

May 4, 2019

Masopust, O'Shea Garner Medallions At Kershnar MidSpring Challenge

ROXBURY – For the first Saturday of each May the Kroger supermarket in Louisville prepares the bed of roses for the Kentucky Derby winner.

Comic book stores across the country offer no cost merchandise on that first Saturday of May – with everything from Captain Canuck to Archie Andrews - for the Free Comic Book Day promotion.

At the Roxbury Road Races Club series the prizes are wooden medallions designed by former season champion Dave Harvey, whose art work has been a part of the series since 1997.

Alison Masopust, 35, of Morris – a two-time defending season champion in the series – annexed the most covered medallion by finishing first on Saturday, May 4, in the 29th annual 4.3-mile Larry Kershnar MidSpring Challenge.

She was clocked in 28-minutes, 45-seconds – a 6:41 per mile pace -on the route that included a trip down the hill on High Bridge Road.

Tim O'Shea, 29, of Waterbury was second overall in 28:50, which earned him a medallion for being the first male.

Medallions also were presented to the second place male and female finishers, respectively – Jeff Sheldon, 38, of Southbury and Nicole Gaudet, 26, of New Fairfield; and the third-place male and female, respectively, Harvey, 55, a former Bridgewater resident, and Mary Mahrer, 43, the former president of the executive board for the series and a part-time resident of Roxbury.

The race is named after the second head director of the series. Dr. Kershnar expanded the race schedule in the mid-1980s to its current

nine-month format after it had just been eight races through July and August.

He was chairman of the Science Department at New Milford High School and then became a full-time professor in the Education Department at Western Connecticut State University in Danbury. His assignments included the Introduction to Educational Research course in which graduate students had to write the first three chapters of their master's thesis. It is considered the most challenging course in the Education Department's graduate curriculum.

Dr. Kershner's son, Eric, who lives in Woodbridge, ran in the race and helped present the medallions at the post-race ceremony.

The series will resume on Saturday, May 11, at 8:30 a.m. with a 4.2-mile jaunt that will include a trip down the hill on Hemlock Road and up the incline on Ranney Hill Road.

Runners can enter through the \$25 season membership or the \$2 weekly waiver. Youth runners can compete for free by completing the weekly waiver.

The next championship event will be the Bill Burley MidSummer Championship on Saturday, July 13, at 8:30 a.m. at the Roxbury Land Trust preserve on River Road.

The races are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation and except for the MidSummer Championship they start and finish near the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane.

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











