

Ridgewood's Kauke nipped in showdown

By PAUL SCHWARTZ
Staff Writer

NEW YORK — Four area athletes won gold medals at the 130-school, four-state 168th Street Indoor Varsity Classic at the Army Track Center on Monday night. But it was a loss for one of the area's best that really stole the show at what has become of the best meets in the East.

Ridgewood's Josh Kauke lost a sensational 800-meter showdown with Paul Ciurlys of Walt Whitman (N.Y.) despite running a personal indoor best of 1:54.1 for the distance.

Kauke, who had earlier run 1:54.58 in winning the Dartmouth Invitational last month, held the lead for the first 650 meters, going through the laps in a very even pace of 28.2 for 200 meters, 57.1 for 400, and 1:25.9 for 600. But Ciurlys, who had run 1:53.16 earlier in the year, sat on his right shoulder waiting to make a move.

"Now I know what [1999 outdoor runner-up Eric] Motzenbacher felt like when I went past him at the State meet last year," said Kauke, referring to his surprise State Meet of Champions win last spring. "When he finally made the move on me, it took me a few seconds to recover and it was too late."

Ciurlys surged by on the back straightaway much like Kauke has done many times in the past and went on to win in 1:53.3.

"I know we'll race again and



there will be other people in the race," said Kauke. "He won't use me [to set the pace] next time the way he did tonight."

Kauke came back to split 49.1 for 400 meters as Ridgewood was fifth in the 1,600 relay.

Several area athletes scored impressive victories Monday. Kennedy sophomore Tawana Watkins lowered her indoor Pas-saic County 400 record to 57.3 to easily win the event in preparation for her first indoor State meet Sunday.

"I'm really looking forward to running in States this year," said Watkins. "I'm sorry we didn't get a chance to go last year."

Watkins was beaten in the 55 dash by Immaculate Heart junior Courtney Cubicciotti, who sizzled to a 7.1 win after losing the North-ern New Jersey Interscholastic League Pacific title last Monday, while suffering from the flu.

"Sometimes I've had some trouble with my starts, but I'm much happier with them now, and I'm getting anxious for the State meet," said Cubicciotti, who also finished second in the 200, running 25.4.

Saddle Brook's Nick Garrett continued his march to the States in the hurdles by beating Group 4 favorites Herb Reid and Ian Moore of Lenape, running a hand-

time of 7.3, his best 55 race ever. "I'm just trying to run my best in every meet," said the Saddle Brook senior, who is 8-for-8 this winter. "I don't think I'd be real upset if I lost but I would be upset if I didn't give my best."

Andrew Dolgin of Ridgewood, who has enjoyed a quietly productive season in the jumps, 400, and as part of the Maroons' fine 1,600 relay team, won the triple jump with a career-best indoor jump of 43-7 $\frac{3}{4}$, just a quarter-inch off of his outdoor best.

"My approach has been inconsistent so I changed it in January," said Dolgin, who has continued to battle step problems in the long jump. "If I'm not warmed up properly, I haven't been jumping well, but tonight I got some good ones."

Several North Jersey teams ran fine relays in attempts to qualify for end-of-the-year championships and Penn Relays in April. Hackensack, with Shaun Koenig running a fine 2:21 800 leg and Beth Androski anchoring in 5:21 for 1,600 meters, ran an area-best 12:51.3 for the distance medley and a fine third-place finish behind national contender Warwick Valley (N.Y.).

The Comet boys ran an area-best 8:12.6 in the 3,200 relay for fifth place, keeping their Penn Relay hopes alive and the Ridgewood girls ran 9:46.8 for the 3,200, also keeping hopes alive for the National indoor and Penn Relays championships.

TRACK

Varsity Classic
At Army Track Center, New York

BOYS
55 — 1, Maxwell Booker, Essex Catholic, 6.4; 2, Doni Armenti, Old Bridge, 6.5; 3, Jeff Sokolowski, Butler, 6.5; 4, Khary Sharpe, Eastern, 6.5; 5, Charles Benson, Hackensack, 6.5; 6, Mohamed Kanu, Lenape, 6.5.

55 HH — 1, Nick Garrett, Saddle Brook, 7.3; 2, Ian Moore, Lenape, 7.5; Herb Reid, Lenape, 7.5; 4, Alex McClean, OceanSide (N.Y.), 7.8; 5, Pierre Chapman, Linden, 7.6; 6, Emmanuel Daux, 7.7.

200 — 1, Anthony Evers, Lawrence, 21.8; 2, Mohamed Kanu, Lenape, 22.2; 3, Tyrone Digs, Glen Mills (Pa.), 22.2; 4, Curtis Smith, Glen Mills, 22.2; 5, tie between Sadat Thomas, Campus Magnet (N.Y.), Herb Reid, Lenape, and Paul Ciurlys, Irvington and Ethanel Sinclair, Linden, 22.5.

400 — 1, Anthony Evers, Lawrence, 48.0; 2, Mohamed Kanu, Lenape, 48.8; 3, Bryan Kudlak, OceanSide (N.Y.), 48.8; 4, Liam Jones, Sayreville, 49.4; 5, Ryan White, New Providence, 49.8; 6, Anderson Alphonse, Elizabeth, 49.7.

800 — 1, Paul Ciurlys, Walt Whitman (N.Y.), 1:53.3; 2, Josh Kauke, Ridgewood, 1:54.1; 3, Brad Schmidt, Dover, 1:58.5; 4, Terrance Gilbert, Eastside, 2:00.5; 5, tie between Beresith Adams, Roselle, and Zach McBride, Lenape, 2:00.7.

1,600 — 1, Robert Dwyer, Berkshire School (Mass.), 4:23.7; 2, Frank Majliff, Bay Shore (N.Y.), 4:27.6; 3, Garrick Huls, Sayreville (N.Y.), 4:28.3; 4, T.J. Maglione, Monroe-Woodbury, 4:31.8; 5, Rich Seltz, Voorhees, 4:35.6; 6, Joe Jacobs, Butler, 4:38.0.

3,200 — 1, Mike Myers, Eastern, 9:27.1; 2, Julio German, Sleepy Hollow (N.Y.), 9:31.1; 3, Owen Bougholtzer, Mahwah, 9:49.0; 4, Oimor Grad, Middletown South, 9:53.5; 5, Danny Chavez, Secaucus, 9:54.2; 6, Charles Taylor, Elizabeth, 10:02.9.

1,600 relay — 1, Hillsborough, 3:24.7; 2, Metuchen, 3:25.4; 3, Mount St. Michael (N.Y.), 3:25.9; 4, Uniondale (N.Y.), 3:28.0; 5, Ridgewood, 3:28.2; 6, Toms River South, 3:29.0.

3,200 relay — 1, Suffern, 8:01.8; 2, Warwick Valley, 8:09.3; 3, Hunterdon Central, 8:09.4; 4, Glen Mills, 8:10.3; 5, Hackensack, 8:12.6; 6, Jackson, 8:16.4.

Distance medley — 1, CBA, 10:25.0; 2, Old Bridge, 10:34.8; 3, Warwick Valley, 10:38.1; 4, Mount St. Michael, (N.Y.), 10:39.7; 5, Hillsborough, 10:44.9; 6, Toms River East, 10:51.7.

High jump — 1, Brian Misar, Mendham, 6-3; 2, tie between Terko Ayyee, Ramapo (N.Y.) and Ron Haskins, Highland Park, 6-3; 4, Jesse Askew, Howell, 6-3; 5, Ayo Oluwole, St. Joseph Regional, 6-3; 6, Matt Johnston, Warwick Valley, 6-0.

Long jump — 1, Will Munoz, Washingtonville, 21-2; 2, Ron Haskins, Highland Park, 20-8 $\frac{1}{2}$; 3, Gene Escomb, Hackensack, 20-5; 4, James Pruitt, Lawrence, 19-10 $\frac{1}{2}$; 5, Mike Socha, CBA, 19-8 $\frac{1}{2}$; 6, Dudley Emilus, Elizabeth, 19-7.

Triple jump — 1, Andrew Dolgin, Ridgewood, 45-7 $\frac{3}{4}$; 2, Pat McManus, St. Joseph Regional, 42-11 $\frac{1}{4}$; 3, Terri Bell, Farmingdale (N.Y.), 42-5 $\frac{1}{2}$; 4, Rahsem Woodbury, Eastside, 42-4; 5, Eustace Watkins, Kenilwood, 42-3; 6, Anthony Toscano, St. Joseph Regional, 41-6.

Shot put — 1, Jeff Schwarm, Jackson, 55-4 $\frac{1}{2}$; 2, Martin Moskovich, Fair Lawn, 52-7; 3, Bernard Sushocklik, Linden, 52-3; 4, Desmond Johnson, Ramapo (N.Y.), 50-6 $\frac{1}{2}$; 5, Nick Lewis, NV/Demarest, 49-6; 6, Ernie Smith, Glen Mills, 49-5.

GIRLS

55 — 1, Courtney Cubicciotti, IHA, 7.1; 2, Ahndrea Allen, Roselle Park, 7.3; 3, Tawana Watkins, Kennedy, 7.3; 4, Kiera Underwood, Elizabeth, 7.3; 5, Samara Garner, Elizabeth, 7.4; 6, Samantha Griffin, McNair Academic, 7.5.

55 HH — 1, Kiera Underwood, Elizabeth, 8.2; 2, Diana D'Angelo, Lawrence (N.Y.), 8.6; 3, Jen Strysko, Suffern, 8.6; 4, Justina Diana, Saddle Brook, 8.7; 5, Jill Turner, Passaic Hills, 8.7; 6, Laura Paul, Monroe-Woodbury (N.Y.), 8.7.

200 — 1, Chinele Davis, North Rockland, 25.3; 2, Courtney Cubicciotti, IHA, 25.4; 3, Candace Arthur, Friends Academy, 26.2; 4, Ahndrea Allen, Roselle Park, 26.3; 5, Rahana Lenevala, Hunterdon Central, 26.5; 6, Layneae Jones, Elizabeth, 26.5.

400 — 1, Tawana Watkins, Kennedy, 57.3 (Passaic County record, old record, 58.5 by Watkins, 2:00); 2, Kerri Gannon, Tappan Zee (N.Y.), 59.7; 3, Layneae Allen, Elizabeth, 60.5; 4, Christine Scavuto, Meruchen, 60.5; 5, Agyalwa Weathers, McNair Academic, 60.8; 6, tie between Tyeche Smith, McNair Academic, and La'Kel Chester, Cranford, 61.3.

800 — 1, Courtney McCrudden, Eastern, 2:19.7; 2, Erin Rivelli, Monroe-Woodbury (N.Y.), 2:21.0; 3, Sarah Rhodes, Voorhees, 2:21.2; 4, Nalay Hayes, Washingtonville (N.Y.), 2:24.0; 5, Amy Glacook, IHA, 2:28.0; 6, Shahmaz Iqbal, Bergenfield, 2:28.9.

1,600 — 1, Lindsey Gallo, Howell, 5:20.0; 2, Briana Bayersdorfer, River Dell, 5:28.7; 3, Katie DiPietro, Swanshaka (N.Y.), 5:29.0; 4, Diana Oehm, Monroe-Woodbury, 5:32.0; 5, Liz Kaba, Jackson, 5:37.9; 6, Jennifer Combsi, Comack (N.Y.), 5:40.3.

3,200 — 1, Kathryn Murnane, OceanSide (N.Y.), 11:54.3; 2, Pia DeSolza, Pearl River (N.Y.), 11:56.0; 3, Jennifer dela Hoz, Somers (N.Y.), 12:00.5; 4, Amy Malar, Morristown, 12:05.6; 5, Kristen Lucas, Edison, 12:07.6; 6, Jenna Fasulo, Hunterdon Central, 12:12.0.

1,600 relay — 1, Suffern (N.Y.), 4:01.2; 2, Warwick Valley (N.Y.), 4:03.7; 3, Ramapo (N.Y.), 4:06.1; 4, Metuchen, 4:11.3; 5, Jackson, 4:11.8; 6, Hillsborough, 4:12.3.

3,200 relay — 1, Cornwall (N.Y.), 9:37.9; 2, Ramapo (N.Y.), 9:44.8; 3, Ridgewood, 9:48.8; 4, Pearl River, 9:47.3; 5, Warwick Valley, 9:48.8; 6, Westfield, 9:57.3.

Distance medley — 1, Warwick Valley, 12:33.2; 2, Hillsborough, 12:41.5; 3, Hackensack, 12:51.3; 4, Hunterdon Central, 12:53.4; 5, Valley Central (N.Y.), 12:54.6; 6, Suffern, 13:04.6.

High jump — 1, Kene Butts, Eastern, 5-4; 2, Pam Piarre, Ramapo (N.Y.), 5-2; 3, Jennifer White, Manalapan, 5-2; 4, Marie Michel, Irvington, 5-0; 5, tie between Diana Redman, Swanshaka and Melanie Manzo, Hunterdon Central, 5-0.

Long jump — 1, Kristen Zelaznik, Voorhees, 16-1 $\frac{1}{2}$; 2, Alison Elmo, Kristin Zelaznik, Voorhees, 13-11 $\frac{1}{2}$; 3, Wileysky Combeck, 33-5 $\frac{1}{2}$; 4, Kim Smith, Glen Cove, 33-2 $\frac{1}{2}$; 5, Kerry Walker, Campus Magnet (N.Y.), 33-1 $\frac{1}{2}$; 6, Emily Lamparelo, NV/Old Tappan, 32-10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Shot put — 1, Kerri Trendowicz, Tappan Zee, 38-3 $\frac{1}{2}$; 2, Claire Inskoop, Sayreville, 38-2; 3, Candice Schultz, Toms River South, 37-9; 4, Tonla Sabino, Toms River South, 37-7; 5, Jessica Fazekas, NV/Demarest, 37-4; 6, Blanche Grande, Sayreville, 35-1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Pole vault — 1, Michelle Lennox, Pearl River, 9-6; 2, Holly Vestuff, Hunterdon Central, 9-0; 3, Anna Wylie, Hunterdon Central, 9-0; 4, Amanda Falling, Pearl River, 8-6.