

Stremmel, Hagelegans win X-C titles

By GRANT EDWARDS

Greg Stremmel of Gateway and Mark Hagelegans of Whippany Park turned in the top individual performances yesterday as some 1,800 youngsters began their first of state cross-country titles.

Stremmel, in leading his team to a South Jersey Group 2 sectional crown, set a record of 15:28.4 for the Pennsauken High School course. Hagelegans won the North Jersey, Group 1, 2 Group 2 race in 14:26.4, setting a Warnance Park course record that lasted only about three hours.

Kevin Walsh of St. Joseph's (Montvale) cracked it in the Catholic Conference championship in the afternoon.

At four sites around the state, 90 teams qualified to compete for the four public school state titles this Saturday at Garret Mountain, West Paterson. Individuals who placed in the top 10 finishers also qualified.

There were few upsets around the state in the team battles. Cranford and Watchung Hills, the two Group 4 powers, scored convincing victories, as did Pascauc Valley in Group 3 and Bernards in Group 1. Sectional winners in the wide-open Group 2 contest were Saddle Brook, Randolph, South Brunswick and Gateway.

NORTH JERSEY 2

GROUP 4

Cranford won its first state sectional cross-country title at Warnance Park with a 59-48 margin over Westfield.

Leu Oelstra, an individual entry from Livingston, led the race in 14:34.7, beating Gary Grandall of Montclair by 15 yards. Sophomore Bob Ammann led the Cranford team in 14:37 and Mai Prigley was fifth in 14:43.

Team score — Cranford 6, Westfield 12. Cranford: 1. Leu Oelstra, 14:34.7; 2. Mai Prigley, 14:43; 3. Gary Grandall, 14:50; 4. Bob Ammann, 14:55; 5. Tom Green, 15:00; 6. Tom Green, 15:00; 7. Tom Green, 15:00; 8. Tom Green, 15:00; 9. Tom Green, 15:00; 10. Tom Green, 15:00.

NORTH JERSEY 2

GROUP 1

Jefferson Township made it three in a row at Warnance Park as John Copsensky won the race to lead his team to a 30-98 rout of Mountain Lakes.

The winner, who shared the title with Glen Ridge and Whippany Park in 1972 and was alone in 1971, had all five men in the first 11 finishers.

Team score — Jefferson Township 30, Mountain Lakes 98. Jefferson: 1. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 2. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 3. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 4. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 5. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 6. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 7. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 8. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 9. John Copsensky, 14:26.4; 10. John Copsensky, 14:26.4.

NORTH JERSEY 2

GROUP 1

Hackensack won the team title and favored Clifton didn't even qualify for the group final at the sectional at Garret Mountain.

Hackensack had 85 points to beat North Bergen for the team win, but Clifton, which beat Hackensack for the Northern New Jersey Interscholastic League title and was unbeaten in the dual meet season, was sixth with 116. Only the top five teams and top individuals advance to Saturday's group meet at Garret Mountain.

Rich Stucky of Teanock won the individual race in 15:37.5. He was trailed by Mike Marney of North Bergen, more than 140 yards behind. John Horner of Paramus was third.

NORTH JERSEY 1

GROUP 1

Princeton won its first sectional cross-country title, 82-91, over Carteret as defending Philadelphia placed third with 198.

Ed Brennan of Phillipsburg won the individual race by 30 yards.

NORTH JERSEY 1

GROUP 3

Pascauc Valley romped to the team title in the sectional meet at Garret Mountain. It had 49 points to 108 for Randolph and Tappan.

Sal Vega of Memorial of West New York had the day's fastest time of the four races there, 15:27, in winning by more than 180 yards. Clark Woods of Pascauc Valley, currently the state's No. 1 ranked runner, was second.

NORTH JERSEY 1

GROUP 1

Pascauc Valley had six runners in the top 20 and Andy Zucaro and Don Henchke also in the first ten.

Team score — Pascauc Valley 49, Randolph 108, Tappan 108. Pascauc: 1. Sal Vega, 15:27; 2. Clark Woods, 15:30; 3. Clark Woods, 15:30; 4. Clark Woods, 15:30; 5. Clark Woods, 15:30; 6. Clark Woods, 15:30; 7. Clark Woods, 15:30; 8. Clark Woods, 15:30; 9. Clark Woods, 15:30; 10. Clark Woods, 15:30.

NORTH JERSEY 1

GROUP 1

Park Ridge made it four straight sectional wins at Garret Mountain with an easy 47-72 win over Hackensack. Heights II placed four men in the top six including individual champ Ken Marzan.

Marzan, whose time was 15:47.5, also had his two younger brothers place. Paul was fourth and Pete was 20th for the champions. John Bahnsen of Bogota was second and Jeff Roll of Park Ridge was third.

CENTRAL JERSEY

GROUP 4

Watchung Hills, a favorite for the state title in this group, defeated defending Middle-town 72-80, with three boys in the first seven finishers.

The individual race was a close one with Steve McCallister of Neptune beating Rick Backstad of North Bergen by five yards in 14:38. Rick Platt led Watchung Hills in fifth place at 14:53.



Field in Group 1 competition starts afternoon trek across Garret Mountain, Paterson, in yesterday's cross-country state sectionals.

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Chris Hallinan of Bernards for the individual title, covering the 2.9-mile course in 14:37. Hallinan was 10 yards back in the Princeton University athletic director, in seventh place in 14:50.

Team score — Bernards 23, South Brunswick 102, Watchung Hills 116, Cranford 120, North Bergen 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

South Brunswick scored a major upset in Group 2 at Buechler Park with a 56-101 of Hillsborough as the first four teams finished within four points of each other.

The individual finish was also a surprise with Dan Shillbors of Howell Valley beating favored Paul Singley of Hillsborough by 90 yards in 14:52.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 2

Tom's River South placed its five men in the first 15 finishers to easily defeat Cherry Hill West, 51-101, at Pennsauken.

Jay Victory of Cherry Hill West ran away with the race in 15:13.4, beating Frank Smith of Pennsauken by 80 yards. Sophomore Henry Menke led the Tom's River pack in sixth place at 15:58.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Cherry Hill East 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110, Watchung Hills 110.

SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

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SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

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SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

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Team score — Gateway 10, South Brunswick 102, Watchung Hills 116, Cranford 120, North Bergen 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 2

Greg Stremmel of Gateway set a Pennsauken course record of 15:48.4 as he defended his title by beating Mike Elder of Hudson Township by 130 yards.

Gateway also took team honors, ending a three-year reign of Hudson Township as it scored 80 points to the defending champs 111.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Team score — Gateway 80, Hudson Township 111, Pennsauken 111, Watchung Hills 116, Cranford 120, North Bergen 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Team score — Gateway 80, Hudson Township 111, Pennsauken 111, Watchung Hills 116, Cranford 120, North Bergen 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124.

SOUTH JERSEY

GROUP 1

Team score — Gateway 80, Hudson Township 111, Pennsauken 111, Watchung Hills 116, Cranford 120, North Bergen 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124, Watchung Hills 124.

SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY

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SOUTH JERSEY