

Columbia's Curley takes Group 4 crown in 16:2

By ED GRANT

Russ Curley of Columbia upset Albert Donawa of Camden to win the Group 4 championship at the 71st annual state boys' group cross-country championships yesterday at Holmdel County Park.

Curley, whose only loss this season was to Donawa at the Shore Coaches Invitational last month at Holmdel County Park, caught his rival as they came out of the woods and won a stride-for-stride battle to the finish line by less than a yard. Both boys were timed in 16:20.

South Jersey schools dominated the team competition, winning five of six titles. Paul VI of Haddon Township, the state's top-ranked team, repeated in Parochial A with 40 points. Toms River North was an upset winner in Group 4. Highland won in Group 3, Cinmanimon in Group 2 and Haddonfield in Group 1. Pingry spoiled a perfect day for the southern schools by winning its first Parochial B title.

Ken Flynn of Ramsey had the best individual time of the day with a 16:19 in Group 3. Bryan Spoonire of Asbury Park easily won the Group 2 race in 16:28. Joe Cranston of Paul VI in Haddon Township matched that time in Parochial A. Tom Naimoli of Mater Dei won Parochial B in 16:31 and Matt Martin of Haddon Township took Group 1 in 16:44.

Donawa, a Bermuda native who was undefeated this season, took the lead in the Group 4 race in the hills and opened a 30-yard edge on Curley. But the Columbia senior came back as the two wound their way downhill through the woods and they were even as they climbed the slight rise to the finish. Curley just managed to hold off his rival to become the first Columbia winner of the race since Dave Swatland in 1978.

Toms River North, which lost the South Jersey race to Cherokee, defeated its rival this time, 104-109. Toms River East was a close third with 113.



Photo by Tom Kitts

Asbury Park's Bryan Spoonire leads pack up hill just after start of yesterday's Group 2 cross-country championship at Holmdel Park. Spoonire won the race in 16:28

hah Massey led Toms River North in third place in 16:48, with teammate Matt Jelly 12th in 17:23.

Cranston was followed over the line in the Parochial A race by teammate Vin Cieslik in 16:47. Pete Dougherty followed for Paul VI in sixth place in 17:01. All seven of the Paul VI runners were among the first 20 finishers. Tom Lillis was third for Christian Brothers in 16:56.

Highland won its first state group title with 70 points. Flynn won the Group 3 race by 100 yards from Ray Beyer of Absegami. Highland had Chris Simon and Jerry Franks finish eighth and ninth, respectively, in 16:55 and

16:56, with Gene Darius 17th in 17:20 and Brad Rozzelle 19th in 17:22.

Cinmanimon also was a first-time winner in Group 2, 82-134 over Millburn. Spoonire coasted home 150 yards ahead of Craig Masker of Mahwah. Steve Stanley led Cinmanimon in 11th place in 17:32, with teammate John Keevey right behind him in 17:35.

Martin was an upset winner over Tim Shanahan of Haddonfield in Group 1. Shanahan had missed two weeks of practice with a foot injury, but still ran second in 17:05, with teammate Kevin Underwood fourth in 17:21.

Pingry, a newcomer to the Parochial B ranks, defeated Sacred Heart of

Vineland, 80-91. Naimoli won the race by 50 yards from Harry Drew of St. Rose, a repeat of the 1988 finish. Tim Lear was 10th for Pingry in 17:54 and his twin, Chris, finished 15th in 18:13. Rob Diemar was one place ahead of Chris in 17:11.

BOYS' GROUP 4

TEAMS: 1-Toms River North 104, 2-Cherokee 109, 3-Toms River East 113, 4-North Hunterdon 144, 5-Shawnee 166, 6-Ridgewood 176, 7-Newark East Side 201, 8-Middletown South 220, 9-North Bergen 247, 10-Westfield 254, 11-Haddon Central 255, 12-Morris 271, 13-Vernon 344, 14-Edison 397, 15-Manalapan 401, 16-Elizabeth 403, 17-Passaic Tech 405, 18-Morris Knolls 406, 19-Vineland 415, 20-Nickerson 429.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Russ Curley, Columbia 16:20, 2-Albert Donawa, Camden 16:20, 3-Ihab Massey, Toms River North 16:48, 4-Dan Aviv, Westfield 16:59, 5-Jody Carlson, Pemberton 17:02, 6-Ben Rozzelle, Shawnee 17:07, 7-Marc Miceli, Toms River East 17:11, 8-Rui Ornelas, Kearny 17:12, 9-Eric Baucher, Ridgewood 17:15, 10-Dorian Faner, Newark East Side 17:18, 11-Greg Taus, Morris 17:21, 12-Matt Jolley, Toms River North 17:23, 13-Shawn Tyffe, Passaic 17:24, 14-Scott Weikel, Cherokee 17:25, 15-Andy Gunderson, Toms River East 17:26, 16-Tim Maurer, Cherokee 17:28, 17-Kelth Farrell, Toms River East 17:28, 18-Dave Warner, Cherokee 17:29, 19-Juan Castine, Elizabeth 17:30, 20-Scott McGhee, Neptune.

BOYS' GROUP 3

TEAMS: 1-Highland 70, 2-Cedar Ridge 1200, 3-Bridgton 141, 4-Lion Hill 179, 5-Easters 210, 6-Paramus 220, 7-Ramsey 221, 8-West Morris 227, 9-Neshaminy 268, 10-Hamilton North 270, 11-Phillipsburg 284, 12-Rancocas Valley 296, 13-Morris Hills 325, 14-Hamilton East 338, 15-Mt. Olive 344, 16-Pascack Hills 348, 17-Ocean Township 361, 18-Voorhees 390, 19-Absegami 394, 20-High Point 435.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Ken Flynn, Ramsey 16:19, 2-Ray Beyer, Absegami 16:49, 3-Rich Cochrane, Westfield 16:47, 4-Chris Shields, Mendham 16:47, 5-Shane DeGannes, Camden 16:50, 6-Joe Pawlik, Ocean Township 16:52, 7-Chad Beer, Morris Hills 16:53, 8-Chris Simon, Highland 16:55, 9-Jerry Franks, Highland 16:55, 10-Clinton Bell, Franklin 17:02, 11-Mike Clavin, Scotch Plains 17:04, 12-Victor Torres, Union Hill 17:13, 13-Ricky Jones, Rancocas Valley 17:14, 14-Jerome Newsome, Bridgeton 17:14, 15-Steve Karaval, Fort Lee 17:17, 16-Sean Tucker, Cedar Ridge 17:18, 17-Eugene Darius, Highland 17:20, 18-Brian Norwell, Mendham 17:22, 19-Brad Rozzelle, Highland 17:22, 20-Mike Shemsky, Eastern 17:23.

BOYS' GROUP 2

TEAMS: 1-Cinmanimon 82, 2-Milburn 134, 3-Chatham 156, 4-Clearview 167, 5-Holmdel 178, 6-Rutherford 204, 7-Somerville 206, 8-Fairfield 220, 9-Manchester Township 222, 10-Defran 234, 11-Delaware Valley 260, 12-Penns Grove 278, 13-Boonton 312, 14-Hackettstown 326, 15-Hopatcong 335, 16-Mahwah 334, 17-Hopewell Valley 360, 18-Northern Highlands 400, 19-Ridge 413.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Bryan Spoonire, Asbury Park 16:28, 2-Craig Masker, Mahwah 16:54, 3-Craig McDonald, Asbury Park 17:00, 4-Brian Walsh, Chatham 17:07, 5-John Peluso, Manchester Township 17:13, 6-Jim Lame, Wallkill Valley 17:14, 7-Arnie DeCruz, Northern Burlington 17:17, 8-Chris Lee, Holmdel 17:18, 9-Dermot Joyner, Asbury Park 17:20, 10-Jason Kinley, Milburn 17:22, 11-Steve Stanley, Cinmanimon 17:32, 12-John Keevey, Cinmanimon 17:35, 13-David Gerrigold, Chatham 17:39, 14-Frazer Sulphon, Somerville 17:45, 15-Greg Rubino, Wood-Ridge/Haddonfield

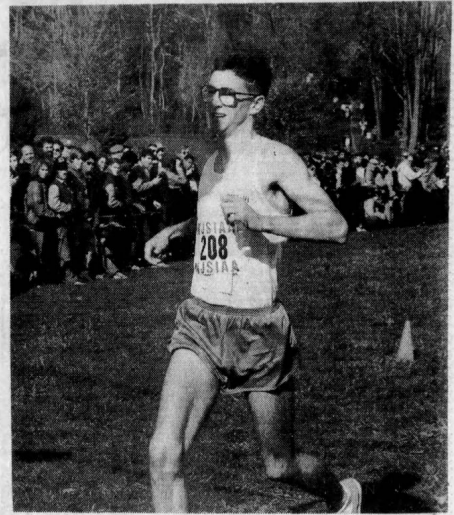


Photo by Tom Kitts

Crowd watches yesterday at Holmdel Park as Paul VI's Joe Cranston heads for victory in Parochial A cross-country championship

Heights 17:49, 16-Jason Russell, Rutherford 17:55, 17-Jeff Rubino, Wood-Ridge/Haddonfield 17:57, 18-Ted Bamford, Clearview 17:57, 19-Pietro Cavallaro, Summit 18:00, 20-Nick Fiore, Calwep 18:00.

BOYS' GROUP 1

TEAMS: 1-Haddonfield 57, 2-Whippany Park 117, 3-Riverside 143, 4-Haddon Township 151, 5-Metuchen 165, 6-Henry Hudson 196, 7-Widwick 224, 8-Wildwood 229, 9-Gov. Livingston Regional 233, 10-Bound Brook 257, 11-Burlington Township 262, 12-Newark Arts 276, 13-Saddle Brook 286, 14-Highland Park 309, 15-Middlesex 314, 16-Emerson Borough 318, 17-Bogota 397, 18-Beacon 425.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Matt Martin, Haddon Township 16:44, 2-Tim Shanahan, Haddonfield 17:05, 3-Kris Eassey, Haddon Township 17:13, 4-Kevin Underwood, Haddonfield 17:21, 5-Larry Weiss, Metuchen 17:23, 6-Brian Durham, Burlington Township 17:34, 7-Ron Brock, Riverside 17:24, 8-Evin Schilling, Pitman 17:38, 9-Shawn Brock, Riverside 17:30, 10-Matt Sanson, North Warren 17:49, 11-Ross Letkowitz, Bernards 17:51, 12-Everette Gray, Newark Arts 17:52, 13-Doug Marshall, Haddonfield 17:55, 14-John Anderson, Whippany Park 17:58, 15-Vic Turegano, Henry Hudson 17:59, 16-Colin McNamara, Emerson Borough 18:02, 17-Craig Boyce, Bernards 18:06, 18-Phil Peterson, Whippany Park 18:08, 19-Matt DeMartino, Wildwood 18:10, 20-Scott Eremus, Henry Hudson 18:11.

BOYS' PAROCHIAL A

TEAMS: 1-Paul VI (Haddon Township) 40, 2-Christian Brothers 64, 3-Red Bank Catholic 106, 4-St. Joseph's (Metuchen) 166, 5-Notre Dame 174, 6-Debarton 180, 7-Selton Hall Prep 205, 8-Paramus Catholic 221, 9-Bergen Catholic 227, 10-Holy Spirit 227, 11-Holy Cross 291, 12-St. Peter's Prep (Jersey City) 322, 13-Camden Catholic 344, 14-St. John Vianney 378, 15-Don Bosco Prep 407, 16-Bishop Abr 409, 17-Hudson Catholic 409, 18-Essex Catholic 469, 19-Immaculate 471, 20-St. Joseph (Montvale) 530.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Joe Cranston, Paul VI 16:28, 2-Vin Cieslik, Paul VI (Haddon Township) 16:47, 3-Tom Lillis, Christian Brothers 16:54, 4-Kevin Harty, Debarton 16:58, 5-Rich Scira, Christian Brothers 17:00, 6-Pete Dougherty, Paul VI (Haddon Township) 17:01, 7-Rob Farberger, Camden Catholic 17:04, 8-David Patky, Paramus Catholic 17:05, 9-Marc McDonald, Christian Brothers 17:13, 10-Pat Campbell, Holy Cross 17:19, 11-Joe Larock, Red Bank Catholic 17:21, 12-Pat Duomo, Christian Brothers 17:23, 13-James Donnell, Notre Dame 17:28, 14-Ron Capone, Paul VI (Haddon Township) 17:27, 15-Chris Moran, St. Joseph's (Metuchen) 17:30, 16-Matt Doherty, St. Joseph's (Metuchen) 17:31, 17-Tom Keeter, Paul VI (Haddon Township) 17:32, 18-Frank Innes, Paul VI (Haddon Township) 17:32, 19-Mark Viggiano, Red Bank Catholic 17:37, 20-Eric Bayles, Paul VI (Haddon Township) 17:37.

BOYS' PAROCHIAL B

TEAMS: 1-Pingry 80, 2-Sacred Heart 91, 3-St. Benedict's 119, 4-St. Rose 123, 5-GloUCEster Catholic 151, 6-St. Augustine 171, 7-Good Counsel 223, 8-Bishop Eustace 229, 9-Widwood Catholic 231, 10-Mater Dei 235, 11-Eastern Christian 263, 12-DePaul 265, 13-St. Joseph (Hammonont) 274, 14-Mgr. Donovan 315, 15-Don Bosco Tech 396, 16-Oratory 486.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Tom Naimoli, Mater Dei 16:31, 2-Harry Drew, St. Rose 16:41, 3-Mark Sivori, St. Augustine 17:50, 4-Nuno Santo, St. Benedict's 17:04, 5-Ron Kornati, St. Augustine 17:17, 6-Jason Polaha, Sacred Heart 17:21, 7-Jeff Masboly, St. Rose 17:38, 8-Ted Callinan, Gloucester Catholic 17:49, 9-Jim McElhatton, Wildwood Catholic 17:51, 10-Tim Lear, Pingry 17:54, 11-Allamghri Sutton, St. Benedict's 17:58, 12-Gary Villatoro, Good Counsel 18:04, 13-John Polaha, Sacred Heart 18:07, 14-Rob Diemar, Pingry 18:11, 15-Chris Lear, Pingry 18:12, 16-Marc Sekel, St. Joseph (Hammonont) 18:17, 17-Doug Tansy, Pingry 18:26, 18-Ed Reilly, Bishop Eustace 18:32, 19-John Pavlovski, Don Bosco Tech 18:32, 20-James Kinkela, St. Augustine 18:32.