

Feb. 20 Highlights

By Charles Clines

It was a great Saturday (Feb. 20) morning, and unusually warmer for February. Makes one wonder what July and August are going to be. Anyway, probably because of the weather, many runners and walkers participated though there were few events on the calendar.

* In one of the closer duels for overall male, **Trevor Pennington**, 13, clipped **Nicholas Newby**, 14, at the **CHS Spartan Stride 5K** in Burleson. Pennington crossed the line in 19:30.10 while Newby came in at 19:32.32. That wasn't the only close finish either as **Christian Bersuch**, 13, won by about seven seconds over **Lester McCarty**, 13, for the 11-14 age division first-place award, and **Rebecca Bender Jutzi** won the 15-19 female division by four seconds over **Olivia Taylor** with a 33:09.06.

* **Michael Fuller**, 20, and **Jonathan Brower**, 27, battled for third place at the **Form Follows Fitness 5K** in Dallas. Fuller pulled ahead to win by two seconds with a 16:44. There seemed to be many faster times than usual, which might question the accuracy or lack of difficulty of the course or else everyone was just pumped up to run. **Brandon Womack**, 28, won the male overall award with a 15:40 and **Emily Field**, 34, of Dallas won the overall female award with a 17:47. Though, these runners certainly appear capable of those times, in January, Womack won the Too Cold to Hold 5K with 16:12 and Field won the female award with an 18:10.

* **Stacey Rotunno**, 33, of Fairview could catch 14-year-old **Sara Moghadas** of Allen at the **Plano Officers Down 5K** and finished about 13 seconds behind in the race for overall female. Moghadas won with a 22:54.8.