

FROSH-JC CROSS COUNTRY ROUNDUP

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by Jack Shepard

Though reporting has been spotty, Frosh/JC athletes have had a fine cross country season, particularly at the USTFF meet in New York's Van Cortlandt Park, site of most of the big meet action this season. Third place in that 6-mile event was Brevard JC's talented soph, Bob Gray, 1967 NJCAA cross-country champ and a sub-9:00 ~~steeplechaser~~. One spot back was Penn State's Greg Fredericks, the IC4A frosh champ. ~~in a thrilling race.~~ In that ~~3-mile~~ ^{5-mile} Greg won by a tenth over Villanova's Don Walsh with another Villanovan, Dave Wright, just two seconds. Villanova easily won that meet with 27 points. Twelfth at the USTFF went to Houston's Australian import, Eric Sigmont, while fifteenth was NYU's Joe Barbary, Metropolitan frosh champ. Barbary led his team to the Metro title with ~~29 points by~~ a close win over Fordham's Ed Grippe at 3-miles. Another extremely fine runner and top man on his Southern Illinois team is Gary Hinton who was Central Collegiate champ and then ~~placed 9th~~ fifth at the NCAA over 6-miles. Other top runners across the land are Doug Wellman of Oregon, Eastern Michigan's Dave Galloway, and Steve Fee at Army. ^{Timothy Steele (high) NYU's James Schindler San Diego State's Tom David}

On the JC scene LA Valley was the power in California as they scored a record low 50 points in winning the state title. Valley's frosh Mark Covert was the individual winner, avenging losses in conference and Southern Cal title meets by Bakersfield frosh Rick Hitchcock who slipped to third behind Santa Monica's Richard Carr. Valley soph Mike Wagenbach was sixth here after thirds in the two earlier meets. Mt San Antonio with 73 points for second was the only non-Metropolitan conference team in the top five as Bakersfield, Pasadena, and El Caminn followed. Valley also won conference and Southern Cal titles from defending state champ Pasadena by 25 and 35 points respectively with excellent depth as their fifth man was 16th, ~~then~~ 21st, and then 26th in each succeeding meet.

