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Madison, IN: Madison Athletics announces the hiring of a dynamic Varsity Boys Cross Country coaching duo.

“We are very excited to announce Tyson Skinner as the new Head Coach for the Boys Varsity Cross Country team,” shares Joe Bronkella, Madison Athletic Director. “Everyone knows Tyson as our Varsity Wrestling coach (2010 - present), however, he also has extensive experience with distance running as both a coach and athlete. We feel his background, work ethic, passion for our student athletes, and his familiar face will be a great draw for our student athletes who are looking for an opportunity to either try something new and learn the basics and to work with our more experienced runners to really dig in and develop their distance running niche.”

Coach Skinner ran for the former Cub Coach Lou Knoble while at MCHS during his Junior and Senior years before entering the Marine Corps. He began coaching track at Scottsburg in 2005 and began working with distance runners in 2007 when he took the Varsity Track Coaching position. By 2009, he was the Varsity Cross Country Coach and captured the first Sectional title in over a decade for Scottsburg High School, where his team advanced to Semi-State for the 3rd time in school history. Tyson was an Assistant Track Coach at Madison from 2011-2013 and then took the Varsity Boys Track Coach position at Switzerland County for two years in 2014.

Joining Coach Skinner as an Assistant Coach is Dave Collins, Cub Alumni Class of '73 and former Cross Country standout. “Dave returns to Madison to share his vast experience as both a very successful student athlete and highly decorated coach,” shares Bronkella. While at Madison, Collins was a State Cross Country Team Finalist in 1971 and 1972 and Indiana High School State 2-Mile Champion in 1973. While at Ball State University, Dave was an NCAA Track Qualifier in the 3-Mile, 6-Mile, and 5,000 Meters in 1975-1977.

Collins began coaching as the Varsity Cross Country Coach at Charlestown High School from 1978-1985 where his 1984 team was an Indiana High School State Cross Country Team finalist. He was a volunteer assistant coach at Purdue University from 1985-1988 with a NCAA Cross Country Team Finalist finish in 1986. Collins finished his most recent coaching stint as the Boys and Girls Varsity Cross Country Coach at West Lafayette High School from 1989-1998 where he won 4 Regional Championships. Coach Collins is a retired Science teacher and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Ball State University with a Major in Earth Science and a Minor in Physical Education and a Master's Degree from Indiana University Southeast in Secondary Education.

“We are thrilled at what this coaching combination means for our athletes at MCHS,” shares Bronkella. “The passion, energy, experience, and success these two gentlemen bring with them will be a great foundation. We are already seeing tremendous growth in the program and their combined goal is to restore a state finalist program at Madison.”

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