

# 77th annual Butte American Legion Veterans' Day Race

Tuesday, 11 November 2014 – McGee, Lockett, Gransbery run to Veterans Day titles

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A frosty  
Conor  
McGee  
finishes  
strong to win  
the 77th  
Veterans Day  
5.2-mile Race  
Tuesday in  
Butte.



Pat Judge (44)  
of Helena  
finished  
second with a  
time of 32:19.



All runners  
were given a  
sticker in  
honor of the  
late Pat  
Kearney.



Conor McGee summed up the 77th running of the Veterans Day race with one word after winning the frigid event Tuesday. “Chilly,” McGee said. The temperature at the start of the race was 2 below zero. The wind-chill factor was minus 17. The faces of the runners frosted over as they made their way through downtown Butte. “It was chilly, but it was fun,” McGee said. “I love this race. It’s definitely my favorite local road race. I try to run it every year.” McGee went wire to wire for the victory, starting out fast at Stodden Park and holding the pace through the finish line in front of the American Legion Hall. “Last year I made the mistake of starting off to slowly,” McGee said. “The guy who won kept pulling away. So this year I jumped out fast.” McGee, a senior at Butte Central, won the overall men’s title in the 5.2-mile race in 31 minutes, 28 seconds. It marked his second championship in the Veterans Day Race. He won the 2.2-mile race for runners 14 and under a few years ago. That race title went to Whittier sixth grader Keagan Gransbery this year. Running with a police escort the entire way, Gransbery claimed the Martin and Pat Kearney Award by finishing the race in 22:27. Gransbery was the lone runner of the 2.2-mile event. Even without runners to push him, he still eclipsed his time from a year ago.

Helena runner Cyndie Lockett won the women’s title in 40:46. Lockett was lone runner in the women’s 40-49 age group. Charissa Bisch, who won the women’s 30-39 group, placed second overall in 41:39. Elaine Dahl was third overall and second in the 30-39 division in 42:08.

The memory of Pat Kearney was with the runners throughout the race. Kearney, a long-time race official, passed away last month at the age of 59. His brothers Bill and Mike ran. After the race, long-time race official and many-time runner Chuck Richards was awarded the Scotty Wulf Lifetime Achievement Award. “I want to honor my brother Pat Kearney,” Richards said. “He’s the one who got me involved in this race when I was a little kid.”

**2.5 Mile Males:** 1, Keagan Gransbery, 22:27.

**5.2 Mile Females Overall:** 1, Cyndie Lockett, Helena, 40:46; 2, Charissa Bisch, Butte, 41:39; 3, Elaine Dahl, Helena, 42:08.

**0-19:** 1, Abby McGee, 44:22.

**30-39:** 1, Charissa Bisch, 41:39; 2, Elaine Dahl, 42:08.

**40-49:** 1, Cyndie Lockett, 40:46.

**50-59:** 1, Kathleen McElwain, 44:54; 2, Lila Thomas, 53:03.

**60-69:** 1, Eddie Walker, 55:58; 2, Sheila Franey, 1:06:36.

**5.2 Mile Males Overall:** 1, Conor McGee, Butte, 31:28; 2, Pat Judge, Helena, 32:19; 3, Evan Eck, Helena, 33:48.

**0-19:** 1, Conor McGee, 31:28.

**20-29:** 1, Evan Eck, 33:48.

**30-39:** 1, Thomas Jodoin, 37:49; 2, Kelly Ferriter, 39:57.

**40-49:** 1, Pat Judge, 32:19; 2, Don Foley, 35:07; 3, Joe Stimatz, 39:22; 4, Bob Whelan, 40:18; 5, Paul Babb, 42:32; 6, Dan McGee, 44:23.

**50-59:** 1, Dan Sullivan, 34:30; 2, Jeff Braun, 34:42; 3, Bill Kearney, 41:57; 4, Don Grinsell, 42:29; 5, Scott Craiglo, 43:09; 6, Mike Kearney, 47:58; 7, Scott Frisch, 51:20; 8, Jeff Thomas, 53:03.

**60-69:** 1, Fred Jozovich, 46:12; 2, Tim Johnston, 48:47; 3, Tom McQuire, 55:35; 4, Dave Mueller, 55:56; 5, Joe Griffin, 55:59.

**70+:** 1, Bruce Robinson, 1:06:05; 2, Leon Shearman, 1:06:06.