49) of Lakewood, Ohio, was the top finisher. Fairport's Carrie Cocca (19:10) placed sixth and was Section 5's top finisher. Teammate Melissa Salzman (19:18) was seventh.

In past years, the race course took runners throughout the park. But this year's course kept competitors on park land near the golf course.

Reitz, a junior, described it as a "great course for spectators" and "carefully planned."

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Winners' circle

BOYS SEEDED RACES

AAA: Team: Walsh Jesuit (Ohio) 90; Individual: Josh Ritchie (Walsh Jesuit) 15:00.11

AA: Team: Burnt Hills 86; Individual: Derek Rice (Archbishop Curley, Md.) 15:45

A: Team: Lafayette-3 78; Individual: Steven Schroeck (Harbor Creek, Pa.) 15:42

BOYS UNSEEDED RACES

AAA-2: Team: Lakewood, Ohio 136; Individual: Simon Gron (Michael Power) 15:23
AA-2: Team: Nordonia, Ohio, 82; Individual: Neil Whitaker (Beamsville, Ont.) 15:26
A-2: Team: Rocky Grove 122; Individual: Jeff Wells (Allegany-6) 16:17

A-3: Team: Northeastern, Pa. 125; Individual: Rick Badman (Moravia) 16:02

GIRLS SEEDED RACES

AA: Team: Auburn-3 57; Individual: Lizzy Roche (Lakewood, Ohio) 18:49

A: Team: Clarence-6 51; Individual: 1. Katie McGregor (Willoughby, Ohio) 18:23

GIRLS UNSEEDED RACES

AA: Team: Liverpool 203; Individual: Mary Jo Ferrigan (Michael Power) 18:34 A-2: Race No. 7: Team: Northeastern, Pa. 188; Individual: Amy Danois (Susquehanna, Pa.) 19:26

Race No. 7A: Team: Wellsboro, Pa., 99; Individual: Heather Houseknecht (Cortland-3) 18:53 A-3: Team: Oswego 94; Individual: Ann Nicholson (Oswego-3) 18:55