

April 9-10 Highlights

By Charles Clines

The temperatures are becoming somewhat warmer, but that didn't stop participants from gearing up for distances from 26.2 miles to 3.1 over the April 9-10 weekend.

* On Sunday, there were a couple of good male and female winning times at the **Big D Texas Marathon**. **Evan Pollock**, 31, of Austin led the males to win by about 10 minutes with a 2:49:43. Pollock was fifth at Austin half marathon in February with a 1:19:17. The first female, **Jessica Bear**, 23, a former Evangel University (Mo.) runner, won with a 3:18:43. (Note, the results have been corrected after the first posting showed 58-year-old Sharon Joyce as the runner-up with 3:19:15. Last year, she logged a 2:53:24 in the half, so her time apparently was for the half this time, too, and not for the marathon). In the half marathon, **Luke Turns**, 31, notched a fairly easy victory with a 1:23:28. **Nicole Murchinson**, 35, also breezed to the female overall title with a 1:31:13. However, the duel for runner-up was quite close as **Elizabeth Pfaff**, 27, won by two seconds with a 1:34:57 over **Jill O'Neill**, 36. **Kiran Gyr**, 39, of Richardson also had to keep tabs of **Kevin Newton**, 32, of Van Alstyne before winning with a 1:27:09. Newton crossed the finish line in 1:28:29.3.

* **Rachael Sanchez**, 28, of Anna won the **UCAN Half Marathon** in McKinney but had 52-year-old **Janice Moore** of Dallas in her rearview mirror (if she had had one) to win with a 1:36:16.5. Moore came in with a 1:38:10.6

* **John Valentine**, a contributor to CRC and fresh off his Dash Down Greenville victory last month in Dallas held off challenges from **Jonathan Swiathocha** and **Gabriel Zambrano** to win the **Victory over Violence** overall male award. Valentine, 24, raced to a 15:17.3 while Swiathocha, of the speedy Swiathocha family, finished with a 15:35.4 and Zambrano, who won the Fort Worth Zoo run last week, came in with a 15:39.9. **Emily Field**, winner of at least nine area overall female awards, added another victory by turning back long-time Fort Worth elite runner **Megan Skeels**. Field, 34, crossed the finish line with a 17:11 and Skeels, 42, came in with a 17:34. Field also was the female winner at last week's Fort Worth Zoo Run.

* **Cameron Klein**, **Jared Thomas**, both Keller High teammates, and **Clarence Hosey**, 43, were engaged in a three-way battle for the male overall award at the **Music Mile 5K** in Keller. Klein, 15, prevailed with a speedy 17:38, only two seconds in front of Thomas, also 15. Hosey, who was race director for the Heroes for Hope Half Marathon and 5K in January at Trinity Park, finished in 17:47 to win the masters award. The Kleins made a sweep of the overall awards as **Frances**, 14, won the female award with a 20:58.

* **James Jackson**, 59, of Denton just keeps racking up victories. Jackson has won many of the area races during his career, including the 1992 Cowtown 10K when he ran a 30:19. He won the **Run for Rescue 5K** on Saturday with a 16:11.8. Finishing third and winning the male masters award was **Ken Hall**, 52, of Colleyville with an 18:48.9.

* The winner who came from the greatest distance was **Dalton Yeransian**, 22, of Michigan City, Ind. He won the **DOLLS Next Gen 5K** in Plano with a 20:50, about 18 seconds in front of **Matt Karlsen**, 38. Scott Wasserman, 50, of Plano was third with a 22:15.

* 58-year-old **Yolanda Wrightdavis** outran 24-year-old **Jamie Pierce** to win the **Metrocare 5K** in Dallas. Wrightdavis won the overall female award with a 21:48.9 while Pierce came in with a 22:20.6 to take second place.

* Possibly the closest finish for an overall award was in Bonham at the **Women Rock Susan Hicks Memorial 5K** as **Amanda Kirby**, 20, of Bonham logged a 22:09.6 chip time to win the female award, while runner-up **Mireille Hernandez**, 19, of Bonham had a 22:10. Their gun times were 22:15.3 and 22:15.5, respectively. And crossing the finish line just about the same was **Bailey Matlock**, 21, of Durant, Okla., whose chip time was 22:10.3. Difficult to get much closer than those three times.

* 75-year-old **Latralle Thompson** continues to post impressive times. At the **Collin College Cougar Run** in Frisco, she finished with a 29:04.7. She was 29th overall of the 136 finishers.

* 10-year-old **Emma Hoang** won the overall female award at the **Denton County Dash** in Lewisville. She ran a 21:43.8 for the victory. Other 10-year-olds who also logged impressive times included **Zachary Cope** (20:51.8), **Dante Pasello** (20:52.1) and **Owen Stroud** (21:17.5).

* The overall winner at the **Richland Fine Arts 5K** in North Richland Hills was **Michelle Blackard**. The 36-year-old ran a 20:00.364 to edge male winner 54-year-old and weight-training enthusiast **John Studebaker**, who came in at 20:02.474.