

Smith, Fischer win cross-country titles

By GRANT EDWARDS

Janet Smith of North Edison outraced a fine field to win her second straight state all-group girls' cross-country championship yesterday at Monmouth County Park in Holmdel.

Tom Fischer of Manalapan outkicked Carlos Hanze of Central Regional in the last 100 yards to win the boys' championship.

Smith outran the field by 100 yards in the course-record time of 18:01.5. Theresa Gschwind of Summit was second in 18:19.1. Lisa Pakutka of Hopatcong third in 18:27.4 and Meg Waldron of Bernards fourth in 18:32.1.

The two team titles went to the favorites by impressive margins. North Hunterdon defended its girls' crown successfully, 30-59, over Bernards. Bernards, in turn, won the boys' race, 36-111, from St. John Vianney and North Hunterdon finished third with 137.

Fischer, who has won 10 major races in as many starts this fall, was pressed closely by Hanze. The two Shore area stars came out of the hills side by side and Hanze seemed to have a slight edge as they climbed a slight grade to the finish line.

But Fischer suddenly spurred and crossed the line in 16:01.6, 20 seconds off the course record he set last month against Hanze in the Shore Conference meet.

Rich Byrne of Ridgefield Park was third over the line but then the Bernards parade started with junior Paul Stogryn in fourth at 16:16.1. Junior Chris Blan-



Photo by Vic Yepello
Janet Smith (left) of North Edison, is congratulated after winning the girls' state cross country title yesterday at Holmdel Park

chet and senior Rory Farrell were 10th and 11th and junior John Carlotti and senior Tim Peters were 24th and 25th. Coach Ed Mather can look forward to another championship season in 1982.

There were really two races in the girls' event. The first involved the state's top six runners who, as a group, finished

almost a minute ahead of the rest of the field. Following the first four were Michelle Rowen of Washington Township and Melinda Holm of Mendham, each well under 19 minutes.

North Hunterdon took the first three places of the second race, with Tracy Bigley seventh in 19:24.6, Sharon Greene eighth in 19:32.6 and Stacy Bilotta ninth in 19:33.7. Kim Borin and Marge DeMarrais completed the scoring for coach Bob McGivney in 21st and 27th place. The placings do not add up to the team total because individual entries are not considered in the scoring system.

The victory gave Smith eight successes in eight major races during her two-year high school career. Janet has run only the Middlesex County and the state sectional, group and all-group meets the past two seasons.

Fischer had placed second to Cliff Sheehan of Westfield in the 1980 all-group meet. His 10 major victories this season leave him one shy of Sheehan's



Photo by Vic Yepello

Manalapan's Tom Fischer crosses the finish line a few strides ahead of Carlos Hanze of Central Regional to win the boys' state cross country championship yesterday at Holmdel Park

state record of 11 but he will try to match that in the Kinney qualifying meet next Saturday at VanCortlandt Park, The Bronx.

BOYS

TEAM SCORES: 1-Bernards 36, 2-St. John Vianney 111, 3-North Hunterdon 137, 4-Delbarton 160, 5-Bergen Catholic 170, 6-Voorhees 176, 7-Parshippany 178, 8-Westfield 182, 9-Manalapan 224, 10-Cherry Hill East 264, 11-Henry Hudson 288, 12-Sayreville 275, 13-Hopatcong 315, 14-Middlesex 333, 15-Vailsburg 359, 16-Paul VI (Clifton) 430, 17-Mater Dei 440.

INDIVIDUAL: 1-Tom Fischer, Manalapan 16:01.6, 2-Carlos Hanze, Central Regional 16:04.4, 3-Rich Byrne, Ridgefield Park 16:13.8, 4-Paul Stogryn, Bernards 16:16.1, 5-Tony Morelli, St. John Vianney 16:19.3, 6-Mike Palmer, Caldwell 16:23.2, 7-Ernie Lugo, St. Joseph (Mont.) 16:26.5, 8-Dave Fitzgerald, Westfield 16:27.2, 9-Ken Hicks, Lakewood 16:28.6, 10-Chris Blanchet, Bernards 16:29.5, 11-Rory Farrell, Bernards 16:31.2, 12-Chris Mason, Morristown 16:34.6, 13-John Kiernan, Sayreville 16:35.2, 14-George Gucciara, Saddle Brook 16:36.2, 15-Terry Wheat, St. Rose 16:37.6, 16-Tony Williams, Paterson Kennedy 16:39.4, 17-Bruce Miller, Cherry Hill East 16:39.8, 18-Mike LaMantia, St. John Vianney 16:40.3, 19-John Hageman, Paul VI (Had.) 16:41.7, 20-Bill Lipkus, Montclair Immaculate 16:40.3, 21-Kevin Walsh, Delbarton 16:43.3, 22-Dave Hall, West Windsor 16:43.9, 23-Jeff Boyer, Overbrook 16:46.2, 24-John Carlotti, Bernards 16:43.9, 25-Tim Peters, Bernards 16:46.3.

GIRLS

TEAM SCORES: 1-North Hunterdon 30, 2-Bernards 59, 3-Hamilton East 124, 4-Raritan 136, 5-Manalapan 141, 6-Toms River East 146, 7-St. John Vianney 177, 8-Mount Olive 181, 9-Pascack Valley 186, 10-Holmdel 233.

INDIVIDUAL: 1-Janet Smith, North Edison 18:01.5, 2-Theresa Gschwind, Summit 18:19.1, 3-Lisa Pakutka, Hopatcong 18:27.4, 4-Meg Waldron, Bernards 18:32.1, 5-Michelle Rowen, Washington Township 18:36.6, 6-Melinda Holm, Mendham 18:38.5, 7-Tracy Bigley, North Hunterdon 19:24.6, 8-Sharon Greene, North Hunterdon 19:32.6, 9-Stacy Bilotta, North Hunterdon 19:33.7, 10-Noel LeFrancis, West Morris 19:39.9, 11-Dawn Cody, Paul VI (Had.) 19:39.9, 12-Wendy Westphal, Highland 19:45.4, 13-Chris Lilore, Parsippany 19:47.1, 14-Kemper Knight, Manalapan 19:47.6, 15-Kathy Ezell, Sterling 19:53.7, 16-Cricket Batz, Hunterdon Central 19:56.2, 17-Amy Meyer, Bernards 20:00.9, 18-Patti Mileski, Ridgewood 20:01.5, 19-Denise Barrett, Raritan 20:02.3, 20-Mary Ellen Mileski, Ridgewood 20:04.8, 21-Kim Borin, North Hunterdon 20:05.3, 22-Johanna Koneski, Hamilton East 20:05.7, 23-Cheryl Wagner, Pascack Valley 20:06.1, 24-Lisa Szymanski, Toms River East 20:06.6, 25-Jeanne Sles, Toms River East 20:10.5.