

Cline, Larke also prevail

Claymont junior wins 'AA' discus

By MARK MASSARO
T-R Sports Writer

COLUMBUS — More than one cliché describes what Andy Pentecost, Lisa Cline and Karen Larke did at the state track and field meet here Friday.

When the going gets tough... rising to the occasion... meeting the pressure... they did it all.

What the trio had in common was winning individual state championships with personal best performances. Pentecost won the Class AA boys' discus, Cline the 'AA' girls' shot put and Larke the 'A' girls' high jump.

PENTECOST stunned his followers — and himself — when he threw the discus 180 feet, 2 inches. That's more than 16 feet better than his previous best. During the season, the Claymont junior regularly hit in the 150's, with 166 his only mark over 160.

According to Pentecost, throws in the 170's were common in practice sessions. But hitting one of those in a meet was his handicap.

"I was a basket case as a freshman and sophomore," said Claymont's first individual state track champion. "I would throw good in practice and do nothing in the meets. This year I came in with the attitude that I'm No. 1 and don't worry about anyone else."

IN HIS first preliminary throw, Pentecost recorded a 173-footer. Later, Bill Meridith of Perry launched one 175 feet, which got the husky Pentecost going.

"When he threw 175 I thought, 'nobody's going to snatch that away from him,'" he said. "But my head started tingling. Usually, I get weary when someone does that. This time I was different... I wanted it even more."

"I couldn't believe it," he said of his winning throw, which came on his second try in the prelims. "After I threw that, (the state record) was the only thing on my mind. When I came down here, I wanted to get at least in the top three, but then I thought, 'I didn't come this far to blow it now.'"

Pentecost was only 2 feet, 3 inches shy of the state record of 182-5 set in 1980 by Jon Cole of Hillsboro.

CLINE'S accomplishment was very similar to Pentecost's. The West Holmes junior threw 41-10 $\frac{3}{4}$ to win the shot put — 3 feet, 4 $\frac{3}{4}$

inches better than her previous best.

"I came down here last year and placed 11th," she said. "This year I thought I'd get in the top six, and next year win it. This must be my year."

Indeed. This past winter, Cline led West Holmes to the Class AA girls' state basketball championship and was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

"I just practiced hard this week," she added. "For three days I threw everything I could."

As much of a thrill as it was for Cline, it was that much of a disappointment for Sandy Valley's Beth Manson.

THE SENIOR came in with the best throw of all the finalists at 40-8, which she equalled yesterday for a third-place finish. Graciela Howell of Columbus East was second at 41-5 $\frac{1}{2}$.

"I was just hoping for 'better,'" said the Ashland College-bound Manson. "I was just so nervous. I was thinking about it too much. When you start thinking, you get in trouble."

River View's Beth Wesney placed ninth overall at 37-2.

MALVERN'S Larke set a meet record of 5-7 in winning the high jump, equalling her best jump of the season. A year ago, she finished second in the state.

"This was my goal this year," said Larke, a senior. "I came down here to do my best."

Newcomerstown's Rhonda Baker failed to place in the Class A high jump.

In other field event finals Friday, Indian Valley North's Jody Kerns was seventh in the Class A shot put at 35-7 $\frac{1}{4}$. Ridgewood's Diane Croy dropped out of the 'AA' high jump at 5-2, six inches off the winning height.

In the boys' 'AA' high jump, Ridgewood's Todd King and Claymont's Kevin Stewart both went by the wayside at 6-2, also six inches off the winning jump. Central Catholic's Joe Lawless was 15th in the 'A' shot put at 47-4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Tusky Valley's Mark Mansill failed to make the 'AA' discus finals with a toss of 155 feet.

ONLY TWO athletes from *The Times-Reporter* area advanced out of Friday's running preliminaries. Dover's Bryan Miller won his heat in the 'AA' 100 at 11.32 seconds, which was fifth-best overall. The top time was 10.93.

North's 800 relay team of Jessie Metzger, Terry Benadum, Carmen Searcy and Becki Schoelles placed second in its heat in 1:46.7, tied for second overall. The winning time was 1:46.3.

Schoelles also ran in three other events yesterday, within an hour and 40 minutes of each other. She placed seventh in her heat of the



CLINE



LARKE



T-R/Jim Celuch

DAN HURST (L) HANDS OFF TO TEAMMATE JEFF MARGLETTA Dover failed to advance in 400-meter relay Friday

From B-3 . . .

Area athletes shine at state

100 (13.05), eighth in the 200 (27.96) and sixth with the 400 relay squad (52.06).

seventh in its heat and 13th best overall at 44.77 seconds.

In the 'A' 400 relay, Strasburg's unit of Chip Long, John Farthing, Mike Warinner and Tim Zeigler was sixth in its heat at 44.94.

The Dover 1,600 relay squad of John Feutz, John Craig, Hurst and Arbogast placed eighth at 3:33. In the 'A' 1,600 relay, Garaway's Conrad Miller, Jim Hershberger,

Ron Klein and Devon Werker were sixth at 3:31.9, while Strasburg did not finish its heat when Ray Haswell had the baton knocked out of his hand on the third leg.

In the 'AA' 200, Cadiz sophomore Eric Peterson was seventh in his heat at 22.92. Central Catholic's Dean Siciliano was fifth in his 'A' 300 hurdles heat at 39.47.

AFTER THE grueling schedule, Schoelles said: "I feel okay, except for behind my knee. I pulled a hamstring Monday.

"It's really not a factor," she added about her schedule. "I had more time to rest here than at the Inter-Valley Conference meet or the regional."

Also in the Class A 800 relay, Malvern's team of Tricia Knapp, Kelly Larke, Hope Brown, Deb Gascon placed sixth in its heat at 1:51.2.

In the 'AAA' 300 hurdles, Carrollton's Kathie Frase was eighth in her heat at 47.6. And River View's Jonalee Hagans placed eighth in her 400 heat at 1:01.8. Only the top four in each heat advanced to the finals today.

DOVER'S 400 relay team of Greg Arbogast, Dan Hurst, Jeff Margletta and Chris Mills was