

1987 Big Butte Run

Saturday, 25 April –Big Butte primed for records.

159 finishers experience the 8th annual Big Butte Run, and as race spokesman Jerry Youngblood correctly predicted, the hilly course was dry, fast and ready for a record assault. Eight overall or age group records were set, highlighted by Butte's Mary Murphy who smashed her own 11K course record from 1984 by 2 minutes and 29 seconds with a time of 51:26. Murphy was pushed to her new record by Kathie Roos and Penny Colton who both beat Murphy over the top of Big Butte, before Murphy went into overdrive to take the lead on the long downhill Oro Fino Road. Murphy finished 12 seconds ahead of Roos, and 52 seconds up on Colton. All three women finished well under the old course record. With the victory, Murphy secured her fourth Big Butte crown.

Also winning his fourth 11K title was Jeff Thomas, who has run all eight editions of the race. Thomas' time was 41:13, nearly five minutes ahead of second place finisher David Mueller. Thomas' average finish time for his seven runnings of the current 11K course is 41:53.



Four time Big Butte 11K champion Jeff Thomas checks his watch as he crosses the finish in 41:13, missing his PR by 3 seconds.



Big Butte race winners (L to R): John Willard, Butte, 5K; Maggie Smith, Butte, 5K; Mary Murphy, Butte, 11K; Jeff Thomas, 11K.



Four time Big Butte 11K champion Mary Murphy slashes 2:29 off her own course record finishing in 51:26.

The 11K route followed the traditional route over Big Butte and down Oro Fino Road before returning to finish at Tech's Alumni Coliseum as it has since 1982. The 5K started at Tech's gym and went around campus, before dropping down behind Tech and joining the 11K route for the finish stretch up Heartbreak Hill and then down into the coliseum. The 1M run started and finished at the coliseum. The course followed a figure-eight through campus.

In the males' 5K, Butte's John Willard and Hugh Murphy finished only three seconds apart with Willard winning for his second Big Butte title with a time of 18:10. Maggie Smith won the 5K's female division in 21:26, twenty four seconds ahead of Ana Schmitt who was second. For Smith it was a course record and her third victory in this 5K.

Breakdown of Race Finishers				
Race	5K	11K	1M	Total
Total	81	61	17	159

1M Contestants: Teresa Todorovich, Danielle McGuire, Brian Cunningham, Matt Chirdon, Bobby McGuire, Nathan Johnson, Allison Chirdon, Janene Surface, Amy Goldberg.

5K Females Overall: 1, Maggie Smith, 21:36; 2, Tracey Peoples, 22:08; 3, Dawn Clark, 22:39.

0-12: 1, Carrie Coe, 26:44; 2, Lori Shaw, 29:53.

13-15: 1, Stephanie Ryan, 26:12.

16-18: 1, Sara Wideman, 23:12; 2, Wendy Jacobsen, 25:01; 3, Michelle Kaney, 26:15.

19-29: 1, Tracey Peoples, 22:08; 2, Dawn Clark, 22:39; 3, Kim Scott, 25:07.

30-39: 1, Maggie Smith, 21:36; 2, Judy Anderson, 23:34; 3, Jo Foley, 26:22.

40-49: 1, Gertrude Aplas, 24:30; 2, Ellen McCarthy, 25:19; 3, Joan Canty, 30:18.

5K Males Overall: 1, John Willard, 18:10; 2, Hugh Murphy, 18:13; 3, Tom O'Neill, 18:39.

0-12: 1, Darby McGuire, Philipsburg, 20:46; 2, Scott Todorovich, 23:25; 3, Zeke Kaney, 24:29.

13-15: 1, Tom O'Neill, 18:39; 2, Ryan Murphy, 21:19; 3, Scott Johns, 23:00. Goldberg,

16-18: 1, Art Murphy, 22:52.

19-29: 1, John Willard, 18:10; 2, Hugh Murphy, 18:13; 3, Jim Dennehy, 20:39.

30-39: 1, Garland Shaw, 18:52; 2, Pat Kearney, 19:19; 3, Larry Rall, 20:07.

40-49: 1, Dan Shea, 19:30; 2, Phil Telling, 20:33; 3, Graham Munsell, 22:20.

50-59: 1, Rich Voorhees, 21:02; 2, Jim Lester, 21:52; 3, Jack Campbell, 22:23.

60+: 1, Luke McKeon, 28:02.

11K Females Overall: 1, Mary Murphy, 51:26; 2, Kathie Roos, 51:38; 3, Penny Colton, 52:18.

13-15: 1, Heather LaFontaine, 56:40.

19-29: 1, Kathie Roos, 51:38; 2, Julie Faroni, 1:13:51.

30-39: 1, Mary Murphy, 51:26; 2, Penny Colton, 52:18; 3, Joanne Eide, 58:59.

40-49: 1, Rita Drain, 1:01:45; 2, Roberta Campbell, 1:04:11; 3, Lil Haffey, 1:12:32.

50-59: 1, Barbara Campbell, 1:08:47; 2, Joanne Eschler, 1:11:36.

11K Males Overall: 1, Jeff Thomas, 41:13; 2, Dave Mueller, 46:04; 3, Chuck Watts, 47:09.

13-15: 1, Mike Venner, 1:12:06.

16-18: 1, Matt Marinovich, 1:03:39.

19-29: 1, Jeff Thomas, 41:13; 2, Phil Dean, 48:12; 3, Jim Chamberlain, 48:31.

30-39: 1, Chuck Watts, 47:09; 2, Gordon Chirdon, 48:09; 3, Dan Sullivan, 49:50.

40-49: 1, Dave Mueller, 46:04; 2, Larry Wilcox, 50:45; 3, Don Miles, 52:46.

50-59: 1, Bill Yeagle, 52:48; 2, Ed Eschler, 58:19; 3, Pete Madison, 1:01:24.

60+: 1, Phil Zamudio, 58:29.