

# Rider soars to 2nd league title

By HARVEY YAVENER  
Staff Writer

## NEC TRACK

**LAWRENCE** — Another Northeast Conference men's track title had been secured long before the closing mile relay, giving Rider coach Ed Roskiewicz the luxury of offering any of his foursome the chance to sit out the race here yesterday.

Each insisted on running his leg, and to epitomize the day, the Broncs men ran off and hid from their rivals, breaking the meet mark by more than three seconds.

There are no more questions. Rider, which came into the NEC three years ago with hopes of challenging perennial champion Fairleigh Dickinson, has supplanted the Knights as the premier program. Two indoor championships in three years and, now, runaway back-to-back outdoor titles leave no doubt who's king of the hill.

It was Rider with 160 points, with FDU and Mount St. Mary's tied for second with 100. In women's competition, a young Mount St. Mary's team unseated FDU, 163 points to 139, but watch for Rider in a couple of years. The fledgling Bronc program has "signed seven women for next year who can score in this meet and we hope to get four or five more," Roskiewicz said.

"I'M REALLY happy with the way our guys performed," said Roskiewicz, "top to bottom. All the kids came through. Runners, jumpers, throwers. Everyone went after it."

The windup relay was the whipped cream on top. Jose Lopez, in his final race at home after breaking the NEC 400-meter hurdle mark earlier in the day despite a strong wind that threw off his steps, used his long stride to break the relay open on the first leg. Chris Tarello and Marc McKithen, who were contributors all day, widened the lead.

and then it was soph Bruce Johnson, hamstrings sore from winning both the 200 and 400-meter races, who flew around the track to bring it home in 3:13.84, shattering FDU's 1992 mark of 3:17.20.

"They all insisted on running," said Roskiewicz.

Frustration was erased for the Bronc foursome, which a week before had romped in their 10-school qualifier at Penn Relays, and with a sub-3:10 effort in their sights in the IC4A championship, had to withdraw because of an illness.

"Wait until IC4As," vowed Johnson, "we'll break 3:10 there."

A YEAR ago, as a freshman, he was uncertain of his roles. Yesterday, the Woodrow Wilson High graduate went out and took charge, winning the day's best race, the 200, in a photo finish as he battled the wind and a good field to the wire.

Still, the most-memorable performance was turned in by Lopez, the only senior scorer, as the Broncs return everyone else next year.

The defending intermediate hurdles champion was challenged by Monmouth's versatile Jason Fennes, who won the meet's outstanding performer award. Fennes, a junior, was quoted in a statewide newspaper to the effect, "I'll get him (Lopez). Now it my turn to win. My finish is stronger."

"Everyone kept telling me about the article," said Lopez, "but I didn't see it. I don't look for those things or talk to rivals. I just went out to run the way I can, even with conditions as tough as they were."

THE 1994 NCAA qualifier blasted out quickly, opened the lead for half a race, fought for his strides, and saw Fennes close in as they came to the final hurdle. The Bronc seemed to look at his foe with disdain as he



Rider's Bruce Johnson, left, and Mark McKithen celebrate their performances in the 400 meters. McKithen was first and Johnson second.

comfortably coasted in for a meet mark of 52.05, more than a second ahead of his record set last year. Fennes also broke the mark in 52.33.

"I've two big races now to qualify for NCAA," said Lopez, "at George Mason and then the IC4A. I'll get it. I'm stronger and faster than ever. I plan to keep running a couple of more years."

A bigger date comes first. Graduation is Friday.

"A lot of people back home (West New York) predicted I'd never graduate college," said Lopez, a business administration major, "but I made it. First in my family to be a college graduate. It's a goal I had. It's important and a thing of pride."

He also hopes to coach as part of his future. But first comes his bid to get back to the NCAA.

"It will be hard," Lopez said, "but life's always made things hard for me. The nice thing is, by hard work, I've had my share of success."

the two-day meet, taking eight firsts and four seconds. Besides Johnson's double, Lopez' sweet win and the relay victory, there were firsts from Ron Brock in the steeplechase, Adam Slaninko in the shot, Rob Bonafonte in the discus and Aaron Finley in the triple jump.

"My hamstrings were bothering me," said Finley, a junior from Teaneck, "but that 49-7 today was a meet record and my best ever. Now, I'll go after the school record, which is 51-3. I'm sure I can get it. Maybe at ICs. It's time to fly."

Why not? All the Broncs are soaring.

**MEN'S TEAM SCORES:** Rider (RU) 160, Mount St. Mary's (MSM) 100, Fairleigh Dickinson (F) 100, Monmouth (MU) 66, St. Francis, N.Y. (SN) 58, Marist (MC) 28, Robert Morris (RM) 24, Long Island (LI) 23, St. Francis, Pa. (SP) 16, Wagner (W) 13.

**Yesterday's Results:**  
100— 1. Gary Gooden (SN) 10.84; 2. Zolden Eastwood (L) 10.86; 3. Bernardo Phipps (SN) 10.89.  
200— 1. Bruce Johnson (RU) 21.98; 2. Gary Gooden (SN) 22.02; 3. Bernardo Phipps (SN) 22.11; 5. Marc McKithen (RU) 22.34.  
400— 1. Bruce Johnson (RU) 47.86; 2. Marc McKithen (RU) 47.90; 3. Andrew Hopkins (W) 48.48.  
800— 1. Jim Stevenson (MSM) 1:51.30; 2. Moses Mekbebe (F) 1:53.0; 3. Chris Tarello (RU) 1:54.4.  
1,500— 1. Moses Mekbebe (F) 4:05.04; 2.

4:06.82; 4. Mark Lampert (RU) 4:08.11.  
3,000 Sprint— 1. Ron Brock (RU) 9:35.05; 2. Pat Hennis (F) 9:44.55; 3. Andrew Baird (MC) 9:45.68.  
5,000— Bernard Kilur (MSM) 15:24.01; 2. Pat Hennigan 15:35.68; 3. Jesse Breeden (RU) 15:38.18.

**110 Hurdles**— 1. Doug Haynesworth (F) 14.38; Jason Fennes (MU) 14.85; 3. Gary Gooden (L) 14.86; 6. Dean Kaliakmanis (RU) 16.25.  
**400 Hurdles**— 1. Jose Lopez (RU) 52.05; 2. Jason Fennes (MU) 52.33; 3. Jim Angermeier (MU) 54.16; 5. D. Kaliakmanis (RU) 56.45.  
**4x100 Relay**— 1. Mount St. Mary's 42.42; 2. FDU 42.48; 3. St. Francis, N.Y. 42.56; 5. Rider 43.22.  
**4x400 Relay**— 1. Rider 3:13.2; 2. FDU 3:17.91; 3. Mount St. Mary's 3:18.40.  
**Triple Jump**— 1. Aaron Finley (RU) 15.11 meters; 2. C. Hunt (RM) 14.75; 3. Kyle Brown (L) 14.36; 6. Gary Moore (RU) 13.22.  
**Discus**— 1. Rob Bonafonte (F) 45.60 meters; 2. Randy Edney (MSM) 44.76; Adam Slaninko (RU) 44.56.  
**Pole Vault**— 1. Eddi Toby (MSM) 4.35 meters; 2. Frank Martinez (F) 4.20; 3. Scott Bogner (RU) 4.20.

**WOMEN'S TEAM SCORES:** Mount St. Mary's 163, FDU 139, Wagner 84, St. Francis, N.Y. Monmouth 34, Rider 26, LIU 19, St. Francis, Pa. Marist 13, Robert Morris 7.

**Yesterday's results:**  
100— 1. Mekka Richardson (MSM) 12.33; 5. T.J. Jackson (RU) 12.92.  
200— 1. Sharline White 25.14.  
400— 1. Lisa Kaiser (MSM) 58.23.  
800— Heather Moul (MSM) 2:19.09.  
1,500— 1. Robin Kilur (MSM) 4:52.54.  
3,000— 1. Rebecca Wass (MSM) 10:49.33.  
100 Hurdles— 1. Natwon Harp 14.12.  
400 Hurdles— 1. Aisha Stevens (MSM) 1:02.  
4x100— 1. FDU 48.45.  
4x400— 1. Mount St. Mary's 3:57.05.  
High Jump— 1. Michelle Herring (F) 1.57 meters; 2. Jen Molinelli (RU) 1.58.  
Triple Jump— Donise Moore (F) 12.32 meters; 3. Jen Hettell (F) 10.54.  
Discus— 1. Frances Smith (F) 37.92 meters; Karen Steiner (RU) 28.50.  
Javelin— 1. Nieri C. (F) 32.90 meters.

**Outstanding Performers:** Men— Jason Fennes Monmouth, Women— Donise Moore, FDU. **Coach of the Year:** Men— Ed Roskiewicz, Rider, Women—

# Three S.J. athletes contribute to Rider

**R**ider University had a fine outdoor track season in which it won the Northeast Conference championship, thanks to some momentum provided by three athletes from South Jersey.

Sophomore sprinter **Bruce Johnson** (Woodrow Wilson), junior sprinter **Chris Tarello** (Shawnee) and junior distance runner **Ron Brock** (Riverside) were prominent in the Broncs' success.

Johnson, who helped Rider take the NEC Indoor Championship, won two individual gold medals in the outdoors, taking the 200 meters in 21.98 seconds and the 400 meters in 47.86. He anchored the championship 4x400 relay team for which Tarello ran the second leg.

When the Broncs' mile relay team finished second by three-tenths of a second to George Mason in the IC4A championships with a Rider-record 3:08.20, it was Johnson who anchored with a 46.6 split and Tarello who ran the second leg in a personal best 47.3. It was the third time this season they broke the school's mile relay record, and second time in two days. In the qualifying heats, they did a 3:10.

In the NEC championships, Tarello placed

third in the 800 meters with a time of 1:54.4. He also won 400 meters (48.3) when Rider finished second in the New Jersey Collegiate Championships. Johnson contributed a silver in the 200 meters on a 21.98 sprint in the NJCCs.

Tarello's top individual accomplishment came in the Sea Ray Relays at Tennessee when he broke the Rider record for the 800 meters (1:51.22) and contributed the second leg to the 3:12.42 mark the Broncs 4x400 quartet established.

Meanwhile, Brock also was doing his share, winning a second straight NEC 3,000-meter steeplechase championship when he posted a 9:35.05.

Tarello and Johnson earned All-East honors for the accomplishments. . . .

**Ted Callinan** (Gloucester Catholic) picked up Division III All-American recognition when he



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finished eighth overall in the NCAA 1,500 meters championships. The Brandies junior ran the 1,500 in 4:00.39 minutes in 40-degree temperatures during the finals at Carlton College in Northfield, Minn.

In the preliminaries, where he finished fourth in his heat, Callinan ran a 3:56.77. He had qualified for the event for the second straight year with a 3:54.01. In the University Athletic Association outdoor championships in April, Callinan took second places in both the 1,500 and 5,000 meter races. . . .

Freshman **Kevin Ryan** (Bishop Eustace) went into the Dickinson record books with the college's distance medley relay team, which set the new standard of 10:46.75 minutes in the Mason-Dixon Invitational. Ryan also had the team's best 400-meter dash time of 53.88 in the Centennial Conference Championships. In the 800 meters, he had a 2:05.10 in a tri-meet. . . .

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# tribute to Rider's success

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hurdles and a 51.1 split in the 4x400 relay. Nettleton covered the 800 meters in 2:04.8 and ran a 57.1 leg with the 4x400 relayers. Fudala had a 57.5 in the 400-meter hurdles and a 53.6 split in the 4x400.

## Women's Track

**April Brown** (Lenape) highlighted her freshman season at Ursinus by setting a Centennial Conference record for the discus with a throw of 117 feet, 5 inches to place first in the conference championships. She also took fourth place in the shotput at 31 feet.

## Lacrosse

**J.T. Thurber** (Bishop Eustace) was presented Dickinson College's John J. Buonocore Award as the the Red Devils' top defensive player. With Dickinson finishing 2-10, the junior defender's 55 ground balls ranked third on the team. He also had an assist.

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**Jack Carty's Jackstraws column for the Courier-Post features items of local sports interest.**

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