

2000 Big Butte Challenge

Saturday, 29 April – Dean–10; Kaluza –11!

74 Racers started and finished at the World Museum of Mining behind Montana Tech for today's Big Butte Challenge, and the two women crowned as champions have 21 Big Butte victories between them. Susan Kaluza returned to the event after a one-year hiatus to continue her undefeated ways in winning her eleventh 5K title in 21:56.

Mary Dean, who won her first Big Butte 11K in 1982, won again this year for the tenth time. In that 18-year span, Dean suffered only one placing lower than first. That happened in 1983 when she placed second behind Helena's teenage then-course-record-holding Sheri Schwertfeger. In 1984, Dean returned with vengeance to smash Schwertfeger's ghost and her course record by 2 minutes and 39 seconds with a time of 53:55, a record Dean lowered twice more, first to 51:26 in 1987 and finally to the standing record of 51:11 in 1993.

Compared to the lady's winning habits, Marvin Speece's fifth 11K victory (45:30) seemed mild, and Joe Merrifield appeared like a fresh spring lamb in winning his first Big Butte 5K in 21:53.

Breakdown of Race Finishers				
Race	5K	11K	1M	Total
Females	18	8	7	33
Males	13	26	2	41
Total	31	34	9	74

1M Participants: Amber Alexander, Minot, N.D.; James Burk, Butte; Beth Burk, Butte; Marie Cook, Butte; Aleisha Gornick, Missoula; Dawn Gornick, Missoula; Danielle Gornick, Missoula; Michaela Gornick, Missoula; Mike McCarthy, Butte.

5K Females Overall: 1, Suzy Kaluza, 21:56; 2, Marnee Worley, 23:03; 3, Maggie Smith, Butte, 23:18.

0-11: 1, Brooke Hueftle, Butte, 33:40.

12-18: 1, Marnee Worley, Butte, 23:13; 2, Amy Allen, Butte, 31:44; 3, Jennifer Wulf, Butte, 34:32.

19-29: 1, Jessica Dixon, Bozeman, 26:46; 2, Dana Thompson, Butte, 27:26.

30-39: 1, Tammy Wisner, Butte, 27:47.

40-49: 1, Suzy Kaluza, Butte, 21:56; 2, Maggie Smith, Butte, 23:18; 3, Eddi Walker, Butte, 24:13; 4, Cheryl Peterslie, Butte, 28:23.

5K walkers: Zachary Barker, Butte; Julie Bury, Butte; Phil Cammack, Butte; Maggie Davis, Butte; Shelly Davis, Butte; Nancy Lester, Butte; Anne Merrifield, Helena; Sandy Nelson, Butte; Mary Torpey, Butte.

5K Males Overall: 1, Joe Merrifield, 21:53; 2, Leon Shearman, 22:09; 3, Pat Kearney, 22:35.

19-29: 1, Rob Birke, Butte, 34:01.

30-39: 1, Joe Merrifield, Helena, 21:53; 2, Jim Murphy, Butte, 23:13; 3, Greg Hanley, Butte, 26:06.

40-49: 1, Pat Kearney, Butte, 23:35; 2, Kyle Kuntz, Helena, 27:14.

50-59: 1, Leon Shearman, Bozeman, 22:09; 2, Bruce Robinson, Butte, 24:03; 3, Garland Shaw, Philipsburg, 26:13; 4, Terry Jenkins, Ennis, 26:58; 5, Norm Ver Worm, Missoula, 31:53.

11K Females Overall: 1, Mary Dean, 54:50; 2, Sherry Vogel, 57:58; 3, Gayle Wold, 1:00:37.

0-18: 1, Kim Hueftle, Butte, 1:29:27

30-39: 1, Connie Feist, Minot, N.D, 1:05:39.

40-49: 1, Mary Dean, Butte, 54:50; 2, Sherry Vogel, Butte, 57:58; 3, Gayle Wold, Helena, 1:00:37; 4, Margaret Ewing, Whitehall, 1:06:48; 5, Karen Hueftle, Butte, 1:29:28.

50-59: 1, Carolyn Twidwell, Butte, 1:14:13.

11K Males Overall: 1, Marvin Speece, 45:30; 2, Don Sundberg, 45:41; 3, Ray Matteson, 46:09.

19-29: 1, Levi Kryder, Butte, 48:33; 2, Chad Fero, Butte, 50:18; 3, Paul Gentile, Bozeman, 59:27; 4, Mike Lee, Butte, 1:12:22.

30-39: 1, Anthony Tangaro, Butte, 50:03; 2, Chris Anderson, Butte, 51:03; 3, John Tomich, Butte, 55:20; 4, Micah Loring, Bozeman, 59:37; 5, Paul Babb, Butte, 1:00:27; 6, John Walden, Butte, 1:00:31.

40-49: 1, Marvin Speece, Walkerville, 45:30; 2, Don Sundberg, Butte, 45:41; 3, Ray Matteson, Butte, 46:09; 4, Phil Dean, Butte, 50:06; 5, Jim Ryan, Butte, 51:31; 6, Jim Woy, Butte, 53:37; 7, Joe Griffin, Butte, 58:18; 8, Dan Mueller, Butte, 59:15; 9, Jim Hueftle, Butte, 1:00:00; 10, Larry Driscoll, Butte, 1:00:31; 11, Dick Oberwiser, Butte, 1:05:13; 12, Peter Sorini, Butte, 1:05:51; 13, Dan Harrington, Butte, 1:07:31.

50-59: 1, John Wulf, Butte, 1:09:20; 2, Mike Judd, Butte, 1:13:16.

60+: 1, Larry Twidwell, Butte, 1:14:15.