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Kearny's Duarte runs to Group 4 honors

By GRANT EDWARDS

For the second year in a row, Jodi Biotta ran the Holmdel County Park course in 18:38 to lead North Hunterdon to a 22-84 victory over Ocean City



Bernards' Tracy Hinman heads for victory in Group 1 division of state cross country meet held yesterday at Holmdel Park

yesterday in the Group 3 state cross-country championships.

Biotta won the race by 50 yards from teammate Anne Letko, duplicating their 1-2 finish in the 1985 Group 3 race. It was the seventh consecutive group title for Bob McGivney's team, six in Group 3 and one in Group 4 (1982).

Bernards won its sixth straight group title, defeating Mater Dei, 33-66, in the Group 1 race. Kittatinny gave Sussex County its first girls' state title in the Group 2 race by edging favored Ridge by a 90-101 margin and Paul VI of Haddonfield reversed last week's South Jersey result in Group 4 to edge Brick for the title, 79-83.

The other individual winners were sophomore Liz Duarte of Kearny in Group 4 in 19:29, sophomore Christi Constantin of Kittatinny in Group 2, also in 19:29, and senior Tracey Hinman of Bernards in Group 1 in 19:46.

North Hunterdon totally dominated the Group 3 race, with Jeanne LaPlaca finishing third behind her teammates in 19:49, younger sister Sandy LaPlaca eighth in 20:27 and Katie McCormick 11th in 20:41. All five North Hunterdon girls finished ahead of the first Ocean City runner, Mary Jo Dougherty, who was 12th in 20:42.

Bernards also had no trouble in its race. Hinman won the race by 130 yards from Lori Carpenter of New Providence, who clocked 20:12. Patty Sullivan was fourth for Bernards in 20:18, Tracey Willis eighth in 20:52, Jamie Mather ninth in 20:56 and Gretchen Stahl 11th in 21:16. Mather is the daughter of veteran Bernards coach, Ed Mather.

In the Group 2 race, Ridge had to run without its lead girl, Cindy Laury, whose mother died earlier this week. It had a 41-61 lead over Kittatinny after



Group IV girls are off and running during yesterday's cross country meet at Holmdel Park

the first four runners had finished for the two teams, but Kittatinny picked up more than it needed for the victory when Jeannette Koeck came in 38th in the overall finish, 29th among the runners in the team score.

Constantin won the race handily from Amy Holcomb of Holmdel, who clocked 20:19. Robyn Heim finished third for Lyndhurst in 20:28. The first

Ridge runner was Karen Mitrakul in 10th place in 20:58.

The Paul VI-Brick duel was as much like a dual meet as is possible in such a large field. Sandy Wright finished fifth for Paul VI in 19:57, with Mary Hoernlein sixth for Brick in 20:02. The two teams took all the places from 13th to 16th with Meagan Carmody of Paul VI, Patty Hoernlein

of Brick, Maureen Batiato of Brick and Jackie McMillan of Paul VI finishing in that order.

At that stage, Paul VI led by a point. Lauren Bello then clinched it for Paul VI by finishing 19th to 25th for Michelle Batiato of Brick.

GROUP GIRLS

TEAMS: 1-Paul VI (Hadd) 79, 2-Brick 83, 3-Ridgewood 144, 4-Haddon Central 216, 5-Kearny 225, 6-Hunterdon Central 226, 7-Clifton 226, 8-Roxbury 234, 9-Phillipsburg 241, 10-Morris 277, 11-Manalapan 282, 12-Toms River East 303, 13-Columbia 325, 14-Shawnee 327, 15-Paramus 341, 16-Hackensack 363, 17-Middletown South 399, 18-Newark East Side 386, 19-East Brunswick 421.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Liz Duarte, Kearny 19:29, 2-Elaïne Doherty, Morristown 19:39, 3-Alyson Parra, Passaic Valley 19:40, 4-Cathy Pac, Clifton 19:47, 5-Sandy Wright, Paul VI 19:57, 6-Mary Hoernlein, Brick 20:02, 7-Chris Baldes, Manalapan 20:04, 8-Amy Kempf, Paramus 20:06, 9-Jamie Jones, Hackensack 20:06, 10-Daryl Kische, Roxbury 20:09, 11-Kim Wojcik, Hunterdon Central 20:10, 12-Jean Hughes, Ridgewood 20:12, 13-Megan Carmody, Paul VI 20:13, 14-Patty Hoernlein, Brick 20:14, 15-Maureen Batiato, Brick 20:17, 16-Jackie McMillan, Paul VI 20:19, 17-Diane Duchiviera, Toms River North 20:23, 18-Lisa Miers, Phillipsburg 20:24, 19-Lauren Bello, Paul VI 20:24, 20-Sue Lewicki, Cedar Ridge 20:25.

GROUP BOYS

TEAMS: 1-North Hunterdon 22, 2-Ocean City 84, 3-Wayne Valley 85, 4-Red Bank Catholic 137, 5-Raritan 143, 6-Morris Hills 223, 7-Summit 230, 8-Old Tappan 231, 9-Bohemia 249, 10-Ramapo 293, 11-West Morris 311, 12-Overbrook 341, 13-St. Dominic Academy 344, 14-Mount Olive 355, 15-Absegami 414, 16-Cinnaminson 421, 17-Lacey 468.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Jodi Biotta, North Hunterdon 18:38, 2-Anne Letko, North Hunterdon 18:49, 3-Jeanne LaPlaca, North Hunterdon 19:49, 4-Jan Mizone, Wayne Valley 20:04, 5-Kris O'Brien, West Morris 20:08, 6-Gina Willoughby, Randolph 20:11, 7-Cathy Franey, Wayne Valley 20:20, 8-Jeanne LaPlaca, North Hunterdon 20:27, 9-Caitiana Logan, Red Bank Catholic 20:30, 10-Kathy Fitzpatrick, North Brunswick 20:32, 11-Katie McCormick, North Hunterdon 20:41, 12-Mary Jo Dougherty, Ocean City 20:42, 13-Anne Marie McCartin, Mac-Ocean City 20:42, 14-Coleen Kenney, Raritan 20:44, 15-Mary Lou Gibson, Brick Memorial 20:46, 16-Sheri Pladdock, Morris Hills 20:49, 17-Alyson Amromeo, Ocean City 20:51, 18-Leigh Graydon, Holy Spirit 21:00, 19-Missy Duchini, Wayne Valley 21:07, 20-Kelly Dougherty, Ocean City 21:07.



Kearny's Liz Duarte crosses finish line for victory in Group IV division of yesterday's cross country meet at Holmdel Park

GROUP 1 GIRLS

TEAMS: 1-Kittatinny 90, 2-Ridge 101, 3-Somerville 146, 4-Dover 168, 5-St. John Vianney 192, 6-Delaware Valley 222, 7-Dumont 225, 8-St. Rose 222, 9-Manchester Township 242, 10-Point Pleasant Boro 260, 11-Mt. Pleasant 260, 12-Hackettstown 275, 13-Milburn 294, 14-Jerison 341, 15-Bloomfield 357, 16-Buena 391, 20-Haddon Township 569.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Christi Constantin, Kittatinny 19:29, 2-Amy Holcomb, Holmdel 20:19, 3-Robyn Heim, Lyndhurst 20:28, 4-Terri Grivas, Dumont 20:33, 5-Volanda Santana, Dover 20:38, 6-Gwen Nagy, Caldwell 20:48, 7-Christy Schmittgall, Shore 20:49, 8-Janis Nazareno, Manchester Township 20:54, 9-Michelle Owen, Clearview 20:56, 10-Karen Mitrakul, Ridge 20:58, 11-Michelle Jones, Delaware Valley 21:02, 12-Stephanie Barr, Ridge 21:06, 13-Carolin Doyle, Allentown 21:09, 14-Toni Ann Batisia, Manchester Township 21:10, 15-Venonique Godleski, Ridge 21:30, 16-Jennifer Narr, Rutherford 21:32, 17-Tracy DeBlack, Butler 21:33, 18-Jackie O'Rourke, St. Rose 21:36, 19-Jenny Leddy, Whippany Park 21:36, 20-Mary Ellen Dward, Somerville 21:36.

GROUP 2 GIRLS

TEAMS: 1-Bernards 33, 2-Mater Dei 66, 3-Mahwah 132, 4-Morris Catholic 163, 5-Bishop Eusebio 203, 6-Paulsboro 207, 7-New Providence 212, 8-Saddle Brook 216, 9-Kingston 253, 10-Prigby 272, 11-Gloster Catholic 296, 12-Midland Park 312, 13-St. Mary's 321, 14-North Arlington 323, 15-Dunellen 428, 16-Middlesex 477.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Tracey Hinman, Bernards 19:29, 2-Lori Carpenter, New Providence 20:12, 3-Jodi McAndrew, Mater Dei 20:14, 4-Patty Sullivan, Bernards 20:18, 5-Amy Wodarczyk, Gloucester Catholic 20:38, 6-Patti Botiglieri, Kingsway 20:40, 7-Dee Kenney, Mahwah 20:41, 8-Tracey Willis, Bernards 20:52, 9-Jamie Mather, Bernards 20:56, 10-Rose Caffrey, Mater Dei 21:04, 11-Gretchen Stahl, Bernards 21:16, 12-Jean Healy, Mater Dei 21:32, 13-Brigitte Connolly, Midland Park 21:34, 14-Debbie Fordyce, Bernards 21:33, 15-Michelle Daly, Dunellen 21:36, 16-Becky Nazario, Prigby 21:37, 17-Maureen Cabell, North Warren 21:42, 18-Chris Dalton, Mater Dei 21:48, 19-Chris Foster, Morris Catholic 21:51, 20-Mary Ryan, Haddonfield 21:53.

Seton signs Shabazz' Avent

By LEE ZEOLI

Anthony Avent, a 6-9 power forward for Shabazz High, will join two of the state's top big men next season on the Seton Hall University basketball team.

Avent, a Star-Ledger third-team Essex County all-county selection last winter when he averaged 17 points and 13.3 rebounds, signed a letter of intent yesterday to attend Seton Hall next fall.

The signing of Avent, considered by many as the state's top big man, marks three out of four years that Seton Hall has landed the state's top center. Mark Bryant, a 6-9 junior from Columbia High of South Orange-Malewood, is Seton Hall's starting center, while 6-9 freshman Frantz Volcy of Seton Hall Prep in West Orange is expected to make a big contribution to the Pirates' fortunes this season.

"Avent is a nice combination of size, strength and finesse," said Seton Hall coach P. J. Carlesimo. "He runs the floor well, passes well and can play both inside and out."

Avent, who turned 17 last month, earned praise as a junior for his abilities to rebound and block shots. His high school coach, Autrey Reynolds, feels that Avent will continue to improve.

"Avent is still developing," said Reynolds. "He's a nice, hard-working kid and he's going to be a real good one. He's developing into more of a

scorer now.

"He's going to join a fine group of athletes at Seton Hall and the program there is on the rise. I think Avent's decision was an excellent one."

Avent considered North Carolina State, DePaul, St. John's, Syracuse and Villanova before choosing Seton Hall.

At Seton Hall, Avent will team with Bryant and Volcy as part of a New Jersey-dominated forecourt. The forward line also will include current Seton Hall standouts 6-8 Daryl Walker of The Bronx, 6-9 Ramon Ramos of Canovanas, Puerto Rico, and 6-7 Khyiem Long of The Bronx, giving Seton Hall one of the biggest units in the Big East Conference.

"Our policy since we came here was to try and get the best players in New Jersey to stay at home for college," said Carlesimo. "With Avent joining us next year, we will have a fine nucleus of New Jersey talent."

The other New Jersey player on the current Seton Hall roster is freshman Nick Katsakis, a 6-7 freshman who played his high school ball at Cherry Hill East.

Avent will spend this season trying to lead Shabazz, 14-9 a year ago, to the state Group 3 title. He'll be the leader of a strong cast that also includes 6-5 junior forward Reggie Collins and junior guard Airay Blackmon.

Seton Hall, 14-18 a year ago, opens its season Nov. 29 at Columbia University. The team's first Big East game will be against St. John's in Jamaica, N.Y., on Dec. 11.