Junior Lorrie Butterfield poses in front of the HCHS billboard. Lorrie placed 11th in the national x-country championships held in San Diego last weekend. Photo by David Keibler.

X-Country Has ‘Phenomenal’ Season
by Gary Thompson

A tradition here at Hunterdon Central, is that every team remaining undefeated at the end of its season is given a free dinner by the Board of Education. Since all of the HCHS x-country squads were undefeated this year, on Tuesday night they were all honored with the banquet.

The Hunterdon Central girls’ x-country team finished this season with their victory on November 17, in the ‘Meet of Champions’, making them state champions.

“They had a super-phenomenal season,” coach Ludwig Lubaszka said.

They not only proved themselves as number one, but made up for last year’s team, which didn’t even qualify them for the championship meet in the state sectionals. “Last year’s defeat was on our minds,” said coach Lubaszka. “We went out too fast and we couldn’t make it at the end. We had been picked as favorites to win, and we went in a little overconfident.”

This year, the Devils competed in a total of 17 meets, seven of which were dual meets, and the other ten, multiple meets which included at least five other teams. They beat all of them, going undefeated, setting a new Central record for most wins in a season.

Individually, the girls had a fine season. Lorrie Butterfield finished in first place four times, including a second place finish in the Central Jersey Group IV meet. Lorrie also finished third at the ‘Meet of Champions’, good enough to place her on the all-state first team. Finishing fifth in the Eastern States competition, she qualified for the national meet, in which she placed 11th.

Hunterdon Central also placed two other runners on the all-state team. Cricket Batz, Central’s number two runner, made the second all-state team, and Dee Schaff, the number three runner, made the third team.

Sophomore Stephanie Guidotti, sister of former Central x-country runner Sandra, rounds out the top four Devil girls.

Sophomore Patti Vowinkel is the usual number five runner, ahead of juniors Jeni Stover, Katie Fitzgerald, and Ronnie Reed, and freshmen Molly Rageto and Chris Zdebski.

“Runners were responsible for the undefeated dual meets,” said Lubaszka. “I restaied my front runners on these days, which gave them a chance to rest. If I didn’t have these runners, I would’ve had to run the front four all season. It gets tiring to run in 17 meets.”

“I’d like to see my top four runners become individual stars on our own,” she continued. “I hope the other girls can develop more confidence and become team stars.”

The boys’ x-country team also enjoyed a successful running season with an undefeated record of 8-0. Coach Lubaszka said he believes the team is doing as well as it should be doing, and is looking forward next year.

“I hope some of the guys mature a little bit more,” Lubaszka said.

X-Country Has ‘Phenomenal’ Season

by Diane Kolodzinski

Junior Lorrie Butterfield capped an outstanding high school career by placing 11th in the national high school cross-country championships in San Diego, California (this past Saturday), said coach Lubaszka. “I didn’t believe it,” Lorrie said, “I never expected to do so well.”

Coach Ludwig Lubaszka expressed the feelings of the whole Central team when he stated, “I think it’s fantastic. I would have been pleased if she placed some where in the middle of the pack,” Lubaszka stated. “We’re all very proud of her.”

Lorrie travelled to Balboa Park with all expenses paid. She ran the 5000-meter course in 18:32.7 which was good enough to capture 11th place. Another girl from New Jersey, Ann Glade, who was named the number one x-country runner in the state, placed third in the championships.

Lubaszka was part of the eastern team which won the championship over the West. Three other Eastern girls, from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Maine, were also part of the team.

“Lorrie has been working so hard,” Lubaszka said, “I’m so happy for her. I think she’s going to do more.”

Lorrie is the first girl from Central to place in the Eastern championships. She placed 11th last year, and was the first girl from Central to win the state meet, in which she placed third. Lorrie has won the state meet, and been the Eastern runner-up, four years in a row. She has never expected to do as well as she did this year.

This year, the Central team was composed of five seniors, five juniors and four freshmen. “It’s a small team as far as basketball goes,” said coach Joseph Kleezynski.

The team would have little chance of winning any state titles in the next two years, Kleezynski said, as the team loses five seniors.

Lubaszka gave Lorrie a medal for being a part of the Eastern team which won the championship.

“The team is a combination of the Rockledge and Chris Reed,” Lubaszka said, “The team is a combination of the Rockledge and Chris Reed.”

The team is a combination of the Rockledge and Chris Reed.

Pre-season Scrimmages Successful

Boy’s

Hunterdon Central’s fall sports season starts today, and one of the teams starting out is the variance boys’ basketball team.

The ten-man varsity squad this year is composed of six seniors and four juniors. “It’s a small team as far as basketball goes,” said coach Joseph Kleezynski.

Boys have a really been watching for that. Points don’t really become important until Friday.

The boys have their first varsity game this weekend against Pisacatay, at home in the field house. J.V. begins at 6:00.

Girl’s

The Hunterdon Central girls’ varsity basketball team began it’s pre-season competition last week, and have been practicing in the gym. The team is composed of seniors Mike Mata, Fred Bobbitt, Brian Greif, Bill Serafini, Scott Schroeder, and juniors Steve Koval, Billy Hunt, Dave Alme, and Jim Ceglowski.

The team has played four successful scrimmages this year, against Bound Brook, Somerville, Hurricane Valley, and Sophomore. "As of yet, it’s hard to say what this year’s team is going to do well," Kleezynski said. "Most of the