

## 69th annual Butte American Legion Veterans' Day Race

**Saturday, 11 November 2006 – A jog down memory lane by Dave Johnson of the Montana Standard**

**Participants in the Veterans' Day Race exit Stodden Park at the start.**



the finish line in a time of 15 minutes and six seconds. Renouard was revisiting Butte on Saturday for the 69th Annual Butte Veterans' Day Race and was seen taking pictures of the 81 competitors at the start in Stodden Park. Renouard's son reported that Clar was quite happy about being back in Butte on the day of the veterans' race. "I played football and basketball like everyone else in high school," smiled Renouard. But he said he didn't train at all for the 1946 race and consequently paid the price. "I had shin splints for the next two weeks (after the race)," said Renouard. After high school in 1951 through 1953, Renouard served in the military in the Korean War. On Saturday, Clar (now 77 years old) was honored by 28-time participant and race director, Pat Kearney, who called to the awards table not only Renouard but also other past race winners. The group included Bill Kearney (1976, 1980), Ed Foley (1977), Nicole Hunt (1996, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005), Ray Hunt (2001, 2002), and Liza Dennehy (1973, 1974, 1980). Clar Renouard ran the race in an era when most of the runners were high-school age athletes. After looking at past winners, this trend continued until about 1975 when the "running craze" took hold as a result of Frank Shorter's gold medal in the marathon at the 1972 Olympics.

On Saturday, the mix between high school and more mature runners continued. In the men's 5.2-mile race Peter Dan Sullivan from Helena won the overall award and the C. Owen Smithers trophy in a time of 31:20 while Michele Bazzanella took home the Mary Whelan trophy for winning the women's division. Bazzanella's time was 34:34. "It was windy and there was a headwind," said Bazzanella who lives in Helena. The course left Stodden Park and then turned north directly into the wind that continually dogged the runners until the final 300 yards when they turned east and into the finish by the American Legion building near the airport. Other winners on Saturday included longtime Butte runner Don Sundberg who won the 50-to-59 male division, and Sherry Vogel who captured the women's 50-to-59 division. Ed Foley, who won the race in 1977, topped his age group of runners in the 60-to-69 division. In the 2.5-mile race Butte High running ace, Keli

Dennehy, set a course record for the Stodden Course with her clocking of 16:52. Dennehy's time surpassed Wendy Lutgen's time of 17:14 set in 1987. Dennehy's win was her fifth in the under-14 division.

Times for many runners were not reported this year.

Finishers	2.5 M	5.2 M	Total
Female	12	17	29
Male	11	41	52
Total	23	58	81

### 2.5 Mile Females:

**0-14:** 1, Keli Dennehy, Butte, 16:52 CR (old record 17:14 by Wendy Lutgen, 1987); 2, Kelly Benton; 3, Trichael Kearney.

**19-29:** 1, Keri Petritz, Butte.

**30-39:** 1, Angie Bechtell, Butte; 2, Amber Wood-Jensen, Butte; 3, Tammy Wisner, Butte.

**40-49:** 1, Georgia Cunningham, Whitehall; 2, Leslie Sutphin; 3, Cheryl Peterslie, Butte.

**50-59:** 1, Dawn Johnson. **60+:** 1, Virginia Sutphin, Great Falls.

### 2.5 Mile Males:

**0-14:** 1, Josh Panasuk, Butte, 16:59; 2, Michael Cooney; 3, Jake Dennehy; 4, Connor McGee; 5, Gage Connole; 6, Kanyin Bercier; 7, Bode Jensen.

**30-39:** 1, Dan McGee; 2, Mark Jensen. **50-59:** 1, Gary Dietrich. **60+:** 1, Bruce Robinson, Butte.

**5.2 Mile Females Overall:** 1, Michele Bazzanella, 34:34; 2, Jen Thomas, 36:00; 3, Nicole Hunt, 37:30.

**15-18:** 1, Anna Kirtley, Dillon; 2, Amanda Duran.

**19-29:** 1, Laura Moran, Helena.

**30-39:** 1, Michele Bazzanella, Helena, 34:34; 2, Jen Thomas, Helena, 36:00; 3, Nicole Hunt, Deer Lodge, 37:30; 4, Tanya Connole, Butte; 5, Mary Okursch, Butte; 6, Elaine Dahl, Helena.

**40-49:** 1, Mary Dean, Butte; 2, Kris Delegates, Butte; 3, Maureen Tomich, Butte.

**50-59:** 1, Sheryl Vogel, Butte; 2, Eddie Walker, Butte; 3, Karen Hueftle, Butte; 4, Sheila Franey, Butte; 5, Joanie Carroll.

**5.2 Mile Males Overall:** 1, Peter Dan Sullivan, 31:20; 2, Marvin Speece, 32:00; 3, Jeff Thomas, 32:17.

**15-18:** 1, Hobie Biegler, Butte; 2, Kaloeb Palmer, Butte; 3, Chad Penn, Butte; 4, Alan Barthelmiss.

**19-29:** 1, Mitch Tameitti, Whitehall.

**30-39:** 1, Doug Compton, Helena; 2, John Babcock, Butte; 3, Diamond Jim, Helena; 4, Ozzie Rosenleaf, Butte; 5, Joe Stimatz; 6, Peter Johnson; 7, Don Foley, Butte.

**40-49:** 1, Peter Dan Sullivan, Helena, 31:20; 2, Marvin Speece, Butte, 32:00; 3, Jeff Thomas, Helena, 32:17; 4, Bart Brazier; 5, Jim Ryan, Butte; 6, Bill Kearney, Helena; 7, Paul Soakup; 8, John Tomich, Butte; 9, Mike McLeod; 10, Paul Riley; 11, Ken Nevin, Three Forks; 12, Dan Harrington, Butte.

**50-59:** 1, Don Sundberg, Butte; 2, Chris Tippett, Butte; 3, Elton Kirtley, Dillon; 4, Russ Ehman, Helena; 5, Stu White, Great Falls; 6, Dennis McKenna; 7, Pat Kearney, Butte; 8, Jim Hueftle, Butte; 9, Mike Patterson, Butte; 10, Gary Rillema, Butte; 11, Joe Griffin, Butte.

**60+:** 1, Ed Foley, Butte; 2, Leon Shearman, Bozeman; 3, Bill Peterson; 4, Don Wood; 5, Jim Lester, Butte; 6, John Wulf, Butte.