

Bury captures Group 4; ill Chokshi 26th



Photo by Geoff Reed
Kerry Moore of Midland Park captures Group 3 title yesterday at Holmdel Park

Totten's 3 propel Peddie past Blair

Chris Totten scored three unassisted goals in leading Peddie to a 4-3 boys' soccer victory over Blair yesterday in Blairstown.

Totten's final goal, with 7:53 remaining, gave Peddie (15-7-2) a 4-2 lead. Ben Tuffnell hit on a penalty shot a minute later to close the scoring for Blair (7-9). Lou Batalias had the other Peddie goal and Marcos Rolan and Fred Ahlers also hit for Blair.

By JIM LAMBERT
Monal Chokshi's three-year hold on New Jersey girls' cross-country supremacy ended yesterday at Holmdel County Park.

The senior from Bridgewater-Raritan, on the way to an unprecedented fourth straight state cross-country championship, saw that bid come to an abrupt halt. The seemingly invincible distance runner couldn't shake the effects of a bad cold and a viral infection and finished 26th in the Group 4 race during the NJSIAA girls' group cross-country championships.

The top 12 finishers and first three teams in each group advanced to this Saturday's Meet of Champions at Holmdel.

It was the first time in her illustrious career that she lost a cross-country race to New Jersey competition. As a result, Chokshi concludes her cross-country career with three state championships, a feat accomplished by only two others, Hilary Noden of Hopewell Valley did it from 1972 through '74 and Jodi Blotta of North Hunterdon equaled it from 1985 through '87.

With an ailing Chokshi struggling, West Orange's Heather Bury ran a personal-best 19:08, the fastest girls' time of the day, to win the Group 4 race.

"I've been running on this course for six years," said Bury, who smiled and said, "Oh my God," over her accomplishment as she crossed the finish line. "It's nice to finally come out of the woods and be in first. It was definitely my most satisfying victory."

She finished sixth in 19:51 in this race last year.

"I ran in some road races over the summer and really built up my endurance," she continued. "That's the biggest difference compared to last year."

Ridgewood, second in The Star-Ledger Girls' Cross-Country Top 10, relied on its superior depth, its staple all year, to capture its second straight Group 4 team title.

Shawnee, tanked first, ran with-

out one of its top runners, Julie Goldstein, out most of the year with stress fractures, and finished second to Ridgewood, 56-74.

Liz Moore came up with a typically sound race, taking second in 19:28 for Shawnee, and Ridgewood's Jenna Rogers was fifth in 19:44. But, the race was really decided by a Ridgewood's pack of Amy Smith, 17th in 20:48; Claire Blaney, 18th in 20:50; Lauren Stuhr, 19th in 20:50; and Jeanne Reilly, 21st in 20:51. Reilly's place was the most telling because she was able to finish ahead of Shawnee's fourth runner, Stephanie Burgin, 22d in 20:56.

"We have no order," said Reilly. "That's what makes us so strong. We don't have a No. 2 or No. 3 runner. Anyone can finish anywhere."

The biggest shock of the day came from Midland Park's Kerry Moore, who won the Group 1 race in 20:20. A week ago at the Bergen County championships, Moore was suffering from allergies and felt nauseous and finished 28th.

"I just thought I'd come here and run my best and go home," said Moore, who became ill prior to yesterday's race. "I never expected to win. I just tried to stay up near the front and, when I saw that I had a chance, made my move on hills."

Mater Dei's fourth and fifth runners, Nicole Karatzia (28th in 22:27) and Laura Ralski (27th in 22:28), finished ahead of Haddonfield's third runner, Tracy Shanahan (32d in 22:33), to send Mater Dei past Haddonfield, 66-91, in the Group 1 race.

Fifth-ranked Ocean Township, which picked up its girls' cross-country team after a seven-year absence three years ago, won the Group 3 championship for the first time.

Megan Phillips, ninth in 20:18, and Laura Meadors, 10th in 20:28, led the way for Ocean Township, which defeated No. 3 North Hunterdon, 35-40.

"There is a girls' cross-country state championship banner in our high school gym," said Rafter. "It was blank and we wanted to fill it in."

Megan Hartman of Ocean City, in her first season of cross-country, overtook Mary Pat Erickson of Red Bank Catholic with less than a half mile to go to win the Group 3 individual title going away in 19:41.

Bishop Eustace received a boost from the return of Maria Gutowski, who broke her left foot in the first dual meet of the season.

"She was given clearance to run a week ago and we didn't decide to let her run until warmups this morning," said Bishop Eustace coach Bob Kiessling.

Gutowski, normally Bishop Eustace's No. 1 runner, ran a courageous 22:01 to finish 27th and help Bishop Eustace win the Group 2 title with 66 points. Kittatinny was second with 99.

Eric More of Kingsway ran alone for virtually the entire race and won the Group 2 individual title in 19:56.

GIRLS' GROUP 4

TEAMS: 1-Ridgewood 56 2-Shawnee 74 3-Middletown South 118 4-Immaculate Heart 147 5-Toms River East 173 6-Vineland 188 7-Brick 211 8-Piscataway 216 9-Memorial (W.V.) 250 10-Toms River North 281 11-Kearny 285 12-Manalapan 290 13-Raritan 292 14-Madison Central 295 15-Lavington 294 16-Wentfield 277 17-Citron 411 18-Columbia 483 19-Union 595

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Heather Bury, West Orange 19:08 2-Liz Moore, Shawnee 19:28 3-Kari Vigorelli, Holy Cross 19:28 4-Regina Gonzalez, Holy Angels 19:37 5-Jenna Rogers, Ridgewood 19:44 6-Michelle Reo, Brick 19:48 7-Karen Jensen, Marlboro 20:06 8-Megan Smith, Middletown South 20:10 9-Paula Costa, Kearny 20:11 10-Marina Broshnan, Immaculate Heart 20:11 11-Sara Padgett, Vineland 20:15 12-Amy O'Donnell, Toms River East 20:15 13-Deanna Quatrok, West Milford 20:23 14-Mary Whitaker, Shawnee 20:38 15-Karen O'Neil, Shawnee 20:40 16-Sonya Swails, Piscataway 20:44 17-Amy Smith, Ridgewood 20:48 18-Claire Blaney, Ridgewood 20:50 19-Lauren Stuhr, Ridgewood 20:50 20-Danielle Baraka, Woodbridge 20:51

GIRLS' GROUP 3

TEAMS: 1-Ocean Township 82 2-North Hunterdon 102 3-Paul IV 131 4-Red Bank Catholic 160 5-Mainland 163 6-Ocean City 212 7-Bridgeton 239 8-West Morris 242 9-Northern Highlands 263 10-Barron 263 11-Alli Olive 295 12-St. Dominic Academy 301 13-Wayne Valley 310 14-Manchester Township 328 15-Phillipsburg 358 16-Nوتر Dame 372 17-Morris Knolls 379 18-Berkeley 383 19-Carfield 447 20-Cranford 680

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Megan Hartman, Ocean City 19:46 2-Mary Pat Erickson, Red Bank Catholic 19:46 3-Amy Matzone, Wayne Valley 19:50 4-Tara Pointin, Hamilton North 19:55 5-Julie Schick, Mainland 20:11 6-Colleen Manning, North Hunterdon 20:13 7-Fara Powers, Wall 20:15 8-Cathy McCaugan, Bridgeton 20:17 9-Megan Phillips, Ocean Township 20:18 10-Laura Meadors, Ocean Township 20:28 11-Chris Matley, Sports 2 32 13-Jackie Coates, Mt. Olive 20:48 13-Alli Foreman, Mainland 20:54 14-Danielle Koltak, Paul IV 20:56 15-Sarah Beckus, North Hunterdon 21:00 16-Lisa Nativano, Manchester Township 21:01 17-Cathy Williams, Watchung Hills 21:02 18-Kristin Ursino, Mainland 21:06 19-Rose Quinn, Ocean Township 21:10 20-Cara Yoon, Demarest 21:10



Photo by Geoff Reed
West Orange's Heather Bury breezes to victory in Group 4 race yesterday at Holmdel Park

GIRLS' GROUP 2

TEAMS: 1-Bishop Eustace 66 2-Kittatinny 93 3-Somerville 128 4-Kingsway 141 5-Dover 161 6-Delaware Valley 175 7-Immaculata 181 8-Mahwah 224 9-Hillsdale 294 10-Holmdel 291 11-Fresh Meadows 299 12-Whippany Park 335 13-Summit 350 14-Walkkill Valley 381 15-Gateway 383 16-Ripatong 387 17-Shoopon 385 18-Piscataway 400 19-Rutherford 418 20-West Deptford 583

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Erica More, Kingsway 19:56 2-Cathy Mustier, Somerville 20:28 3-Carol Gallo, Mahwah 20:40 4-Mande Melchor, Bishop Eustace 20:40 5-Liz Bertok, Bishop Eustace 20:47 6-Chrissy Musca, Newton 21:15 7-Amy McDonald, Holmdel 21:16 8-Sara Beaber, Lawrence 21:17 9-Lauren Whitehead, Mendham 21:20 10-Berca Baum, Ridge 21:20 11-Kathleen Lunck, Bishop Eustace 21:22 12-Noel Casagrande, Manasquan 21:29 13-Cara Prudenzie, Fresh Meadows 21:30 14-Janice Chen, Whippany Park 21:31 15-Jennifer Bolderman, Westwood 21:34 16-Thombe Ewing, Hillsdale 21:33 17-Colleen Sunderland, Northern Burdick 21:35 18-Kara Sander, Kittatinny 21:39 19-Trey Hammond, Mahwah 21:45 20-Dawn Guntner, Kittatinny 21:45

GIRLS' GROUP 1

TEAMS: 1-Mater Dei 68 2-Haddonfield 91 3-Morris Catholic 103 4-Piney 118 5-Fruitboro 149 6-Midland Park 196 7-Bound Brook 200 8-Highland Park 263 9-Scotchrun 280 10-Pompton Lakes 294 11-Audubon 303 12-Emerson Borough 303 13-Buller 316 14-Kinnelon 322 15-Rumson 333 16-Palmside Park 341 17-Secret Heart 354 18-Newark Arts 442 19-Dayton Regional 443

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Kerry Moore, Midland Park 20:20 2-Cathy O'Brien, Morris Catholic 20:23 3-Alison Oliver, Haddonfield 20:40 4-Mary Newman, Highland Park 20:49 5-Jessica Black, Newark Academy 20:50 6-Jen Rafferty, Riverside 20:56 7-Ruby Johnson, Mater Dei 21:05 8-Bridney Hagan, Kearny 21:15 9-Katy Carver, Mountain Lakes 21:15 10-Lisa Aquirre, Madison Borough 21:17 11-Jackie Adams, Passaic 21:19 12-Karen Wiles, Point Pleasant Beach 21:19 13-Karin Goetz, Palmside Park 21:52 14-Alison Curran, Midland Park 21:59 15-Jackie Holmes, Montgomery 22:00 16-Katie Copley, Morris Catholic 22:06 17-Karyn Walsh, Fruitboro 22:11 18-Jen Pignatelli, Mater Dei 22:12 19-Becky Reynolds, Haddonfield 22:16 20-Vicky Paladino, Morris Catholic 22:17