

Grand Blanc proves it's the state's best

Special to The Journal

dian Trails Golf Club run.

Big Nine Conference rival Kearsley, a former state cross-country king, finished sixth with 209 points.

Grosse Point North was second with 86 points, Jackson finished third with 165, Royal Oak Kimball fourth with 200 and Wayne Memorial ended fifth with 203.

Mesler won in 14:48.5, nipping Kearsley's Terry Doherty who lost only his second race of the season.

"Doherty led most of the way and was ahead by 20 yards just short of the finish line when he tripped over his own spikes," said Kearsley Coach Larry Wiltse. "His spikes got caught in the grass and he fell down twice. He was awfully disappointed."

Doherty was clocked in 14:49.

Helping Grand Blanc to its first state harrier title were Al Stefanski in sixth place, Mike Moore 10th, Tim Hinterman 15th and John Robbins 19th. Rich Scharchburg ended 63rd and Rick Collard 105th.

Kearsley's Dave Podzadecki, running with the leaders after a mile, suffered a bad cramp in his thigh and ended 37th. Calvin Turkovics was 50th, Tony Blankenship 53rd and Jim Scofield 67th.

Two Hornet freshmen, Cavin Councilor and Kevin Gumerson, ran well, ending 88th and 123rd, respectively.

Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart with 26 points won in Class D with Flint Holy Rosary runners doing well. Tom Mullally ended 8th, Dan Gilmour 22nd and Greg Bennett 30th in the individual race for those runners whose teams didn't qualify for the championship.

GRAND RAPIDS — Grand Blanc High, rated tops in the polls, proved the billing was authentic.

The Bobcats won the state Class A cross country championship in a convincing manner Saturday.

Grand Blanc, sparked by Mark Mesler's first-place finish, amassed 51 points while ending with five runners among the top 19 finishers in the In-

'Bama rolls, 24-3

Tigers combined with Mississippi State's 27-13 triumph over Auburn gave the Crimson Tide the SEC's automatic berth in the Sugar Bowl game.

Alabama took control in the nationally-televised battle late in the third quarter when LSU failed to cash in a fumble recovery at the Crimson Tide 46.

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Tony Nathan scored two touchdowns on one-yard plunges and fired a 20-yard touchdown pass as second-ranked Alabama overcame a rash of fumbles to down Louisiana State 24-3 Saturday and capture its sixth Southeastern Conference football championship in seven years.

The victory over the 18th-ranked



—Journal Photo by ROBERT PARKS

STATE'S FINEST — Grand Blanc High's cross country team, heralded as the greatest ever in Michigan, lived up to that billing by winning the state Class A championship Saturday at Grand Rapids. The Bobcats' talented crew consists of,

front from left, John Robbins, Rick Scharchburg and Mike Moore and, back from left, Tim Hinterman, Mark Mesler, who was the individual winner; Al Stefanski and Rick Collard.