

March 19-20 Highlights

By Charles Clines

* Sunday's 9,538 participants at the **Humana Rock 'n' Roll Dallas** were greeted by a cold, blustery morning, but that didn't stop three from battling in a heated race for the male overall award. Everyone was chasing eventual winner **Benson Chesang**, 32, of Kenya and living in Irving. He led **Gabriel Zambrano**, 22, of Fort Worth by eight seconds after the 10K (32:31 to 32:39) and Dallas Marathon winner **Logan Sherman**, 30, of Dallas by 22 seconds. Sherman managed to close the gap to eight seconds after 10 miles while Zambrano fell back to 13 seconds behind Sherman. Chesang kept the lead and won with a 1:08:46 (gun time). Sherman finished at 1:08:54 and Zambrano 1:09:11. Earning the female overall award was **Kelsey Bruce**, 23, of Dallas. She breezed through the 10K mark at 36:53 and went on to win with a 1:18:10. **Whitney Bevins**, 34, of Dallas rallied to take second with a 1:19:17, and **Melisa Christian**, 39, of Dallas was next with a 1:19:52, though she had led Bevins by seven seconds after the 5K. Bevins narrowed the gap to four seconds at the 10K mark (37:28 to 37:32) and pulled ahead by four after 10 miles (1:00:53 to 1:00:57). According to the results, female participants outnumbered the males by 5,755 to 3,783. The overall male and female winners were awarded with \$1,250 each.

* The big race on a cool morning (temps in the 40s after enjoying summer-like weather most of the week), many of the area speedsters showed up for the **St. Paddy's Day Dash Down Greenville** to try taking a slice of the purse. The male and female winners earned \$250, runners-up pocketed \$200, and third places received \$125. And each also received a Dash Down Greenville pullover. A lot of 2,400-plus participants came out to take home the Race Swag, which included St. Paddy's T-shirt, beads and beer bottle opener; temporary tattoos and free beer. For the ones who showed for the competition, the male race proved to be exciting as the top three dipped below the 16-minute mark with **John Valentine**, 24, of Arlington, a contributing columnist for Clines Running Corner, leading the way and finishing with a 15:17. Nine seconds behind was **Peter Chebii**, 31, (15:26), then **Barnabas Kirui**, 30, of Dallas (15:46). **Emily Field**, 34, of Dallas dominated the female race and earned the overall award with a 17:36. It's at least her eighth overall female victory this year in area races. The male masters winner was well-known **Agustin Hernandez**, 44, of Dallas, who clocked in at 16:38. Runner-up was **William Moore**, 54, of Dallas with a 16:59. Winning the female masters award was **Mary Alico**, 52, of McKinney, finishing with a 20:02, five seconds ahead of her nearest competitor **Sondra Puorro**, 40, of Dallas. The masters winners banked \$125 and also took home a pullover.

* Another big race was the **Rock 'n' Roll Dallas 5K**, where 2,002 registered and which was won by **Dee Russell**, 18, of Euless with a speedy 15:35. The female overall winner was listed as **Stephanie Onopa** of Angleton, who crossed the finish line in a speedy 17:21. Strangely, her clock time was 38:12. When she registered, she had indicated her expected time would be 1:05:00. The runner-up is listed as **Shawna Clark**, 34, of Walnut Creek, Calif., with a 19:33.

* **Ramon Aguilar**, 17, won the **Eagle Mustang Run**, clocking a 19:00, 28 seconds in front of barefoot runner **Ahmad Yehia**, 17, of Garland. Yehia topped **Christopher Mewing**, 16, by five seconds for second place. The top eight finishers were 17 or younger with eighth place **Sam Paquette**, the youngest at 13.