

71st annual Butte American Legion/MERDI Veterans Day Race

Tuesday, 11 November 2008 - Jodoin, Hunt Win as recapped by Pat Kearney

Nicole Hunt of Deer Lodge, who had a baby, four months ago, finished the course first among women in a time of 32:52.



She beat Ann Sorenson of Bozeman who finished second with a clocking of 34:07. Defending champion, Keli Dennehy, a junior at Butte High was third with nine-time champion Suzie Kaluza of Butte fourth and Liz McGoff from Bozeman placed fifth. Hunt received the Mary Whelan Trophy for being the top female. Whelan was the first female winner of the open division race in 1976.

In the shorter 2.5-mile race for kids fourteen and under Michael Cooney, a student at Butte Central elementary was the winner. His time was 18:41. He beat Jamey Richardson of Dillon who completed the course in 22:00. Cooney received the Martin Kearney Trophy as the winner of the shorter race. Kearney was the 1940 winner of the event and later served as co-chairperson of the race for over two decades.

Finishers	2.5 M	5.2 M	Total
Female	8	12	20
Male	3	37	40
Total	11	49	60

A new award created a year ago to honor a former co-chairman of the event John Wulf is called the John Wulf Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is given to someone who embodies the spirit of the race. This year's recipient was Bruce Robinson of Butte.

2.5 Mile Females:

19-29: 1, Talia Knudsen, 34:55.

30-39: 1, Elizabeth Rehmer, 26:04; 2, Christina Thompson, 26:05; 3, Julie Dennison, 31:00..

50-59: 1, Sheila Franey, Butte, 27:56; 2, Jackie McGuire, 34:42; 3, Yvonne Webber, 40:16.

70+: 1, Kay Newman, Bozeman, 40:32.

2.5 Mile Males:

0-14: 1, Mike Cooney, 18:41; 2, Jamey Richardson, 22:00.

15-18: 1, Kelly Valdez, 29:55.

5.2 Mile Females Overall: 1, Nicole Hunt, 32:52; 2, Ann Sorenson 34:07; 3, Keli Dennehy, 40:04.

15-18: 1, Keli Dennehy, Butte, 34:23.

19-29: 1, Molly Mueller, 42:54.

30-39: 1, Nicole Hunt, Deer Lodge, 32:52; 2, Elaine Dahl, Helena, 43:53; 3, Nikola Hollingsworth, 51:49; 4, Dana Cotton, 54:35.

40-49: 1, Ann Sorenson, Bozeman, 34:07; 2, Suzie Kaluza, Butte, 36:27; 3, Liz McGoff, Bozeman, 37:52; 4, Carrie Holland, 47:55.

50-59: 1, Eddi Walker, Butte, 45:31; 2, Georgia Cunningham, Whitehall, 47:42.

5.2 Mile Males Overall: 1, Thomas Jodoin, 28:31; 2, Ryan Kearney, 29:17; 3, Peter Dan Sullivan, 30:00.

15-18: 1, Josh Panasuk, Butte, 32:33; 2, Dylan Grady, 34:57.

19-29: Thomas Jodoin, Helena, 28:31; 2, Ryan Kearney, Butte, 29:17; 3, Tim Downey, 31:30; 4, Chris Beskid, 31:36; 5, Decker Goss, Butte, 34:18; 6, Kevin Downs, 38:49.

30-39: 1, Patrick Judge, Helena, 30:16.

40-49: 1, Peter Dan Sullivan, Helena, 30:00; 2, David Gregory, West Yellowstone, 35:39; 3, Jeff Braun, Butte, 35:53; 4, Bill Kearney, Helena, 38:54; 5, Jim Ryan, Butte, 39:28; 6, Kurt Buehl, 39:40; 7, Bob Whelan, Butte, 40:58; 8, Tim Hansen, Silver Star, 42:57; 9, Gary Marshall, 44:32; 10, Scott Frich, 46:16; 11, Dan Harrington, Butte, 49:14; 12, Ed Randell, 54:36.

50-59: 1, Ray Matteson, Butte, 30:59; 2, Chris Tippet, Butte, 33:19; 3, Don Sundberg, Butte, 35:08; 4, Scott Craigle, 37:00; 5, Russ Ehman, 39:56; 6, Paul Riley, 43:22; 7, Bob Kearney, 45:35; 8, Pat Kearney, Butte, 47:34; 9, Mike Patterson, Butte, 48:24; 10, Vern Roberts, Helena, 51:34; 11, Gary Rillema, 51:57.

60-69: 1, Gerald Buckley, Bozeman, 37:33; 2, Charles Day,

Bozeman, 39:01; 3, Leon Shearman, Bozeman, 45:58; 4, Bruce Robinson, Butte, 48:35.

70+: 1, Jim Lester, Butte, 63:44.



Butte's Ray Matteson flashes to the finish, becoming the first 50 year old runner to eclipse the 31 minute barrier in a time of 30:59.



Race Winner Thomas Jodoin of Helena with Timber Butte in the background. Jodoin's time was 28:31.