

Harvey Returns To The Winner's Circle; **Masopust Masters Women's Division**

ROXBURY – Wearing a T-shirt from an alumni race at his alma mater, which is where he ran before he became a season champion at the Roxbury Road Race Series in the 1980s, Dave Harvey turned back the clock to the days of small fields starting at the Booth Free School, Rubik's Cube and Joe Montana.

Harvey, 52, who grew up in Bridgewater and was a start runner at Shepaug Valley-Washington High School, placed first over a 6.4-mile loop Saturday, June 18, at the weekly series. He still runs in the alumni races each year at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania.

Harvey was the season champion in 1988 when he had to post a victory and a course record on the final day of the season to overcome his longtime friend Ed Sandifer of Newtown.

It wasn't until two years later that the races moved from the elementary school on South Street to the community park on Apple Lane and the fields grew from the typical low double digits to where in recent years there is an average of 50 finishers per week.

Harvey now lives in Killingsworth, but still occasionally runs in the Roxbury races. He was clocked in 42-minutes, 32-seconds over the course, which included the Minors Bridge and Falls roads.

Ken Merrick, 47, of New Fairfield placed second in 43:41.

Alison Masopust, 32, of Morris was the female champ and eighth overall with a time of 47:08. It was her 12th triumph at Roxbury this season.

The series will resume Saturday, June 25, at 8:30 a.m. with Exercise Your Mind, which will include a 2.4-mile run that will go up and down West Chalybes Road and a concurrent 1.2-mile walk around the track at the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane. There will be no entry fee.

The 31st annual Bill Burley 5.0-mile MidSummer Championship is scheduled for Saturday, July 16, at 8:30 a.m. It is named after the first head director of the series and will include a \$5 entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20. Proceeds will go to the Roxbury park improvement fund.

The races, which are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission, start and finish near the community park.

For further information, contact Scott Benjamin, the head director, at ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com, (860) 354-3521 or access www.roxburyraces.net.