

William Tennent's Testa enjoys big Senior Night

By Vince Paravecchia, correspondent | Posted: Thursday, May 5, 2016 11:30 pm

WARMINSTER — Steve Testa went out as he had hoped.

When the season started, the Villanova-bound William Tennent senior aimed to win all of his events at the Montgomery Memorial Meet on his home track. He did just that Thursday evening, taking first in long jump, 300-meter hurdles and as part of the 4x100 relay team.

"I really wanted to do well today, because it was my Senior Night," he said. "I really wanted three golds."

With a time of 39.61 seconds, Testa claimed the hurdles title early in the meet. He followed that by helping the 4x100 team come from behind to win in 44.33 seconds over second-place Upper Moreland. With no time to rest, he took on the long jump, and despite only taking one run through, claimed first at 22 feet, 1 inch.

"It's nice that I can do all these events and not get tired," he said.

Testa was one of several outstanding Panthers performers during the meet. In the 3,200, Evan Hutton beat out teammate Dylan McHenry to go first and second. Pole vaulter William Lee's best of 13-9 was good for another victory, while Andrew Duddleston took the 400 title in a time of 51.77 seconds.

On the girls' side, sophomore Lynne O'Connor won her first ever invitational event, setting a personal-best time in the 1,600 of 5:20.16.

High jumper Miranda Laskey rounded out the Tennent wins.

"I know I didn't want to lead," O'Connor recalled of her strategy. "I'm more of a sit-and-kick person."

"With 100 (meters) to go, I realized the girl out in front, I could catch her. It's kind of cool that it's my first win and it's on my track."

Central Bucks West took home a pair of wins on the girls' side, thanks to Maddie Villalba and Cecilia Davies. Even while battling a cold, Villalba easily broke a meet record with a 400 time of 56.34 seconds. Davies took the 800 in 2:23.62. The Bucks' 4x400 team, which Villalba is a part of, took first.

"I wanted to go out fast, because that makes the second half easier," said Villalba, a senior who will run at the University of Pennsylvania, about her 800. "It's better than I expected to do today. I'll take it."

Abington's Douglas Knox won the lone championship for the Ghosts, as he easily won triple jump with a best distance of 41-11. For Archbishop Wood, Thomas Sweeney was third in high jump and Erin Nguyen fourth in long jump.