

# Chatham's Walsh wins, Pingry runs to crown

By MIKE G. MORREALE

Brian Walsh of Chatham had a sick feeling before yesterday's NJSIAA Group 2 race at the NJSIAA group cross-country championships at Holmdel County Park.

Walsh, stricken with a stomach virus on Friday night, wasn't sure he was strong enough to run in the meet. Nonetheless, 15 minutes before the starting gun sounded at 10 a.m., the senior decided to attempt the 3.1-mile run.

It was a great decision for Walsh, who finished first in 16:09.

The other individual winners were Brendan Heffernan of North Hunterdon in Group 3, Rich Morris of Jackson in Group 4, Kevin Schilling of Pitman in Group 1, Tom Keefer of Paul VI of Haddon Township in Parochial A and Chris Lear of Pingry in Parochial B.

The top 12 individuals and top three teams in each group race yesterday will compete in the Meet of Champions at Holmdel next Saturday at 11:45 a.m.

"I really didn't know how I was going to run and was just hoping to finish among the top 12," said Walsh. "I didn't feel good (Friday night) and I wasn't any better (Saturday morning), but since I was here I figured I'd give it a shot."

"I'm very happy with my time and am really looking forward to next weekend."

Delran took the Group 2 team title, even though it finished in a 66-66 tie with Asbury Park, by virtue of placing a sixth runner, senior Pat McHugh, who finished 69th. Asbury Park, which benefited from the third-place finish of Demond Joyner in 16:50, had only five runners in the race.

It was the first Group 2 championship for Delran coach Dennis Smith in his 18-year coaching reign at the Burlington County school.

"It was a great effort by our entire team," said Smith. "The top three finishers (seniors Jeff Dunn, Pete Silva and Greg Dunn) did a superb job in guiding the rest of the pack. It was a big lift for us heading into next week's meet."

In Group 3, Heffernan, a junior, cruised to his second consecutive individual title in 15:37. His remarkable time placed him third on the all-time performance list at Holmdel Park. In 1984, Andy Martin of North Hunterdon finished in 15:35 and, in 1988, Jason DeJoseph of Paul VI was clocked in 15:16.

Rob Reeder of Northern Highlands, a senior, finished second in 16:34 and was happy with his performance. "I guess I'll shoot for second next week as well," admitted Reeder. "The way Brendan ran today, I don't think anybody can stop him."

Cedar Ridge, No. 3 in the Star-Ledger Cross-Country Top 10, won its second straight Group 3 team title with 104 points and No. 6 North Hunterdon finished second with 126.

No. 10 Whippany Park rebounded from last year's fifth-place finish in Group 1, placing first this season for

coach Tom O'Brien with 63 points.

"We really stuck together and helped each other out at the end," noted O'Brien, who is in his 11th season.

Six Whippany Park runners placed in the top 47 for Whippany Park.

Schilling, a junior, took individual honors for Pitman in Group 1 in 16:34.

Morris, a Jackson sophomore, won the Group 4 race in 16:28, seven seconds ahead of Bob Keino of No. 8 Ridgewood, which took the team title with 75 points.

Vineland took second with 94 points and No. 2 Shawnee finished third with 125 points.

In Parochial A, No. 1 Christian Brothers Academy won the team title with a 41-120 margin over Paramus Catholic.

"CBA is proud to be the No. 1 one team in The Star-Ledger," said coach Tom Heath. "This team is certainly among the top five I've coached in my 22 years here at the school. I'm proud of our first five finishers (all seniors) and the great effort they put in today."

Paul VI's Keefer finished the Parochial A race in 16:24. He was followed by Marc McDonald, Brendan Ring and Chris Grosso for CBA.

The Lear twins, seniors Chris and Tim, helped Pingry to its third straight Parochial B championship with 48 points. Chris finished first in 16:36 and Tim, who has been bothered all year with asthma, placed fourth in 17:17.

"We've suffered some injuries to key runners this season but we really wanted this one bad," said Chris. "This

is a really tough course when you consider all the hills. But I paced myself and then broke out going downhill in the last mile. I feel that, as a team, we are in very good shape going into next week's Meet of Champions."

## BOYS GROUP 4

TEAMS: 1-Ridgewood 75, 2-Vineland 94, 3-Shawnee 125, 4-Tom's River South 136, 5-Eastern 179, 6-Highland 179, 7-Middletown South 197, 8-Manalapan 208, 9-Union 227, 10-Westfield 235, 11-North Bergen 247, 12-Memorial (W.N.Y.) 276, 13-Middlesex North 286, 14-Whisperer 313, 15-Hunterdon Central 328, 16-Vernon 393, 17-Livingston 424, 18-Columbia 477, 19-Union 482, 20-West Orange 580.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Rich Morris, Jackson 16:28, 2-Bob Keino, Ridgewood 16:33, 3-Pete Fitzer, Vineland 16:38, 4-Antonio Oliveira, East Side 16:41, 5-Steven Mazur, Highland Regional 16:42, 6-Mike Andino, Memorial 16:45, 7-Keith O'Brien, Shawnee 16:49, 8-Shawn Hayes, Edison 16:59, 9-Adair Alsaid, Ridgewood 16:52, 10-Courtney Davis, Hackensack 16:53, 11-Paul Reer, Hackensack 16:53, 12-Damon Godfrey, J. P. Stevens 17:00, 13-Jeff Perez, Union Hill 17:05, 14-Jim Graves, Middletown South 17:08, 15-Joe Mastroracuso, Tom River North 17:12, 16-Alan Graves, Vineland 17:17, 17-Jeff Luma, Vineland 17:18, 18-Eddie Clark, Union Hill 17:18, 19-Kyle Young, Cherry Hill West 17:20, 20-Drew Karsch, Eastern 17:22.

## GROUP 3

TEAMS: 1-Cedar Ridge 104, 2-North Hunterdon 126, 3-Cedar Township 136, 4-Northern Highlands 16:34, 5-Bridgton 179, 6-Mt. Olive 203, 7-West Morris 211, 8-Mainland 216, 9-Northern Highlands 223, 10-Whisperer 235, 11-City 247, 12-Camden Wilson 214, 13-Peacekeeper Valley 19, 14-Phillipsburg 234, 15-Kamapo 234, 16-Wayne Valley 39, 17-Scott Plains 36, 18-Tom's River South 373, 19-Ramsey 400, 20-Morris Knolls 479.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Brendan Heffernan, North Hunterdon 15:37, 2-Scott Reeder, Northern Highlands 16:34, 3-Dave Cox, Camden Wilson 16:41, 4-Pete Clavin, Scott Plains 16:42, 5-Scott Wickenhauer, West Morris 16:45, 6-Chris Bolden, Mainland 16:49, 7-Brian Morris, North Hunterdon 16:49, 8-Jason Capelli, Rancocas Valley 17:00, 9-Sean Albert, Paramus 17:03, 10-Jay Procter, Wall 17:09, 11-Mike Ingolia, Mt. Olive 17:09, 12-Bill Grogan, Bergenfield 17:12, 13-Tim Higgins, Hamilton East 17:16, 14-Frank Baldassare, Ramapo 17:16, 15-Greg McGivern, Ocean Township 17:17, 16-Tim Farrell, Ocean Township 17:20, 17-Brad Carpenter, Monroe 17:21, 18-Misha Simmons, Dumont 17:21, 19-Pat Redmond, North Hunterdon 17:23, 20-Kurt Wayton, Mainland 17:25.

## GROUP 2

TEAMS: 1-Delran 64, 2-Asbury Park 64, 3-Holmdel 130, 4-Cinnaminson 131, 5-Voorhees 142, 6-Hillburn 145, 7-Somerville 173, 8-Princeton 243, 9-Mahwah 247, 10-Haddon Township 281, 11-West Deptford 317, 12-Morris Hills 333, 13-Dayton Regional 354, 14-Lingwood 354, 15-Rutherford 357, 16-Chatham 391, 17-Piscataway Hills 484, 18-Hackensacktown 427, 19-Englewood 443, 20-K.Halliniv 476.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Brian Walsh, Chatham 16:09, 2-Jeff Dunn, Delran 17:10, 3-Brian Gallagher, Sterling 17:12, 4-Guy Peliss, Shore Regional 17:16, 5-Mike Abate, Gateway 17:17, 10-Doug Wats, Carteret 17:25, 11-Vanessa Seraphin, Asbury Park 17:23, 12-Pete Silva, Delran 17:24, 13-Matt Feeley, Cinnaminson 17:26, 14-Dan Grillo, Voorhees 17:28, 15-Ed Bittner, Carteret 17:29, 16-Ant Bril, Sterling 17:31, 17-Greg Dunn, Delran 17:35, 18-Georandy Johnson, Asbury Park 17:38, 19-Brian Vasconcelos, Delran 17:38, 20-Jarrah O'Neill-Dunn, Mahwah 17:42.

## GROUP 1

TEAMS: 1-Whippany Park 63, 2-Haddon Heights 83, 3-Henry Hudson 159, 4-Haddonfield 161, 5-Meluchen 162, 6-Bound Brook 190, 7-Mape Shade 192, 8-Henry Hudson 193, 9-Newark Science 220, 10-Pitman 222, 11-Bogota 226, 12-Union 305, 13-Wadcock 307, 13-Pompton Lakes 329, 14-Highland Park 347, 15-Saddle Brook 367, 16-Roselle Park 388, 17-Schick 410, 18-Secaucus 431, 19-Kinnelon 433, 20-Cedar Grove 476.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Kevin Schilling, Pitman 16:34, 2-John Salisbury, Haddon Heights 16:55, 3-Kevin Brockelhurst, Bound Brook 17:05, 4-Shawn Brock, Riverside 17:05, 5-Rob Krause, Maple Shade 17:08, 6-Pete Kapp, Pt. Pleasant Beach 17:11, 7-Craig Evans, Manville 17:13, 8-Ryan Grote, Bernards 17:16, 9-Jamie Webers, Whippany Park 17:18, 10-Rob Black, Pitman 17:21, 11-Jason Newcomb, Passaicboro 17:25, 12-Mike Ryan,

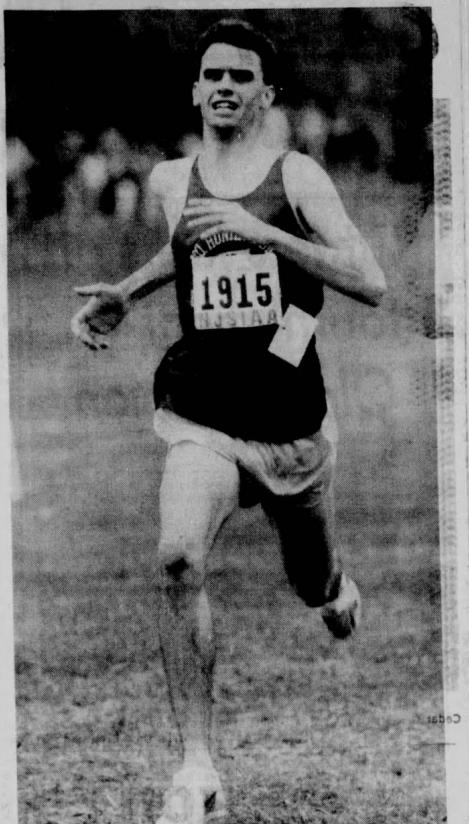


Photo by Frank H. Conlon

## North Hunterdon's Brendan Heffernan in en route to victory in NJSIAA boys' Group 3 cross-country championships yesterday at Holmdel Park

Bogota 17:27, 13-Ethan Joss, Haddon Heights 17:29, 14-Josh Kenna, Whippany Park 17:31, 15-Carl Eppert, Haddon Heights 17:34, 16-Pete Grasso, Henry Hudson 17:34, 17-Tony Francis, Metuchen 17:38, 18-Ryan MacHaughton, Whippany Park 17:52, 19-Mark Lampert, Park Ridge 17:57, 20-Tom Phillips, Henry Hudson 17:57.

## PAROCHIAL A

TEAMS: 1-Christian Brothers Academy 41, 2-Paramus Catholic 123, 3-Paul VI Haddon Township 142, 4-Cleaton Hall Prep 151, 5-Don Bosco Prep 159, 6-Delbarton 164, 7-Rob Bank Catholic 194, 8-Notre Dame 227, 9-St. Joseph's (Watchen) 228, 10-Immaculate 269, 11-Mgr. Donovan 276, 12-Holy Cross 322, 13-Bergen Catholic 361, 14-Camden Catholic 343, 15-Bishop Ahr 426, 16-Holy Spirit 446, 17-St. John Vianney 491, 18-St. Joseph's of Mountbale 500, 19-Queen of Peace 515, 20-Hudson Catholic 525, 21-McCristie 628.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Tom Keefer, Paul VI 16:24, 2-Marc McDonald, Christian Brothers Academy 16:43, 3-Brendan Ring, Christian Brothers Academy 16:46, 4-Chris Grosso, Christian Brothers Academy 16:52, 5-Chris Langan, Don Bosco Prep 17:02, 6-Brian Wilkewick, Immaculate 17:02, 7-Bill Murray, St. Joseph's 17:05, 8-Steven Barardo, Paramus Catholic 17:16, 9-Mike Robertson, Holy Cross 17:13, 10-Regan Lopic, Paramus Catholic 17:13, 11-Mike O'Connor, Seton Hall Prep 17:13, 12-Mike Matus,

Queen of Peace 17:24, 13-Mike Conboy, Delbarton 17:27, 14-Dave Ernest, Christian Brothers 17:29, 15-Mark Kenab, Seton Hall Prep 17:39, 16-Mike Preault, Holy Spirit 17:32, 17-Bill Young, Paramus Catholic 17:33, 18-Mitch Corcoran, Christian Brothers 17:35, 19-Matt Hamel, Delbarton 17:36, 20-Mike O'Neill, Seton Hall Prep 17:38.

## PAROCHIAL B

TEAMS: 1-Pingry 48, 2-Mater Del 93, 3-Pope John 110, 4-Sacred Heart 116, 5-Exeter Catholic 124, 6-Bishop Estillac 134, 7-St. James 130, 8-St. Rose 227, 9-DePaul 231, 10-Wildwood Catholic 295, 11-Eastern Christian 302, 12-St. Joseph (Hammoncton) 319, 13-Don Bosco Tech 342, 14-Morris Catholic 374, 15-St. Augustus 386, 16-Oratory 401, 17-17, 5-Mike Keating, Bishop Estillac 17:24, 6-Scott Guzzo, Pope John 17:28, 7-Jeff Stacie, Morris Catholic 17:31, 8-Andy Sirov, Pingry 17:32, 9-Scott Coni, DePaul 17:34, 10-Gary Villatoro, Sacred Heart 17:36, 11-Ryan Harrison, Mater Del 18:02, 12-Mike Houlihan, Mater Del 18:02, 13-Auckland Teegee, Exeter Catholic 18:09, 14-George Martin, St. Joseph (Hammoncton) 18:11, 15-James Evely, Exeter Catholic 18:13, 16-Jim Michalski, Pope John 18:22, 17-Ryan Nakagawa, Pingry 18:24, 18-Ivan McNiel, Oratory 18:26, 19-Chris Cooke, Exeter Catholic 18:26, 20-Jim Pilla, Mater Del 18:31.



They're off and running in Group 1 boys State championship race yesterday at Holmdel Park