Holloman, Carmichael exce

By PAUL SCHWARTZ Correspondent

HACKENSACK - In two weeks, runners from all over New Jersey will converge on Princeton's Jadwin Gym for the annual State indoor championships, the climax to the winter track season.

Saturday's Ridgewood Winter Games I, postponed from earlier in the month, gave Kathy Holloman of Passaic and Nicole Carmichael of Kennedy a chance to get a little closer to the form they hope will earn them Group 4 State titles on Feb. 13.

"I have to work on my arms more," said Holloman, who ran 8.2 for the 55-meter high hurdles to defeat Patty Glynn of Pearl River in a very good field. "I had a bad start in the trials but in the finals I got it going a little better."

"This is the time of the year I'm looking forward to," said Holloman, who is considering Manhat-

tan, Connecticut, and Fairleigh Dickinson. "The States and the Easterns in Boston. They're both races I can do well in."

Carmichael, who won the 55meter dash in 7.4 over Hudson County champ Denise Clarke of North Bergen, is also trying to improve her start.

"I'm a slow starter in almost every race," said Carmichael, who also took fourth in the 400 in a career-best 62.9. "I'm working on lots of different starting drills and I think if I practice every day and do what I'm supposed to do, I have a chance at the States.'

Ridgewood's 4x400 girls relay has more modest goals, to be the best relay team in Bergen County. And the team of Gizele Watson, Vanessa McDermott, Kate Brunner, and Melissa Gilbert took a step in the right direction running 4:16.8 to easily win the relay. It was the fastest time by a Bergen County school this year.

"That's what we were going for today," said Gilbert, who anchored the win in 62.5 after finishing second in the open 400 in 62.2. "We didn't know how well Hackensack had run until we saw it in the paper and that got us motivated.

Gilbert couldn't quite catch TharaJeanty of Albertus Magnus in the open quarter, coming up a yard short after laying back on the first of the two-lap race.

"I let her get away a little too much and I should have made my move earlier," said Gilbert. "That's why I wanted to run well in the relay. I really enjoy the relay because I love competing with my teammates."

Holloman, Carmichael, and the Ridgewood relay team were the only winners, but not the only top area performers at the meet.

Chris Hall of Teaneck took second to Kokia Shanks of Weequahic in a seasonal-best 51.3 in the 400 and then his sizzling 50.7 anchor leg almost caught New Providence's Kevin Bowman in the 4x400 relay.

Stephanie Doyle of Ridgewood was disappointed with her secondplace finish in the 1,600, behind Jessica King of Glen Ridge, but when she found out her time was 5:27.4, she brightened consider-

ably.
"That's six seconds faster than
"said the talent-I've run this year," said the talent-ed sophomore. "Now I feel a lot better."

Doyle also helped the Ridgewood 4x800 team to a fine 10:05.9 clocking for a second, without two usual legs, Lauren Stuhr and Jenna Rogers.

Courtney Beckles of Kennedy was second in the boys hurdles.