

Eleven Finish Grand Slam as Good Weather Visits Wasatch

by Irv Nielsen and John Grobden

The promise of more course changes loomed over the tenth running of the Wasatch 100. Plans for a Great Western Trail from Canada to Mexico sent the committee scurrying out on a mission to align the 100-mile course with the proposed GW Trail. By the time race-day rolled around, the race committee had made over 30 miles of trail changes, exchanging eight miles of road for trail in the process.

There was a field of 97 starters who seemed to be extremely well-prepared, and there was high anticipation for everyone. All had the pleasure of looking forward to the normal demands of a 100-mile race, plus they had to keep in mind all the obstacles that cropped up at last year's run — high winds, rain, hail, fire, moved ribbons, and wind-chill factors well below zero.

The pre-race favorite, Dana Miller of Utah, was returning for his fifth Wasatch. However, a talented Rick Spady of Montana, co-holder of the course record at Leadville, had entered the race and had spent

more than a week in Utah learning the course and training on the tough Wasatch terrain. The women's race was going to be a complete surprise. Cindy Andrus, a past champion, was entered again this year, but her winning time in 1985 had been bested several times since then. Edith Bogenhuber, Lou Peyton, Margaret Smith, and others had been mentioned as possible winners. Rob "Ole Goat" Volkenand and Fred Riemer each were hoping for their sixth finish at Wasatch. In addition, there were 11 runners trying for The Grand Slam of Ultrarunning — four women, including Helen Klein (who must have been drinking from the Fountain of Youth again), and seven men.

This year the gods smiled and the weather was perfect for the race; the temperature was a little cool and there was cloud cover all day on Saturday, and the weather was clear and cool on Sunday.

The great weather and a more prepared field of runners led to a very fast pace for the first 35 miles of the race. All but two runners had cleared Big Mountain Pass (35.1 mi) by 4:00 p.m. (Some runners, who will remain anonymous, seemed determined

to get lost despite great trail markings.)

Rick Spady was first with a three-minute lead followed by Dick Brainard and Dennis Herr. Dana Miller arrived a minute later and Kevin Reynolds another minute after that. Brainard was heard to comment about a real "horse race" going on. Maybe he thought he was back at Old Dominion.

Margaret Smith took the pace out fast for the women but stomach problems forced her to slow on the Sessions Ridge (and eventually drop out at the half-way point at Alexander Springs) as Edith Bogenhuber took the lead for good at 32 miles. Edith went on to become this year's champion with the second-fastest time ever. Diane de Souza took second with a strong performance and Suzi Thibeault polished off her Grand Slam with a third-place finish.

Spady increased his lead throughout the race to finish first, also with the second-fastest time ever. Only a kitten trying to pace him at mile 98 seemed to freak him out. His pacers were of little help as they lay on Stringtown Road laughing hysterically at 2:00 a.m. while Rick tried to outrun this 12-ounce man-eater. Dennis Herr, first at Old Dominion, recovered from a DNF at Leadville to finish second despite having a big gut ache the first 75 miles. Local unknown, Bill Stenquist, running his first 100-miler, finished third followed by a determined John Moellmer, who was eager to gain entrance into the Royal Order of the Crimson Chee-

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The Grand Slam Winners pose — for the moment at least all can still stand up: (front row, from left) Lou Peyton, Suzi Thibeault, Helen Klein, and Marge Adelman; (rear, from left) Ferdinand de Souza, Max Hooper, Marshall Ulrich, Larry Mabry, Gordon Hardman, Chuck Eidenschink, and Nick Bassett.

tah (sub-24-hour finishers). Dick Brainard came in fifth after two hours of muttering, "Where's the damn Antknolls Trail?"

Rather than dropping out with severe stomach and leg cramps which struck at 35 miles, defending champion Dana Miller showed real class this year with his fifth finish including three firsts and a second. Breaking out of his sub-24-hour rut, he finally got to see the last part of the course in the daylight.

Much to the delight of the race committee all 11 Grand Slammers finished this last segment of the "Run for the Grand." In order of finish they were Marshall Ulrich, Gordon Hardman, Chuck Eidenschink, Nick Bassett, Ferdinand de Souza, Suzi Thibeault, Max Hooper, Larry Mabry, Helen Klein, Lou Peyton, and Marge Adelman. Congratulations to all. Each one of them could tell incredible stories of pain and courage. Larry Mabry saw visions of himself chasing a Trail Gorilla around Solitude Lake and then went on to rescue Lou Peyton from a fierce compulsion to pull out of the race. Max Hooper, who missed the Grand Slam last year after falling prey to moved ribbons, was back and showed real determination by earning his Grand Slam this year. Helen Klein fractured her hand at mile 2 1/2 but still went on to set a Wasatch PR by 40 minutes. One of the Grand Slammers was heard to say, "Do you realize that we ultra trail runners are practicing a sport where paramedics are waiting for us every five to ten miles?"

This tenth running of Wasatch had the highest percentage of finishers in the history of the run (74%). Four runners were inducted into The Royal Order of The Crimson Cheetah. Rob "Ole Goat" Volkenand

and Fred Riemer both finished their sixth Wasatch. The weather was perfect, the runners were very pleased with the new sections of trail, and the checkpoint and aid-station volunteers did an excellent job again this year. It was an almost perfect run for Wasatch's tenth anniversary. Which brings one question to mind. What about next year?

Wasatch Front 100 Mile

E. Layton to Midway, Utah Sept. 9, 1989
23,200' climb; 22,500' descent

1. Rick Spady,37,MT	21:16:37
2. Dennis Herr,42,VA	22:35:02
3. Bill Stenquist,37	23:37:45
4. John Moellmer,44	23:39:30
5. Dick Brainard,43,MA	26:06:25
6. Paul Hart,40	26:24:29
7. Odin Christensen,41,CO	26:28:19
8. Rick May,41	26:28:19
9. Richard Gates,32	26:42:46
10. Marshall Ulrich,38	26:46:41
11. Wendell Robison,37,WY	26:46:41
12. Bob Henderson,43	27:19:22
13. Dana Miller,38	27:52:33
14. Mark Hesse,39,CO	28:13:20
15. Donald Tucker,31,MT	28:30:26
16. Larry Matz,42,CA	28:40:46
17. Gordon Hardman,38,CO	28:50:33
18. Doug McKeever,41,WA	28:50:33
19. Edith Bogenhuber,45,CA	28:57:45
20. Steve Maloney,CO	28:58:14
21. Rob Volkenand,58,OR	28:59:54
22. Rene Casteran,41,OR	28:59:54
23. Chuck Eidenschink,36,OR	29:00:01
24. Nick Bassett,44,CA	29:40:21
25. Gene Thibeault,43,CA	29:12:30
26. Mike Price,39,GA	29:13:08
27. O. R. Petersen,52,CO	29:13:30
28. Stuart Smith,30,CO	29:22:08
29. Bill Bothe,30	29:34:35

30. Bert Meyer,44,CT	30:49:28
31. Kerry Strauss,38	30:51:39
32. Chris Campbell,28	31:28:44
33. Bob Baska,31,MD	31:52:08
34. Edwin Furtaw Jr.,41,NV	32:04:31
35. Peter Munding,38,CO	32:05:22
36. Diane deSouza,32	32:06:57
37. Ferdinand deSouza,36	32:06:57
38. John Peacock,51,NV	32:09:41
39. Eric Edmunds Jr.,36,CA	32:19:18
40. Edwin Demoney,55,VA	32:38:36
41. William Gilli,32,AR	32:43:37
42. Mick Donoff,45,CA	32:44:22
43. Michael Murphy,43,NY	32:44:22
44. Cliff Davies,55,CO	32:44:22
45. David Hardy,36	32:52:04
46. Fred Denys,43	33:00:59
47. Duncan Orr,38	33:04:49
48. Ed Mighell,59,NV	33:12:26
49. Stephen Kissell,28	33:14:53
50. John Ooley,34,OK	33:24:20
51. Brad Graber,46,NV	33:38:08
52. Bob Cox,47,NV	33:38:08
53. Jerry Campbell,51	33:42:04
54. Burgess Harmer,47,NV	33:45:09
55. Suzi Thibeault,42,CA	33:47:48
56. Dick Collins,56,CA	33:48:13
57. Kevin O'Grady,30,OH	33:57:15
58. Max Hooper,42,AR	34:01:17
59. Nick Williams,46,AR	34:01:17
60. Jeri Sims-Masters,32	34:04:36
61. Cindy Andrus,33	34:10:49
62. Larry Mabry,42,AR	34:12:27
63. Helen Klein,66,CA	34:21:53
64. Phillip Krumm,53,OR	34:28:01
65. Fred Thalmann,32	34:34:57
66. Bill Arthur,43	34:41:38
67. Jim Ingalls,44,TX	34:56:26
68. Lou Peyton,45,AR	35:14:39
69. Dick West,48,MI	35:18:02
70. Marge Adelman,39,CO	35:35:18
71. Pete Coffin,44	35:36:16
72. Fred Riemer,41	35:54:24
97 starters	



At The Finish

Larry Mabry (left) and Nick William, both from Little Rock, Ark.; David Hardy (lower left), Salt Lake City, sound asleep; Dana Miller (lower right) and his wife; and a happy Fred Riemer, finishing with only five minutes to spare.

Photos: Janet Reffert/
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