

# Shawnee steals the show

By Reuben Frank  
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EVESHAM — This day, no question, belonged to Shawnee. No matter what happened before or what happens next, no matter who was there and who was on their class trip, this day belonged to the Renegades.

It belonged to junior Ed Loges, who be-

## DIVISION BOYS

came the first athlete to sweep the 100, 200 and long jump in the Liberty Division meet since a guy named Carl 13 years ago.

It belonged to senior Rick VanEmburgh, who ran the seventh-fastest intermediate hurdles in Burlington County history.

It belonged to junior Chris Tarello, who ran the fastest 800 meters since this meet went metric in 1980.

"I thought we'd win, because Willingboro didn't have a full team here," Shawnee track coach Tim Gushue said. "But some of the performances we got, there's no way I could've expected them. It's really exciting."

Shawnee, which could be the second-best Group 4 school in both New Jersey and the Liberty Division, won its second straight Liberty Division meet yesterday, outscoring Willingboro, 86-55.

Willingboro, three-time defending state champs, competed without many of its seniors, now on their annual division meet-weekend trip to Florida.

In the Freedom, Delran became the fourth school in as many years to win the team title. The Bears, who need one more dual to clinch the regular-season title, outscored Moorestown, 57-39½.

Shawnee won its second Liberty meet in a row, a year after beating another under-manned Willingboro team by 10 points.

"We knew they didn't have their whole team here," VanEmburgh said. "We just wanted to beat them by a sizable amount. We had to get some revenge for them beating us in the dual meet."

Two weeks ago, Shawnee produced the greatest challenge yet to Willingboro's 160-meet winning streak, scoring 59 points (66 wins a dual). But outscoring Willingboro's second-line people sure beats not winning at all.

"They have the tradition and we're trying to build a tradition," said Eric Espeseth, who ran a personal-best 50.3 leg on Shawnee's winning relay team.

"They're one of the reasons we all do so well," Loges added. "It's us and Willingboro just about every weekend. It's a friendly competition, but we don't like to lose to them."

The Boro was without All-America sprinter Lamont Smith, along with weight standout Jason Roberts, hurdler Gene Barnes, and high jumper Elliott Boyce, to name a few. But that doesn't take anything away from Shawnee's performance.

Please see SHAWNEE/C3

# Shawnee boys are led by Loges

■ SHAWNEE/From C1

"Same as last year," VanEmburgh said. "It just went down to the last couple hurdles. I knew he was gaining on me, I had to drive those last couple hurdles and try to hold on. He was right there."

VanEmburgh, who ran 54.47 at the Penn Relays, moved into seventh on the all-time county list.

Morris took over eighth on the same list. He also PR'd in the high hurdles (14.1), out-leaned by Willingboro's Chris Nichols; took third in the long jump (21-4¾); and ran a 49.7 relay leg.

Shawnee's Tarello was the third member of Shawnee's record-breaking troika. He won the 800 in 1:56.3, snapping the meet record of 1:57.1 by Shawnee's Jim Brooks five years ago. The overall two-lap meet record is held by Pemberton's

"It's nice winning a meet like this that we haven't won in a long time," Fisher said.

Cherokee junior Tommy Knight had a fine meet, clocking 10.8 and 22.5 for second in both Liberty sprints ... Willingboro's Douglas added a 49.5 400 win to his fast 800 ... Holy Cross's Will Carter won his second straight shot put title with the meet's longest throw in 10 years (54-2½) ... Bordentown senior James Wright tied the meet 400 record with a 50.7 and was also third in the 800 in 2:04.0. (The meet record for the 440 is 49.1 by Palmyra's Brian Grimes. That converts to 48.9 for 400) ... Riverside's Ron Brock doubled for the second straight year, winning the Freedom 800 and 1,600.

"All these guys are very goal-oriented," Gushue said. "The thing is, it's great to set goals. But to do the work it takes to achieve them, for high school kids, sometimes that's another story. These kids have really gone after their goals."

Loges ran the fifth-fastest 100-meter dash in county history, winning in 10.7 to tie the meet record. Loges also won the 200 (22.4) and long jump (22-2¾) in impressive fashion.

"I'm happy with what I did," said Loges, who won the 100 last year in 11.5. "I wasn't expecting to go 10.7 in the 100, but I'll take it."

This is a comparison that probably shouldn't be made, but the last Liberty Division athlete to win the sprint-long jump triple was Willingboro's Carl Lewis, who as a junior in 1978 won the 100-yard dash in 10.0, the 220 in 22.2 and the long jump at 21-6¼.

"Each one of us is looking to go as far as possible this year," Loges said. "We're not done yet. We know we're all capable and we're all getting better."

"One of the nice things about our team is how we push each other. Everybody's always trying to beat everybody else. But it brings us together as a group. We're all friends and we're all behind each other all the time."

In the 400 hurdles, VanEmburgh and Rancocas Valley's Dan Morris locked up in one of the fastest intermediate races in county history. Last year, Morris outleaned VanEmburgh to win in 56.8. Yesterday, VanEmburgh won in a meet-record 54.0 with Morris a step behind in 54.1, also below the former meet record.

Tavo Rivera, who in 1977 ran 1:55.6, which converts to 1:54.9 for the slightly shorter 800.

"My time just keeps dropping every race, which is encouraging," said Tarello, whose previous PR was 1:57.8. "Keith (teammate O'Brien) and I were hoping to go 1-2, but the Lenape and Holy Cross guys (Clayton Baloché and Ray Storke) took it out and Keith never got out there."

Baloché, a junior, was second in 1:57.4, with Willingboro's Rob Douglas (1:57.4) and Storke (1:58.9) also cracking 1:59.

"I can't wait to run against Cliff Beckford (a 1:54.3 half-miler from Vineland)," Tarello said. "He'll be able to give me a real good test. I'm looking forward to going even faster this year."

Shawnee also got wins from sophs Jason LaBarbera (discus, javelin) and Aaron Totten-Lancaster (3,200) and juniors O'Brien (1,600) and Mike Ragan (pole vault).

"The way we look at it, the season starts today," VanEmburgh said. "Nobody remembers what you do in dual meets or the Penn Relays. Just what you do in the championship meets."

Delran, which beat Moorestown by 49 points in a key dual meet last week, had a tougher time yesterday.

"It wasn't as easy," coach Lou Stichel said. "We were a little flat and we weren't at the emotional level we were at last week. But we pulled through."

Darrell Parker (100, 200) and Andre Fisher (high jump, javelin) doubled for Delran, which last won the Freedom meet in 1982. Sean Duff and brother Bill Duff went 1-2 in the shot.