

Clark leads Columbia to title; Mt. Olive, Mendham triumph

By MIKE G. MORREALE

Columbia junior Hazel Clark, inspired by advice from her sister, U.S. Olympian Joetta Clark, cruised to victory in Group 4 and Jackie Coscia of Mt. Olive retained her Group 3 title in North Jersey, Section 2 action yesterday in the NJIAA girls' sectional cross-country championships.

Columbia in Group 4, Mt. Olive in Group 3, Mendham in Group 2 and Whippany Park in Group 1 were the team winners in North Jersey, Section 2 in Warinanco Park, Elizabeth.

In Central Jersey at Holmdel Park, Hunterdon Central won in Group 4, Ocean Township in Group 3, Wall in Group 2 and Bound Brook in Group 1 were the winners.

In the North Jersey, Section 1 meet at Garret Mountain in West Paterson, the champions were Ridgewood in Group 4, Ramsey in Group 3, North-Highlands in Group 2 and Midland Park in Group 1.

Group 4 Shawnee, Group 3 Ocean City, Group 2 Kingsway and Group 1 Haddonfield were the team champions in South Jersey at Kingsway in Swedesboro.

Columbia, which outraced Westfield, 39-61, had five places in the top 15. The Essex County school was paced by Clark, who admitted to feeling cold and congested at the start of the race.

Clark crossed the finish line in 20:28, beating Westfield's Kellie Goncalves by 1:14.

"My sister was a big help for me," Clark said. "She has been working with me and stressing the importance of pace, form and breaking away from the pack. All three came into play today."

"My plan at the start was to run with teammate Monique Nicholas (who finished fourth in 21:47). We were going to glide in together, but Monique got caught up in the pack and fell back. So I knew I had to turn it up a notch because many of the Westfield girls' were closing in," said Clark, who won the Union County cross-country championship running for Kent Place last fall.

Coscia, who won her race in 19:49, turned in the fastest girls' time in the North Jersey, Section 2 meet.

"I love to run at Warinanco," said Coscia, who garnered her second consecutive Group 3 crown helping Mt. Olive to a 41-43 victory over West Morris. Mt. Olive's triumph avenged a 46-51 loss to West Morris in last year's sectional meet at Warinanco.

Also in North Jersey, Section 2, Lauren Whitehead finished first in 20:27 to retain her crown and lead Mendham to a 37-83 victory over Chatham in Group 2. Whippany Park won in Group 1 to give Morris County three

of the four titles. Her team placed four in the top 10, with Kim Wormer showing the way in third in 21:36. Kelly Carpenter of Mountain Lakes won Group 1 in 21:19 and Stacy Stewart of Science placed second in 21:28.

Jenna Rogers helped lead defending state champion Ridgewood, No. 2 in The Star-Ledger Girls' Top 10, to the team title with the day's best time of 19:18 in the North Jersey, Section 1 meet. On its 32-76 triumph over Kearny, Ridgewood qualified for the 18th straight year for the Groups championship meet at Holmdel on Nov. 13.

The top five teams and 10 finishers in each sectional Group qualified for the Groups meet.

Amy Mizzone of Wayne Valley successfully defended her Group 3 championship in 19:24. Midland Park snapped the string of five straight Group 1 titles by Palisades Park with a 38-62 margin over the defender. Kerry Moore paced Midland Park by winning in 19:51.

Liz Moore led No. 1 and defending Shawnee with her winning 19:04, the fastest at Kingsway. Megan Hartman of Ocean City won her second consecutive Group 3 championship in 18:35.

Hunterdon Central's Autumn Fogg recorded the best time at Holmdel, a 20:06. Fogg was one of six finishers among the top 10 for third-ranked Hunterdon Central.



Photo by Amanda Brown
Columbia's Hazel Clark wins North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 cross-country race at Warinanco Park in Elizabeth yesterday

Girls' sectional cross country

NORTH JERSEY, SECTION 1

GROUP 4
TEAMS: 1-Ridgewood 32, 2-Kearny 76, 3-Clifton 107, 4-Vernon 119, 5-Memorial (W.N.Y.) 138, 6-North Bergen 151, 7-Hackensack 187, 8-Paterson Kennedy 239, 9-West Milford 250, 10-Bayonne 251, 11-Lakeland 268, 12-Teaneck 318, 13-Ferris 345, 14-Paterson Eastside 390.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Amy Mizzone, Ridgewood 19:18, 2-Paula Costa, Kearny 19:49, 3-Tracy Pombo, Vernon 20:20, 4-Lauren Stuhr, Ridgewood 20:21, 5-Anne Bernardo, Clifton 20:37, 6-Amy Smith, Ridgewood 20:38, 7-Margaret Conklin, Kearny 20:43, 8-Stephanie Doyle, Ridgewood 20:48, 9-Dana Cicciawicz, North Bergen 20:59, 10-Sharon Lemmon, North Bergen 20:59.

GROUP 3
TEAMS: 1-Ramsey 44, 2-Bergenfield 87, 3-Wayne Valley 92, 4-Fort Lee 148, 5-Rutherford 160, 6-Garfield 160, 7-Demarest 228, 8-High Point 228, 9-Wayne Hills 241, 10-Pascack Valley 249, 11-Hopatcong 250, 12-Ramapo 326, 13-Harrison 347.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Amy Rogers, Ridgewood 19:18, 2-Paula Costa, Kearny 19:49, 3-Tracy Pombo, Vernon 20:20, 4-Lauren Stuhr, Ridgewood 20:21, 5-Anne Bernardo, Clifton 20:37, 6-Amy Smith, Ridgewood 20:38, 7-Margaret Conklin, Kearny 20:43, 8-Stephanie Doyle, Ridgewood 20:48, 9-Dana Cicciawicz, North Bergen 20:59, 10-Sharon Lemmon, North Bergen 20:59.

GROUP 2
TEAMS: 1-Northeast Highlands 47, 2-Kittatinny 51, 3-Westwood 129, 4-Walkkill Valley 136, 5-River Dell 139, 6-Dumont 179, 7-Sparta 184, 8-Newton 190, 9-Manchester Regional 218, 10-Glen Rock 262, 11-Ridgeline Park 280.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Cara Madry, Sparta 19:56, 2-Jenn Reeder, Northern Highlands 20:57, 3-Kerri Black, Northern Highlands 20:58, 4-Amanda Lisper, Kittatinny 21:03, 5-Stephanie Hennon, Walkkill Valley 21:05, 6-Stacy Hooper, Kittatinny 21:10, 7-Jen Canisara, Sparta 21:18, 8-Tammy French, Pascack Hills 21:25, 9-Nicole Calaghan, Westwood 21:31, 10-Charlotte Haiverson, Northern Highlands 21:52.

GROUP 1
TEAMS: 1-Midland Park 38, 2-Palisades Park 62, 3-Bopota 87, 4-Secaucus 123, 5-Cresskill 120, 6-North Arlington 157, 7-Saddle Brook 165, 8-Pompton Lakes 181, 9-Emerson Borough 190, 10-Becton 227.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Kerry Moore, Midland Park 19:51, 2-Nancy Siegel, Lonia 20:22, 3-Arlison Curran, Midland Park 21:03, 4-Kristen LaFond, Bopota 21:28, 5-Renee Zengel, Secaucus 21:34, 6-Amy Hamernick, Midland Park 21:38, 7-Karin Goers, Palisades Park 21:46, 8-Tina Govic, Palisades Park 21:46, 9-Christi Tortora, North Arlington 22:00, 10-Anna Castelli, Palisades Park 22:33.

NORTH JERSEY, SECTION 2

GROUP 4
TEAMS: 1-Columbia 39, 2-Westfield 61, 3-Livingston 71, 4-East Side 79, 5-West Orange 128, 6-Union 133, 7-Roxbury 184, 8-Elizabeth 209, 9-Randolph 235.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Hazel Clark, Columbia 20:28, 2-Kellie Goncalves, Westfield 21:42,



Photo by Tom Klits
They're off and running in the Central Jersey, Group 4 girls cross-country race at Holmdel Park yesterday

3-Ana Taveres, East Side 21:47, 4-Monique Nicholas, Columbia 21:47, 5-Karen McGuire, Westfield 21:48, 6-Kanda Martins, Westfield 21:53, 7-Emily Boscard, Livingston 21:58, 8-Sonia Noel, East Side 21:54, 9-Nicole Leach, Montclair 22:01, 10-Modia Ford, Irvington 22:03.

GROUP 3
TEAMS: 1-Mt. Olive 41, 2-West Morris 43, 3-Phillipsburg 58, 4-Morris Knolls 85, 5-Nutley 127, 6-Cranford 158.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Jackie Coscia, Mt. Olive 19:49, 2-Brooke Carney, Warren Hills 21:00, 3-Julie Zapala, Mt. Olive 21:19, 4-LaToya Stephens, West Side 21:23, 5-Suzanne McKenna, Phillipsburg 21:25, 6-Megan O'Brien, West Morris 21:28, 7-Marisa Cerasco, West Morris 21:40, 8-Robyn Poetsch, West Morris 21:43, 9-Jaime McKenna, Phillipsburg 21:46, 10-Gina Fischetti, West Morris 21:49.

GROUP 2
TEAMS: 1-Mendham 37, 2-Chatham 83, 3-Jefferson 92, 4-Summit 97, 5-Bonnton 107, 6-Dover 170, 7-Monville 173, 8-Dayton Regional 202, 9-Millburn 205, 10-Caldwell 291, 11-Hillside 298, 12-Johnson Regional 307.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Lauren Whitehead, Mendham 20:27, 2-Lauren Wissolik, Chatham 20:43, 3-Tracy Calvin, Mendham 21:11, 4-Sarah Papke, Jefferson 21:24, 5-Christy Woodward, Chatham 21:42, 6-Sue VanRiper, Chatham 21:53, 7-Silvia Escobedo, Dover 22:07, 8-Sarah Zornetzer, Mendham 22:10, 9-Angela Carrelli, Dayton Regional 22:16, 10-Tara Woolford, Summit 22:29.

GROUP 1

TEAMS: 1-Whippany Park 34, 2-Butler 60, 3-Science 78, 4-Kinship 89, 5-Cedar Grove 113, 6-New Providence 142, 7-Vernon 165.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Kelly Carpenter, Mt. Lakes 21:19, 2-Stacey Stewart, Science 21:28, 3-Kim Norner, Whippany Park 21:36, 4-Dani Struble, Butler 21:37, 5-Karen Kaminski, Cedar Grove 21:42, 6-Nora Lee, Butler 21:51, 7-Nancy George, Whippany Park 21:59, 8-Karen Minzer, Whippany Park 22:05, 9-Lenora Genoble, Whippany Park 22:18, 10-Jennifer Dorfliinger, North Warren 22:29.

CENTRAL JERSEY

GROUP 4
TEAMS: 1-Hunterdon Central 19, 2-Middletown South 85, 3-Piscataway 133, 4-Woodbridge 139, 5-West Windsor 148, 6-Marlboro 165, 7-Middletown North 167, 8-East Brunswick 182, 9-Manalapan 212, 10-Sayreville 221, 11-Bridgewater-Raritan 308, 12-Freehold Township 337, 13-Trenton 395.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Autumn Fogg, Hunterdon Central 20:26, 2-Meghan Busse, Hunterdon Central 20:17, 3-Danielle Barajas, Woodbridge 20:19, 4-Betsy Packard, Hunterdon Central 20:21, 5-Beth Crawford, Hunterdon Central 20:32, 6-Dena Morgan, Manalapan 20:40, 7-Kelly Walter, Hunterdon Central 20:41, 8-Jennifer Geiger, Piscataway 20:58, 9-Linda Packard, Hunterdon Central 21:15, 10-Carolyn Cullen, Woodbridge 21:16.

GROUP 3
TEAMS: 1-Ocean Township 30, 2-Madison Central 66, 3-North Hunterdon 88, 4-Raritan 132, 5-Hillsborough 150, 6-Walchung Hills 154, 7-Long Branch 211, 8-Colonia 211, 9-North Brunswick 229, 10-South Brunswick 231, 11-Cedar Ridge 240, 12-Matawan 364, 13-Hamilton North 381.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Megan Phillips, Ocean Township 20:29, 2-Caitlin Williams, Walchung Hills 20:20, 3-Kellie McInerney, Ocean Township 20:42, 4-Laure Meadows, Ocean Township 20:54, 5-Beth Crawford, Hunterdon Central 20:58, 6-Carnie McGourty, North Hunterdon 21:00, 7-Jill Walter, Hillsborough 21:03, 8-Lisa Marshall, Hillsborough 21:23, 9-Stacy Inzer, Raritan 21:28, 10-Jocelyn Harris, Franklin 21:30.

GROUP 2
TEAMS: 1-Wall 47, 2-Holmdel 82, 3-Somerville 85, 4-Ridge 91, 5-Voorhees 134, 6-Freehold Borough 172, 7-Delaware Valley 182, 8-Carteret 204, 9-Lawrence 210, 10-Manasquan 240, 11-Princeton 249.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Heather Perrine, Wall 20:14, 2-Amanda Melchiorre, Schalk 19:30, 3-Julie Bernick, Haddonfield 19:35, 4-Tiffany Gidy, Pitman 19:42, 5-Tracy Shanahan, Haddonfield 19:57, 7-Carrie O'Connor, Haddonfield 20:13, 8-Karyn Walsh, Paulsboro 21:03, 9-Karen Wilkes, Point Pleasant Beach 21:29, 10-Maabo Kludze, Maple Shade 21:41.

GROUP 1
TEAMS: 1-Bound Brook 42, 2-Rumson 106, 3-Montgomery 113, 4-Bernards 115, 5-Middletown 141, 6-Highland Park 146, 7-Kearnsburg 149, 8-Metuchen 153, 9-Henry Hudson 191, 10-Spoiswood 221, 11-Hoffman 303, 12-Kearny 329.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Joy Bashew, Metuchen 21:47, 2-Marina Mykyriok, Bound Brook 21:56, 3-Tammy Locklear, Bound Brook 22:11, 4-Erin Sullivan, Rumson 22:15, 5-Megan Jordan, Shore 22:16, 6-Lisa Anderson, Rumson 22:32, 7-Megan Bryer, Kearnsburg 22:54, 8-Suzanne Rooney, Montgomery 23:01, 9-Amanda Noblet, Montgomery 23:05, 10-Melissa Desho, Bound Brook 23:06.

SOUTH JERSEY GIRLS' GROUP 4
TEAMS: 1-Shawnee 33, 2-Brick 77, 3-Millville 93, 4-Toms River East 96, 5-Toms River North 150, 6-Vineland 172, 7-Jackson 188, 8-Eastern 2-7, 9-Cherokee 246, 10-Cherry Hill West 252.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Liz Moore, Shawnee 19:51, 2-Michelle Reo, Brick 18:24, 3-Stacy Pagliughi, Vineland 18:30, 4-Karen O'Neill, Shawnee 18:31, 5-Cassidy Whitaker, Shawnee 18:39, 6-Jamie Silva, Brick 18:54, 7-Noel Whittall, Toms River East 18:56, 8-Martha Rivera, Millville 19:00, 9-Elizabeth Banks, Millville 19:06, 10-Kelly Smith, Cherry Hill East 19:21.

GIRLS' GROUP 3
TEAMS: 1-Ocean City 41, 2-Manchester Township 69, 3-Bridgeton 86, 4-Mainland 104, 5-Lacey 143, 6-Absecon 155, 7-Toms River South 182, 8-Oakcrest 205, 9-Delesea 262, 10-Egg Harbor 277.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Megan Hartman, Ocean City 18:35, 2-Cathy McGuigan, Bridgeton 18:57, 3-Julie Schick, Mainland 19:15, 4-Kristen Duchy, Ocean City 19:34, 5-Caren Dapuzzo, Manchester Township 19:41, 6-Karen Geiger, Toms River South 19:43, 7-Kathleen McClusk, Lacey 19:46, 8-Theresa Miller, Bridgeton 19:50, 9-Almee Oppenheimer, Manchester Township 19:54, 10-Lorena Adams, Manchester Township 19:55.

GIRLS' GROUP 2
TEAMS: 1-Kingsway 43, 2-Woodstown 95, 3-Middle Township 98, 4-Northern Burlington 126, 5-Cinnaminson 134, 6-West Deptford 146, 7-Point Pleasant Boro 163, 8-Finlands 179, 9-Buena 191, 10-Haddon Township 209.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Colleen Sunderland, Northern Burlington 19:01, 2-Amy Beykrick, Pine lands 19:35, 3-April Rizzuto, Kingsway 20:23, 4-Holly Rizzuto, Kingsway 20:47, 5-Jamie Weisberger, Woodstown 20:59, 6-Ambler Hart, Point Pleasant Boro 21:02, 7-Michelle Kay, Kingsway 21:07, 8-Shannon O'Donnell, Haddon Township 21:09, 9-Kristy Gandy, Woodstown 21:13, 10-Katie Janas, Middle Township 21:28.

GIRLS' GROUP 1
TEAMS: 1-Windward 37, 2-Pitman 84, 3-Paulsboro 88, 4-P.A. Schalk 101, 5-Audubon 102, 6-Point Pleasant Beach 130, 7-Wildwood 145.