

# Freshmen lead Red Bank C to Parochial A girls' crown

By MIKE G. MORREALE

Just call them the fab five. Red Bank Catholic, led by freshmen Erin O'Rourke, Kerry Andrews, Maureen Maloney, Mara Maloney and Michelle Collins, ran away from the pack yesterday to give the Monmouth County school the NJSIAA Parochial A Cross-Country Championship at the state Group championships in Holmdel Park.

The 32-point victory over seventh-ranked Bishop Eustace sent Red Bank Catholic, No. 3 in The Star-Ledger Girls' Cross-Country Top 10, into Saturday's Meet of Champions at Holmdel Park.

The top three teams in each race qualified for the M of C along with the first 10 finishers not from the three qualifying clubs.

Other team champions were: No. 1 Shawnee triumphed in Group 4. No. 8 Ocean Township retained its Group 3 title. Ninth-ranked Northern Highlands was victorious in Group 2. Had-

donfield won in Group 1 and St. Rose was first in Parochial B.

"The girls run this course very well," offered fourth-year Red Bank Catholic coach Mary Banks, who witnessed her five freshmen place among the top 16 finishers. "They like to run in groups and stay together, which has certainly worked for them this season. I'm very fortunate to have such talented freshmen. We have a lot to look forward to."

Kari Vigerstol of Holy Cross, who won the Meet-of-Champions 1,600-meter run last spring and was second in the cross-country M of C last year, took the Parochial A race in 19:43, 10 seconds faster than Kourtney Gallo of Immaculate Heart.

Second-place Bishop Eustace benefitted from a 19th-place finish by Maria Gutowski, who beat Kim Reynolds of sixth-ranked Paul VI by 23 seconds in 21:28 to make the difference in her teams' 72-73 verdict over team from Haddonfield.

In Parochial B, Cathy O'Brien of Morris Catholic finished first in 20:26, followed by Maggie McDevitt of St. Rose in 20:39.

Heather Perrine and Tara Powers have given Wall a strong one-two punch all season. In the Central Jersey, Group 2 championship at Holmdel Park on Oct. 30, Perrine and Powers placed first and second in 20:14 and 20:21 to help Wall garner the team title with a 67-82 margin over Holmdel.

They did it again yesterday. This time, Perrine, a freshman, finished first in 19:44 and Powers, a senior, crossed the line in 19:54. However, Northern Highlands No. 9 in The Star-Ledger Girls' Cross-Country Top 10, with the Group 2 team title with 117 points, finished fifth behind Somerville at 130, Mendham at 154 and Kittatiny at 153.

Perrine, whose winning time was her best of the season, explained that swimming has helped in her initial cross-country season at Wall. "Swimming has helped

strengthen my legs and has given me great endurance for the cross-country season," said Perrine, who said she took control of the 3.1-mile race at the halfway mark. "I'm a member of the Central Jersey Aquatic Club, which competes at Monmouth College. I always swim a couple of days before a cross-country race; it gets me prepped for the run."

Powers is glad that Perrine has become such an important part of this year's squad. "She is such a competitor and because of that, it pushes me even harder in practices," offered Powers. "I had a feeling we would finish one-two at the midway point. The pack started to slow down at that point and we were determined to do it again."

The awaited Group 4 battle was won by senior Jenna Rogers of No. 2 Ridgewood, who led from start to finish, and crossed the line in 18:34. Junior Hazel Clark of Columbia, who finished fourth in 19:54, was slowed when she was unintentionally tripped heading into the final mile and a half.

"I was running pretty well and felt really confident, but the girl behind me hit the back of my foot and I lost my balance," recalled Clark. "Before the trip, I was in third. Fortunately I was able to regain my composure and finish fourth."

Shawnee, ranked 11th nationally by Harrier Magazine, had five runners among the top 16 to finish first in Group 4 with 39 points. Hunterdon Central, ranked fourth and No. 2 and defending champion Ridgewood, placed second and third. Hunterdon Central had four runners among the top 13 and Ridgewood had just one.

Tracy Pombo of Vernon, who finished 20th in 21:13, was allowed to advance into the Meet of Champions. Pombo was advised, incorrectly, to remove her running spikes prior to the start of the Group 4 race. Vernon coach Ray Morris protested the decision made by NJSIAA officials and, upon review by meet director Tony Chesney, Pombo was given a reprieve.

Megan Phillips of Ocean Township won Group 3 in 19:41, seven seconds better than Cathy Williams of Watchung Hills.

"The key for me was keeping my pace," said Phillips, a senior. "I usually start off slow and pick it up toward the latter stages of the race. I was in sixth place at the two-mile mark and it was at that point that I started to pick it up."

Riverside's Jennifer Rafferty took the Group 1 run in 19:58, 38 seconds better than defending champion Kerry Moore of Midland Park.

OFFERED: Group 1: 1-Katherine Saccoccia, Roselle Park 17:14. 4-Christi Ciolek, Essex Catholic 17:15. 5-Mike Lalonde, Pope John 17:20. 6-Mike Pagliughi, Sacred Heart 18:10. 7-Tom Diemar, Piny 18:44. 8-Jon Spages, DePaul 17:54. 9-Jim Fugini, Wildwood Catholic 18:01. 10-Jim Michalski, Pope John 17:28. 11-Eileen Dwyer, Morris Catholic 18:12. 12-Dan Krall, Pope John 18:24. 13-Steve Valentine, Pope John 18:34. 14-Gary Wynne, St. Rose 18:28. 15-Tony Bucco, Sacred Heart 18:29. 16-Andrew Biber, Newark Academy 18:32. 17-Jason Zaccaro, Mater Dei 18:35. 18-Krisha Knerr, Pope John 18:38. 19-Tim Langan, Pope John 18:44. 20-Vinnie Kunz, Pope John 18:45. 21-Adam Langan, Mater Dei 18:47. 22-Frank Pennell, Mater Dei 18:47. 23-Frank Pancari, Sacred Heart 18:49. 24-Brian Gomba, McCorsick 19:51.

TEAMS: 1-Christian Brother 24. 2-Paul VI 60. 3-Don Bosco Prep 73. 4-St. Joseph's (Met.) 132. 5-Farmus Catholic 217. 6-Queen Of Peace 219.

TEAMS: 1-Shawnee 29. 2-Hunterdon Central 54. 3-Ridgewood 88. 4-Brick 171. 5-Keary 194. 6-Toms River 19:51. 7-Columbia 216. 8-Middletown South 219. 9-Memorial (W.N.J.) 265. 10-Clifton 280. 11-Catawba 298. 12-Vernon 302. 13-Millville 350. 14-East Side 382. 15-Westfield 384. 16-Livingston 391. 17-Rumson 406.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Jenna Rogers, Ridgewood 18:34. 2-Karen O'Neil, Shawnee 19:28. 3-Liz Paulson, Hunterdon Central 20:22. 14-Tara Short, Middletown South 20:34. 15-Noel Whittall, Toms River East 20:36. 16-Joyce O'Neil, Shawnee 20:36. 17-Monique Nicholas, Columbia 20:40. 18-Lauren Stuhr, Ridgewood 20:40. 19-Alyson Lemke, Hunterdon North 20:41. 20-Kelly Smith, Cherry Hill East 20:42. 21-Valerie Banks, Millville 20:44. 29-Tracy Pombo, Vernon 21:13.

"Qualified after protest." GIRLS' GROUP 3 TEAMS: 1-Ocean Township 84. 2-Ocean City 104. 3-Wayne Valley 114. 4-North Hunterdon 154. 5-Madison Central 175. 6-Bridgton 198. 7-Manchester Township 201. 8-Ramsey 253. 9-Mt. Olive 262. 10-Raritan 282. 11-West Morris 289. 12-Mainland 302. 13-Lacey 302. 14-Hillsborough 346. 15-Bergenfield 360. 16-Phillipsburg 375. 17-Morris Knolls 420. 18-Fort Lee 421. 19-Rutherford 434. 20-Nutley 619.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Megan Phillips, Ocean Township 19:41. 2-Cathy Williams, Watchung Hills 19:48. 3-Jackie Coscia, Mt. Olive 19:55. 4-Cathy McGuigan, Bridgton 20:01. 5-Megan Harman, Ocean City 20:06. 6-Brooke Carney, Warren Hills 20:19. 7-Laura Meadows, Ocean Township 20:28. 8-Julie Schick, Wainand 20:25. 9-Lorena Adams, Manchester 20:28. 10-Caitlin Schrein, Passaic Valley 20:28. 11-Kathleen McClusky, Lacey 20:37. 12-Lisa Marshall, Hillsborough 20:40. 13-Amy Mizone, Wayne Valley 20:40. 14-Beth Crenshaw, Wayne Valley 20:43. 15-Lisa Nazarenko, Manchester 20:53. 16-Katlie McInerney, Manchester 20:55. 17-Kate Doyle, Morris 21:02. 18-Stacy Imler, Raritan 21:04. 19-Emily Lator, Tenafly 21:08. 20-Carrie McCourt, North Hunterdon 21:09.

TEAMS: 1-Northern Highlands 117. 2-Somerville 130. 3-Mendham 154. 4-Kittatiny 183. 5-Wall Township 171. 6-Kingwood 172. 7-Ridge 197. 8-Holmdel 199. 9-Voorhees 205. 10-Chatham 224. 11-Jefferson 245. 12-Woodstock 288. 13-Walkkill Valley 325. 14-Summit 326. 15-Westwood 341. 16-Middle Township 386. 17-Northern Burlington 389. 18-River Dell 400. 19-Cinnaminson 476.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Heather Perrine, Wall 19:44. 2-Tara Powers, Wall 19:54. 3-Tracy Calvin, Mendham 20:08. 4-Lauren Whitehead, Mendham 20:10. 5-Amy Beyrick, Pinebluffs 20:14. 6-Cara Madry, Sparta 20:14. 7-Jenn Reeder, Northern Highlands 20:34. 8-Sara Beaber, Lawrence 20:35. 9-Becca Raun, Ridge 20:43. 10-Meghan Ganey, Ridge 20:52. 11-Jaime Weisgerber, Woodstown 20:53. 12-Coleen Sundstrand, Northern Burlington 20:54. 13-Laura Wissolik, Chatham 21:03. 14-Kathleen Corrigan, Holmdel 21:08. 15-Mary Woods, Voorhees 21:09. 16-Kerri Black, Northern Highlands 21:09. 17-Sarah Foster, Princeton 21:13. 18-April Rizio, Kingsway 21:20.

TEAMS: 1-Haddonfield 99. 2-Midland Park 116. 3-Bound Brook 137. 4-Whippany Park 156. 5-Palmyra Park 167. 6-Berards 246. 7-Middlesex 248. 8-Boaga 257. 9-Rumson 260. 10-Kinnelon 277. 11-Boiler 278. 12-Cresskill 299. 13-Kristen LaFord, Boaga 21:13. 14-William Curran, Midland Park 21:33. 15-Jackie Adams, Paulsboro 21:38. 16-Tracy Shanahan, Haddonfield 21:41. 17-Tammy Lockner, Bound Brook 21:42. 18-Megan Jordan, Shore Regional 21:43. 19-Carrie O'Conno, Haddonfield 21:50. 20-Karen Kiers, Palisades Park 22:01. 21-Amy Hamerick, Midland Park 22:03. 22-Loree Lee-Butler 22:03. 23-Joy Gaslow, Melcher 22:05. 24-Kim Warner, Whippany Park 22:05. 25-Dani Struble, Butler 22:06. 26-Melissa DeNiro, Bound Brook 22:09.

TEAMS: 1-Ed Bank Catholic 48. 2-Bishop Eustace 72. 3-Paul VI 74. 4-St. Dominic 102. 5-Holy Cross 136. 6-Immaculate Heart 138. 7-St. John Vianney 144. 8-Holy Angels 247. 9-Immaculata 256. 10-Holy Spirit 262. 11-Queen of Peace 277. 12-Bishop Ahr 284. 13-Msgsr. Donovan 306.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Kari Vigerstol, Holy Cross 19:43. 2-Kourtney Gallo, Immaculate Heart 19:53. 3-Erin O'Rourke, Red Bank Catholic 19:55. 4-Kerry Andrews, Red Bank Catholic 20:00. 5-Kathleen Linck, Bishop Eustace 20:01. 6-Nora Campbell, St. Dominic 20:22. 7-Maureen Maloney, Red Bank Catholic 20:25. 8-Dorienne Huffman, Camden Catholic 20:29. 9-Michelle Dipolito, Holy Cross 20:35. 10-Michiko Kawasaki, Immaculate Heart 20:42. 11-Kelly Reynolds, Paul VI 20:54. 12-Maria Maloney, Red Bank Catholic 20:58. 13-Nikki Jenkins, Paul VI 21:00. 14-Danielle Rolick, Paul VI 21:04. 15-Roxanne Hughes, Bishop Eustace 21:05. 16-Michelle Collins, Red Bank Catholic 21:14. 17-Brian Ryan, Bishop Eustace 21:16. 18-Kathleen O'Malley, Paul VI 21:26. 19-Maria Gutowski, Bishop Eustace 21:28. 20-Liz Hertenck, Bishop Eustace 21:33. 21-Rita McCarthy, St. Dominic 21:45. 22-Kim Reynolds, Paul VI 21:51. 23-Sharon Whelan, St. Dominic 21:52. 24-Jerilyn Fratallone, Red Bank Catholic 21:55. 25-Christine Neston, St. Dominic 22:00. 26-Lean Sullivan, Holy Cross 22:02.

TEAMS: 1-St. Rose 52. 2-Morris Catholic 76. 3-Mater Dei 83. 4-Piny 88. 5-Pope John 106. 6-DePaul 107. 7-Sacred Heart 176. 8-Eastern Christian 214. 9-Wildwood Catholic 228.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Cathy O'Brien, Morris Catholic 20:26. 2-Maggie McDevitt, St. Rose 20:29. 3-Sara Tindall, Piny 21:11. 4-Maggie Ward, St. Rose 21:21. 5-Jenni LaLonde, Pope John 21:23. 6-Juan Sacco, Sacred Heart 21:26. 7-Jen Pilgram, Mater Dei 21:35. 8-Anna Maria Rigolo, DePaul 21:38. 9-Eileen Conn, DePaul 21:48. 10-Jessica Raccovero, Newark Academy 21:42. 11-Laura Kolarick, St. Rose 21:49. 12-Jen Lee, Piny 21:54. 13-Vicky Paladina, Morris Catholic 22:04. 14-Maria Nitto, Pope John 22:19. 15-Nicole Karatiza, Mater Dei 22:27. 16-Meredith Ruff, Morris Catholic 22:28. 17-Wynne Pei, Piny 22:29. 18-Beth Shuster, St. Rose 22:30. 19-Kate Cipriki, Morris Catholic 22:32. 20-Diane Zaccaro, Mater Dei 22:34. 21-Kathleen Dunn, St. Rose 22:43. 22-Shannon Jergens, Mater Dei 22:49.

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## Girls' X-c results



Morris Catholic's Kathy O'Brien (left) pulls away to early lead which she held all way to win Parochial B Girls Cross-Country State title in Holmdel yesterday