

Sedo takes fourth; Fraser leads Passaic

By ANTHONY PINCIARO
Correspondent

RIDGEWOOD — Ridgewood junior Celeste Sedo was taking her PSATs on Saturday morning while listening to the wind and rain whip about.

A few hours later, Sedo and other cross-country runners would be slogging through the mud at Veterans Field in the Ridgewood Invitational.

Despite the hard, driving rain and overall miserable conditions, Sedo finished fourth overall and third in the girls Varsity B bracket in 20 minutes, 42 seconds, tops among Bergen County girls. Lodi's Luis Duarte was the top male finisher in boys Varsity B, placing seventh in 18:07.

Washingtonville, N.Y., swept the boys and girls Varsity B races with Ridgewood placing third in both. St. John Vianney won the girls Varsity A race with 59 points, while Dumont was third with 80. Jefferson Township took the boys Varsity A division and Dumont finished fifth.

"We looked carefully at the weather and the reports called for it to get worse after 3 p.m., so we thought we'd push it up," Ridgewood coach Jacob Brown said.

Ridgewood senior Kate Cohn ran 21:31 to finish 10th, and classmate Carrie Ruggles was 13th in 21:45. Will Byrne was the top Ridgewood runner, posting a 19:01 to finish 15th.

Puddles lined the 3.1-mile course from the grass to the blacktop, which left runners caked in mud.

"At last year's State sectionals at Darlington it was like hurricane conditions, but these are the worst conditions," Sedo

CROSS-COUNTRY

said. "When I got here I didn't see the course, but when I was warming up I heard runners talking about how bad it was. I didn't know what to expect."

Duarte went one step farther.

"There was a lot of mud," he said. "I was falling into it. It was coming up to my ankles. I felt like I was carrying extra pounds each time."

Each runner had his or her tribulations.

"I was sinking in the mud and then I fell toward the end of the race in the forest," Sedo said. "I was in shock that I fell."

Duarte took a wrong turn late in race, but recovered quickly.

"I wear glasses, but not during the race, and I couldn't see how far ahead of me the guy was," he said. "The course was confusing. Everyone was having problems, especially in the beginning."

Dumont's Mary Thomas finished ninth in girls Varsity A in 22:28, with 11th place claimed by teammate Helena Brady (22:48).

Dana Brintz of Immaculate Heart Academy ran 21:28 to place ninth in girls Varsity B.

Fraser leads Passaic

Bernard Fraser ran 17:22, leading Passaic to the William Paterson Invitational championship. Juan Martinez placed fourth, Rudy Ulhoa was eighth, and Natesh Patel ninth for Passaic. Greg Beck of Parsippany was second in 17:24.



DON SMITH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Saddle Brook's Lucia Gervasio nears finish line at the Ridgewood Invitational.

Clifton placed five runners in the top 10, led by runner-up Chanise Stoute, who ran 22:14 to take the girls title. Kinnelon's Sabita Itoop won the race, clocking a 21:52.

Summaries on S-23

Ridgewood Invitational

At Veterans Field, Ridgewood

BOYS VARSITY A TEAM SCORES

1. Jefferson Township 36; 2. Goshen (N.Y.) 39; 3. Cornwall (N.Y.) 83; 4. Horace Mann (N.Y.) 93; 5. Dumont 176.

- Walker, Goshen 17:17.
- Mike Sikorski, Jefferson 17:19.
- Adam Van Antwerp, Jefferson 17:41.
- Jonathan Gill, Eldred (N.Y.) 17:51.
- St. Lawrence, Goshen 17:54.
- J.B. Russo, Goshen 18:08.
- Brian Christ, Jefferson 18:10.
- Kory Kilemac, Cornwall 18:15.
- Tim Ford, Jefferson 18:23.
- Darrell Goldsmith, Cornwall 18:35.
- Takeda, Horace Mann 18:38.
- Mike Moran, Cornwall 18:41.
- Rich Friedrich, Cornwall 18:47.
- Frank Zeccola, Goshen 19:07.
- Jason Strauch 19:12.

GIRLS VARSITY A TEAM SCORES

1. St. John Vianney 59; 2. Jefferson Township 65; 3. Dumont 80.

- Jillian Hancock, Jefferson 20:14.
- Kim Hyde, Jefferson 20:49.
- Brianne Hegedus, Eldred (N.Y.) 21:04.
- Megan Bruo, St. John Vianney 21:28.
- Danielle Dochiplanti, Eldred 21:36.
- Aminda Brundage, Eldred 21:38.
- Kim Wittlieb, St. John Vianney 21:50.
- Lisa Greene, Jefferson 22:23.
- Mary Thomas, Dumont 22:28.
- Sara Hale, Jefferson 22:37.
- Helena Brady, Dumont 22:48.
- Erin Hyland, Cornwall (N.Y.) 22:55.
- Kristen Kukkonen, Cornwall 22:58.
- Rose Duane, St. John Vianney 23:11.
- Karen Decna, St. John Vianney 23:41.

BOYS VARSITY B TEAM SCORES

1. Washingtonville (N.Y.) 20; 2. Vernon 38; 3. Ridgewood 91; 4. Pope John 109; 5. Cliffside Park 152.

- Dave Stuart, Washingtonville 17:38.3.
- John Fitzgerald, Washingtonville 17:38.5.
- Manuel Thomas, Washingtonville 17:39.
- Jeff McGovern, Washingtonville 17:39.
- John Warren, Vernon 17:48.
- Matt Stewart, Vernon 18:04.
- Luis Duarte, Lodi 18:07.
- Adam Kmiec, Vernon 18:41.
- John Bingaman, Vernon 18:42.
- Bill Carroll, Washingtonville 18:44.
- Travis Yehalz, Washingtonville 18:48.
- Clint Carlson, Vernon 18:48.
- Tim Kramer, Washingtonville 18:50.
- M. Zappille, Pope John 18:58.
- Will Byrne, Ridgewood 19:01.

GIRLS VARSITY B TEAM SCORES

1. Washingtonville (N.Y.) 35; 2. Warwick Valley (N.Y.) 52; 3. Ridgewood 63; 4. Pope John 114; 5. Immaculate Heart Academy 124; 6. Cliffside Park 204.

- Val Beyers, Washingtonville 20:13.
- M. Nitto, Pope John 20:25.
- Celeste Sedo, Ridgewood 20:42.
- Katie Carroll, Washingtonville 20:45.
- Laura Martin, Warwick Valley 20:50.
- Danelle Revell, Washingtonville 21:06.
- Erin Williams, Warwick Valley 21:13.
- Megan Roeder, Washingtonville 21:17.
- Dana Brintz, IHA 21:28.
- Kate Cohn, Ridgewood 21:31.
- Meg Cleary, Warwick Valley 21:33.
- Karina Acevedo, Middletown (N.Y.) 21:35.
- Carrie Ruggles, Ridgewood 21:45.
- Nina Louisot, Warwick Valley 21:50.
- Meg Ahearn, Warwick Valley 21:57.

CROSS-COUNTRY

William Paterson Invitational

BOYS TEAM SCORES

Passaic 29, Kinnelon 77, Clifton 82, Parsippany 123, Kennedy 174, Belleville 183, St. Benedict's 205, Good Counsel 205.

- Bernard Fraser, Passaic 17:22.
- Greg Beck, Parsippany 17:24.
- Joshua Maarleveld, Hoboken 18:21.
- Eric Prol, Kinnelon 18:28.
- Juan Martinez, Passaic 18:37.
- Matt Erzkowicz, Passaic 18:42.
- Phillip Aiello, Clifton 18:46.
- Rudy Ulhoa, Passaic 18:50.
- Natesh Patel, Passaic 18:52.
- Joseph Pontes, Clifton 18:53.

First freshman finisher — Flonsdale Brown, St. Benedict's, 19:34.

GIRLS TEAM SCORES

Clifton 28, Hoboken 77.

* Kinnelon, Belleville, Parsippany, Parsippany Hills did not run complete teams.

- Sabita Itoop, Kinnelon 21:52.
- Chanise Stoute, Clifton 22:14.
- Michelle Ruggiero, Parsippany 23:35.
- Melissa Prol, Kinnelon 23:42.
- Uiana Farmigo, Clifton 23:44.
- Kathy Nesterowicz, Clifton 24:09.
- Kristen Rumbaugh, Clifton 24:23.
- Pla Guinto, Clifton 24:25.
- Ariel Lane, Belleville 24:58.
- Ingrid Delacruz, Hoboken 25:30.

First freshman finisher — Delacruz, Hoboken, 25:30.