Merrick, Krebs Capture Titles At Roxbury Season Finale

ROXBURY – True to form, Ken Merrick and Theresa Krebs capped off championship seasons at the weekly Roxbury Road Race Series Saturday, Dec. 7, by winning the 2.4-mile season finale.

Merrick, 44, of New Fairfield, who captured his second consecutive season title in the 40-race series, was clocked in 14-minutes, 5-seconds – a 5:52-per-mile pace - over the rolling course.

Stosh Davis, 16, of New Milford placed second after winning at Roxbury the previous two Saturdays. He was timed in 14:24.

Krebs, 44, of Roxbury took 11th overall over the loop, which included a trip up the steep hill on Chalybes Road. She crossed the finish line in 16:23.

Merrick amassed 2,507 points for the season. New Milford High School social studies teacher Mike Abraham, a Roxbury resident and former season champion, placed second with 2,183 points.

Ryan Ripp was third at 2,111, Steve Whitcomb finished fourth with 2,063 points, Steven Leslie was fifth at 1,848 and Chris Deming took sixth with 1,837.

Krebs annexed the women's title for the third consecutive season, finishing with 1,983 points.

Gabrielle West placed second at 933. Alison Masopust was third with 908, Jeanne Bartkus took fourth at 784, Janet Levy was in fifth place with 779 points and Irene Clarke was sixth at 732.

Whitcomb was named the most improved runner in the 2013 series, Greg Meyn took rookie of the year honors and Bob Lewis received the Service Award.

The annual Bob Lewis Achievement Award was given to Larry Deming.

The runners gave gift certificates to Mary Schafer, Chris Deming, Larry Deming, head director Scott Benjamin and Lewis for their volunteer efforts over the campaign.

There was an average of more than 50 runners per race in 2013 over the 40 events.

The 2014 series will start Saturday, Feb. 15, at 8:30 a.m. over the same 2.4-mile layout. There will be no entry fee.

The races, which are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission, start and finish near the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane.

The 10th annual Roxbury Marathon, which attracts runner from throughout the United States, will be held Saturday, Dec. 14 near the community park.

The 26.2-mile course will cross through other parts of Roxbury.

There is a 7:30 a.m. early-bird start.

The main race will commence at 8:30 a.m.

Registration closed in September.

For more information, contact Scott Benjamin, the head director of the series, at BenjaminS@wcsu.edu, (O) (203) 837-9999, ext. 19825 or access www.roxburyraces.net.