

Bangor Labor Day 5-Miler September 6, 1972 | Bangor



Larry Greer Wins Annual 5 Mile Race (Bangor Daily News, Roger Hunton)

Never running any farther back than sixth place from the starting gun, Larry Greer of Cape Elizabeth ran in fourth or fifth position in the first two miles before making his move and outdistancing the field to win the 10th Annual Five Mile Road Race sponsored by the Bangor Parks and Recreation Department Monday. He finished off the record pace of 25:43 but wound up with a respectable 26:33.

Second place finisher, 15 seconds behind Greer was Ken Flanders of Portland with Neill Miner of Mansell taking third.

The race was unique in one respect, Robin Voelker of Ellsworth finished 24th in 33:21 and was the first woman competitor in the race's history.

The runners started jockeying for positions when they reached Railroad Street. At that point Bob Hillgrove was the race leader and maintained the edge until they reached the bridge on Valley Avenue.

Ken Flanders, who until that point had been a very close second took over the lead with Neill Miner second, Hillgrove third, Greer a steady fourth, Ralph Thomas fifth and William Sheehan sixth.

The same six runners continued their battle for the lead down Valley Avenue and up onto Holland Street. When the race turned to Holland Street, Greer, Flanders and Miner were running side-by-side up the hill.

The three remained only feet apart as the race continued down Wiley Street to Union. However, by this time they were beginning to pull away from the fourth, fifth and sixth place runners and had opened up about a 50 yard lead.

Thomas, Sheehan, Jeff Sanborn, Paul Gleason and Hillgrove were vainly trying to stay within striking distance but were quickly fading.

As they hit West Broadway and entered the final half of the jaunt, Greer began to pull away. As they reached the intersection of Buck Street he had about 15 yards on Flanders and about 30 yards on Miner. He continued his blistering pace down Buck Street onto Main for the final leg of the journey and by the time he reached the race track at Bass Park he had a commanding 25 yard lead. This he stretched out at the finished.

The race's oldest competitor, 65 year old Cody Jordan of Hampden, would not give up. Although far behind the others, he managed to finish in 1 hour, 36 minutes, 21 seconds. He proved himself capable enough for his age as tow much younger runners were forced to withdraw during the final leg of the race.

Results:

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| 1. Larry Greer, Cape Elizabeth 26:33 | 24. Robin Voelker, Ellsworth |
| 2. Ken Flanders, Portland | 25. Jon Cox, Morrill |
| 3. Neill Miner, Mansell | 26. Randy Ossinger, Grand Manaan, New Brunswick |
| 4. Ralph Thomas, Gardiner | 27. Douglas Graves, Mount Desert |
| 5. Jeff Sanborn, Augusta | 28. Louis Tomak, Perry |
| 6. Peter Gleason, Augusta | 29. Curt Hirsh, Orono |
| 7. William Sheehan, Peabody, Mass. | 30. Tim Frankland, Bangor |
| 8. Bob Hillgrove, Rockland | 31. Robert Lewey, Charleston |
| 9. Stephen Whalen, Danvers, Mass. | 32. Ronald Gervais, Westbrook |
| 10. Don Bondeson, New Sweden | 33. Howard Richard, Mount Desert |
| 11. Mark Beede, Gorham | 34. Lawrence Allen, Cranberry Island |
| 12. William Talbot, Machias | 35. Ted Duffy, Brewer |
| 13. Jeff Umphrey, Augusta | 36. Raymond Blaisdell, East Millinocket |
| 14. Don Paul, Portland | 37. Randy Littlefield, bangor |
| 15. Frank Roberts, Old Town | 38. Peter Kenney, East Holden |
| 16. Will Lund, Augusta | 39. Tim McCluskey, Bangor |
| 17. Norm Cormier, Rumford | 40. Ted Littlefield, Hampden |
| 18. Edward McFarland, Bar Harbor | 41. Paul Jordan, San Beradino, California |
| 19. Michael Cram, Liberty | 42. Harry Trask, Dixfield |
| 20. Eldon Collins, Portland | 43. Robert Hinnicksen, Brewer |
| 21. Brian Manza, Woodland | 44. Cody Jordan, Hampden |
| 22. Eddie Dempsey, East Millinocket | |
| 23. Phil Harmon, Bar Mills | |