

# Faircloth reclaims his lost crown

By C.S. ALLBRIGHT  
Staff writer

SCHWETZINGEN, Germany — Tim Faircloth of Hanau looked behind him near the finish of Saturday's five-kilometer Central European high school cross-country championship, but no one was even close.

Faircloth, who won this event as a sophomore in 1993 before falling to fourth last year, claimed his sec-

## c-e cross country

ond championship in 16 minutes, 45 seconds. Bitburg's Joe Markowski finished eight seconds later, and Lakenheath's Mike Henry was third at 17:05.

Henry, and a powerful pack of Lancers, captured the team title becoming the first United Kingdom runners to take home the title since the UK started sending teams to the C-E race some three years ago. Before, only top UK individuals were sent, according to Heidelberg coach David Pope, the event organizer.

Bitburg repeated as the girls' champion.

In the girls' race, Christine Reeber garnered power from her Kaiserslautern team, her faith and her bananas to stave off tough competition to win in 20:21.

For the boys, the field took off to a lightning start, with Faircloth and teammate Sean Shields (7th) initially leading Heidelberg's Chris Duncan (11th) and the rest of the pack of 98.

"I started out too fast, but I heard my coach and friends yelling at me," Faircloth said. He decided he could keep the pace to appease his supporters: "Peer pressure."

By the quarter-mark, Faircloth was beginning to stretch out a lead. Although he thought Markowski was behind him, he was about 12 seconds ahead at the mid-point. The Bitburg runner was able to chip into the lead toward the finish as Faircloth kept glancing back at him.

"Every time he looked, I got closer, only by that time it was too late," Markowski said.

"I was scared at the last straight before the hill, because I was dying," Faircloth said. He won and dedicated the win to his father who is currently in training for possible deployment to Bosnia.

As a team, defending champion Hanau placed second, after going through the 1994 and 1995 seasons undefeated.

Lakenheath won with the strength of its middle fin-



S&S: Michael Abrams

Wiesbaden's Nicole Purnell-Davis leads eventual winner Christine Reeber of Kaiserslautern and Heidelberg's Ashley Schilling up a rise Saturday in Heidelberg, Germany, during the Central European cross country championships.

ishers. Gary Webb, Kevin Geraci and Jeremiah Howell finished 14-15-16 overall. Lancer Brian Henry finished 51st.

In the girls' race, Reeber, Wiesbaden's Nicole Purnell-Davis and Heidelberg's Ashley Schilling started off fast and led the pack of 79. They fought for the lead until about the mid-point when Reeber pulled ahead. About then, Brussels' Donleigh Honeywell overtook Schilling for third, but she faded to a fourth-place finish.

"I didn't want the other girls to catch me, so I was trying to stay in the lead," Reeber said. "I was trying to break the course record, but that didn't happen."

Purnell-Davis was second at 20:26, and Schilling was third at 20:35.

Bitburg won its second consecutive team title narrowly defeating Frankfurt International School by three points.

## Leading finishers

SCHWETZINGEN, Germany — Leading finishers Saturday from the 5-kilometer race for the Central European high school cross country championships:

### Boys

TEAM SCORING—Lakenheath 77, Hanau 88, Bonn 126, Heidelberg 137, Kaiserslautern 148, Patch 154, International School of Brussels 157, Frankfurt International School 168, Würzburg 188, Ramstein 193, Bitburg 205. Incomplete: AFCENT, Alconbury, American School of London, Ansbach, Bad Albing, Bamberg, Baumholder, Croughton, Glessen, London, Mannheim, SHAPE, St. John's, Wiesbaden.

1, Tim Faircloth (Han); 2, Joe Markowski (Bit); 3, Mike Henry (Lak); 4, Ben Williams (Hd); 5, Maurice Patterson (Baum); 6, Randy Wirt (P); 7, Sean Shields (Han); 8, B.J. Cotter (Bonn); 9, Tom Geraci (Ram); 10, Dan Minor (Ana); 11, Chris Duncan (Hd); 12, Landon Schmitt (ISB); 13, Matt Leonard (Wie); 14, Gary Webb (Lak); 15, Kevin Geraci (Lak); 16, Jeremiah Howell (Lak); 17, Raymond Youngs (Mann); 18, John Clements (Crou); 19, David Brown (P); 20, Cory Longenecker (FIS); 18:43.

### Girls

TEAM SCORING—Bitburg 63, FIS 66, Kaiserslautern 93, SHAPE 105, Ramstein 111, Heidelberg 144, Patch 145, Vilseck 170. Incomplete teams: Alconbury, American School of London, Bad Albing, Bamberg, Bonn, Brussels, Croughton, Glessen, Hanau, International School of Brussels, Lakenheath, London, St. John's, Wiesbaden.

1, Christine Reeber (K); 2, Nicole Purnell-Davis (Wie); 3, Ashley Schilling (Hd); 4, Donleigh Honeywell (Brus); 5, Sarah Cuth (FIS); 6, Erin Caudill (Ram); 7, Carrie Rice (Lak); 8, Beth Knox (P); 9, Becky Cunningham (SH); 10, Aki Koga (Bonn); 11, Karin Edwards (SH); 12, Julie Markowski (Bit); 13, Holly Graumann (SH); 14, Caroline Malm (FIS); 15, Adrienne Hood (Hd); 16, Melissa Wilhelm (Bt); 17, Elizabeth Thompson (Br); 18, Ami Killion (ASL); 19, Amilia Shannon (Bit); 20, Emi Iwatana (Bonn); 20:21.

# Ansbach romps past Giessen

By The Stars and Stripes

GIESSEN, Germany — On their way to the Germany-Benelux Division III championship Saturday, the Ansbach Cougars ran into a little trouble trying to find Giessen High School's playing field, arriving nearly 30 minutes late for the game.

However, once there, the Cougars (7-1) had no trouble at all finding the end zone, scoring six times against the Griffins (6-2) and rolling to a 40-15 victory. The win put Ansbach into position to claim their second championship in three years when they host Italy champion Aviano on Nov. 11.

Against the Griffins, Ansbach running back George Shuler rushed 18 times for 107 yards and two touchdowns, while quarterback Mike Metcalf threw for a touchdown and was 5-of-7 for 129 yards passing.

Although Giessen struggled offensively much of the day, the Griffins took the first-quarter lead, scoring on their first possession. But the play was called back when the Griffins had too many players

## division 3

on the field. Giessen settled for 3-0 lead on Ladell Scott's conversion.

Meanwhile in the second period, the Cougars, who had less than 45 minutes to get dressed and warmed up for the game, settled down and got their bearings, taking a 16-3 lead at the half.

Cougar linebacker Marcus Fuller set up the first drive when he stole the ball from a Griffin running back. Shuler then capped a 56-yard drive when he plunged in from the 1 to give Ansbach the lead 6-3.

Metcalf connected with tight end Garland Keaton, who had 65 yards receiving on the day, for the conversion.

Metcalf and Keaton combined for another score to close out the half, this time a 25-yard touchdown strike. Metcalf's keeper for the extra point was good for the Cougars' 16-3 halftime lead.

The Griffins' offensive woes continued in the third when Ansbach linebacker Mario Dansby recovered a fumble deep

in Giessen territory. Shuler rushed 15 yards for the score on the next play behind left tackle Cameron Cornelison. Metcalf rushed for his second extra point on the day to put Ansbach up 24-3.

The Cougars put the game away in the fourth on touchdowns by Metcalf, who rushed in from 3 yards out, and wing back Nick Sykes, who scored from the 20.

Giessen's reserve quarterback Darrick McNair connected with Darren Saupan on a 30 yard pass and Ladell Scott ran in from 33 yards for the TD.

"I'm really pleased with this team and the way we've developed this year," said fifth-year coach Mick Plummer. "We've worked together and have become a good football team."

"These players have put the team above themselves. We're off next week, so that'll give them some time to get over their aches and pains."

Cameron Cornelison led the Cougar defense with 11 tackles and a fumble recovery, while Mike Mantel and Marcus Fuller each had nine solo tackles.

# Williams, Green spark Blue over London

By The Stars and Stripes

WEST RUSLIP, England — Lakenheath Blue tuned up for its host role for the European Division II championship high school football game with a 52-8 road romp over the London Bobcats.

Howard Williams enjoyed another 200-yard afternoon for the winners, who will entertain Vilseck on Nov. 11 in the title

game. Williams carried 13 times for 202 yards, scoring on runs of 6, 24 and 91 yards, and All-Europe fullback Brandon Green added touchdowns on runs of 15 and 22 yards as the U.K. champions broke out to a 26-8 halftime edge.

London's score came when linebacker Jason Tippet knocked the ball loose in the Blue Lancer end zone and fell on it

for the TD. Jeremy Bradley ran in the two-point conversion.

The Blue Lancers added three more TDs after intermission, with Jami Hayes hauling in an 85-yard touchdown pass from Mike Meadows, Travis Turner returning a pass interception 55 yards to paydirt and Tarik Underwood running in from 15 yards out.

# Royals rule volleyball

MANNHEIM, Germany (S&S)

— The second-seeded Ramstein Royals defeated the Bitburg Barons 15-11, 13-15, 15-11, 15-9 Saturday for the Central European high school volleyball championship.

Despite the Ramstein victory, Bitburg's Leah Schnell walked off with the MVP award.

Top-seeded Bonn defeated Heidelberg for third place 15-11, 15-9.

In Saturday's semifinals, Ramstein advanced by beating Heidelberg 17-15, 15-8, 15-4.

In the first game, Ramstein went up 7-4 early and was up 13-12 on a hit by Beth England. Ramstein's Nicky Madsen served out for the 17-15 win. The Royals' hustle in the backcourt kept the Lions on defense in the second and third games.

In the other semifinal, it was Bitburg over Bonn in straight games. The score was 7-1 Bonn early in the first game before MVP Schnell serve tied the score at 11-11 and again at 13-13. Bitburg served out for the 15-13 victory.

Selected for the all tournament team were: Schnell (Bitburg), Candace Bradley (Bitburg), Kristy Withrow (Brussels), Sunshine Byars (Brussels), Karen Clinton (Heidelberg), Doris Harper (Ramstein), Sue-ling Bunch (Ramstein) and Keitle (Bonn).