

Close win over Phila gives Dover harriers best record at 11-1

Both coaches agreed it was one of the biggest crowds they've ever seen at an area dual meet and one of the best performances they've ever witnessed.

"There were a couple hundred fans there and they saw a great meet," said Dover coach Steve Lenarz after his Tornadoes edged rival New Philadelphia 27-29 in a dual cross country meet at Kent State Tuscarawas Tuesday.

"There were more people there than I've seen at some big meets," added Quaker coach Jerry Dawson. "It was a good race from start to finish. We were still changing position in the last quarter-mile."

NEW PHILADELPHIA senior Dave Cox cruised across the finish line first in a course record time of 13 minutes flat. He broke the KSU campus mark of 13:22, which he had set earlier this year in a meet against Wooster.

"We had to take second and third place for a shot at them," Lenarz said, "and we did."

Dover freshman, Leroy Phillips, followed Cox across the line in 13:22 to tie the Phila runner's previous course standard, and Bill Lieser, another freshman, gave the Tornadoes a third with a 13:25 clocking.

Troy Jones came in fourth for the Quakers, then sophomore Ken Smith and junior Todd Wagner finished fifth and sixth before the hosts swept the final four spots in the top 10.

"Steve has done an excellent job at Dover," Dawson said of his coaching counterpart, who was a top runner for the Tornadoes in their only undefeated season (10-0) in 1970.

"We both figured it to be a

close meet and it was. We would like to have won, but we had a good season as far as I'm concerned," Dawson said of his Quakers, who finish regular season at 11-3.

DOVER, MEANWHILE, finishes with an 11-1 slate, the most wins ever and the best slate since Lenarz' senior year.

"It was a great meet," Lenarz repeated. "It wasn't decided until the last quarter. New Philadelphia has a fine team...that's why I'm so pleased to beat them."

It was Dover's first victory over New Philadelphia since winning a triangular with the Quakers and Perry in 1975. The Quakers won 15-50 and 19-39 in 1977 and 1978, the last time they met in duals. New Philadelphia finished ahead of Dover in four invitationals this season.

They meet again when New Philadelphia hosts the Cardinal Conference meet at the KSU course next Tuesday.

IN OTHER action, Claymont defeated Lakeland 26-29, although the latter school's Jim Pittis set a Claymont course record with a time of 14:24. The Mustangs are now 7-2 on the season while Lakeland suffered its second straight setback, dropping to 11-2.

Dover 27, New Phila 29

1. Dave Cox (NP) 13:00 (course record); 2. Leroy Phillips (D) 13:22; 3. Bill Leiser (D) 13:25; 4. Troy Jones (NP) 13:29; 5. Kenny Smith (D) 13:34; 6. Todd Wagner (D) 13:35; 7. Chuck Anslow (NP) 13:40; 8. Rick Gallagher (NP) 13:40; 9. Todd McClung (NP) 13:45; 10. Paul Pryor (NP) 13:49.

Claymont 26, Lakeland 29

1. Jim Pittis (L) 14:24 (course record); 2. Mark Albaugh (C) 14:40; 3. Mark Ferguson (C) 14:54; 4. Steve Barker (C) 14:55; 5. Matt Mallernee (L) 15:37; 6. Mike Dickey (L) 15:37; 7. Mike McMillen (L) 15:37; 8. Doug Zeigler (C) 15:47; 9. Bill Probert (C) 15:48; 10. Dave Dickey (L) 16:07.