

## RUNNING SHORTS

### **Runners aplenty at Huntsville Half Marathon**

By Ken Johnson

Nearly 400 runners from all over east Texas participated in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Huntsville Half Marathon and 5K Run/Walk on October 23. This race is an annual tradition in Huntsville and is an event of the Seven Hills Running Club. It is the third oldest half marathon in Texas.

Both races started and finished in front of the Health & Kinesiology Center on the Sam Houston State University campus. The half marathon course consisted of two 6.55-mile loops around the campus, out and back on Bearkat Blvd. and up and around the Huntsville Unit. The total distance was 13.1 miles. The 5K course consisted of a single 3.1-mile loop around the campus. Both courses present a special challenge to runners who are not accustomed to running hills.

Kevin Bielawski, 24, of Houston was the overall winner of the half marathon with a time of 1:29:10. The record time of 1:09:54 was set by Jon Warren of Houston in 1999.

Tine Jacobsen, 25, of Houston was the fastest female in the half marathon with a time 1:37:09. The female record of 1:19:54 was set by Melissa Hurta of Freeport in 1994.

In the 5K race, Carlo Deason, 41, of Houston won the male division for the seventh time since 1999. His time was 18:11. Sydney Laws, 23, of The Woodlands won the female division with a time of 21:05.

For a complete list of finishers in both races, visit the Seven Hills Running Club web site at <http://7hills.us/hvhalf.htm>.

For the first time, runners enjoyed a pre-race dinner the evening before the race hosted by University Heights Baptist Church and all finishers received a “tech” T-shirt. Jody Slaughter, Race Director and President of the Seven Hills Running Club, wishes to thank all those individual volunteers and organizations that made the race a big success.

The race benefited the YMCA Teen Center.

**Marathoning for Miracles (26.2 miles), Abilene, Oct. 30**  
Ken Johnson, 69      5:39:23 (1<sup>st</sup> in age group)

**Great Pumpkin 5K (3.1 miles), Houston, Oct. 30**  
Shannon Deveney, 37      42:04

**Houston Half Marathon (13.1 miles), Houston, Oct. 24**  
Jody Slaughter, 47      1:52:29

**Shiitake 5K, Madisonville, Oct. 23**  
Fernando Gonzalez, 27      18:13 (1<sup>st</sup> Overall)  
Jerry Flanagan, 70      30:20 (1<sup>st</sup> in age group)  
Don Ortloff, 64      32:12 (2<sup>nd</sup> in age group)

**Frankenthon Monster Marathon (26.2 miles), Cedar Park, Oct. 23**  
Ken Johnson, 69      5:56:33 (1<sup>st</sup> in age group)

**Rose City Triathlon, Tyler, Oct. 17**

(650-meter swim, 14.1-mile bike, 3-mile run)  
Marvin Dittfurth, 67 1:42:54 (3<sup>rd</sup> in age group)

**Upcoming races in Huntsville**

Nov. 6 – Rocky Raccoon 50K (31 miles) & 25K, Huntsville State Park.

Nov. 27 - Leftover Turkey Run, 10K, 5K, 1-Mile Run/Walk, 9 a.m., Veterans Memorial Pkwy..

Dec. 11 – Texas Trail Runs, 50K & 12.5-Mile, 7:30 a.m., Huntsville State Park

For more information about these and other races, visit the Seven Hills Running Club web site at <http://www.7hills.us> and click on Race Schedule.