

WASATCH THE COURAGE TO TRY FRONT

by John Moellmer

Maybe it was the cold, damp, misty air, or the first morning light revealing the snow-covered hills, but whatever the cause, the race started fast and strong. This year's Wasatch Front 100 Mile Endurance Run had the greatest percentage of finishers since becoming a run with hundreds of runners. A 75-percent finish rate speaks to great conditions for running. The trail was firm, the air cool, and the night was calm.

Entering the race for the first time, Nicholas Clark took first place men's with a time of 20:21:04. Behind him in a time of 21:19:11, Neal Gorman came in second. Never mind that Neal had finished the other three Grand Slam races with a record combined time of 74:54:16. In third place was Matthew Hart with a time of 21:54:38. Matthew also ran the Wasatch 100 for the first time. Darcy Africa was the first place woman, finishing in 23:20:01. Darcy is not new to Wasatch and had previously completed the Ultra-running Grand Slam as well. The second place woman was Suzanne Lewis with 27:27:29, followed by Lorie Hutchison in a time of 29:48:32.

Not only was the finish rate higher than seen in many, many years, so too was the number of runners finishing in under 24 hours. The number of these "Crimson Cheetahs" was a big 16, all of whom lined up for the bizarre and cruel induction into the "Royal Order of the Crimson Cheetah". To be inducted into the order, runners are required to kneel on the ground to receive their crowns (from Burger King).

This year we also had three ten-time finishers: Marc Collman, David Klein, and Michael Schlier. Finishing one Wasatch is hard enough, but

finishing ten of them is really over the top. Each received a ten-year ring in commemoration of their accomplishment. Rick Gates added to his legendary status by finishing Wasatch again and claimed his 26th finish (of 26 starts) for over a quarter of a century of running Wasatch.

The "Spirit of the Wasatch" award was presented to Troy Olson for his long time contribution to the race. Troy provides the race with lots of administrative support, helps with copying, and even created a new finish line banner within days of the finish. Troy certainly exemplifies the ideal of excellence that Wasatch celebrates.

This year, 50 percent of the runners who finished were first-time entrants. Wasatch prides itself on being a run designed for first-timers, providing a level of care and concern to foster a love of the sport. Indeed, at the pre-race meeting, race director John Grobbsen said, "There are many famous runners here and we're not going to talk about any of you." For the race committee, that's the charm of Wasatch; giving new, scared, and willing first-timers a chance. Like all the entrants at 5:00 a.m. on Friday morning, they had the courage to try.

The Grand Slam is held at the conclusion of the Wasatch 100 to recognize those runners finishing four of the oldest 100-mile runs; Western States, Vermont, Leadville, and Wasatch. This year 13 runners were able to complete this grueling challenge: Aaron Mulder, Chad Piala, Dale Holdaway, David Larsen, Drew Meyer, Ernie Floyd, Grant Sisler, Harris Goodman, Jamshid Khajavi, Keith Straw, Neal Gorman, Shawn Krause, and William Cook. ■

A 75-percent finish rate speaks to great conditions for running.

WASATCH FRONT 100

100 MILES | KAYSVILLE, UTAH | SEPTEMBER 10 | ▲ 5,4

1. Nicholas Clark, 36, CO	20:21:04	27. Brian Beckstead, 28	26:52:27
2. Neal Gorman, 34, DC	21:19:11	28. Benjamin Bruno, 26, CA	27:04:01
3. Matthew Hart, 35, WA	21:54:38	29. Aaron Mulder, 35, PA	27:07:45
4. Anthony Culpepper, 29, AZ	21:57:46	30. David Toone, 52	27:27:13
5. Mick Juryne, 32	22:21:57	31. Suzanne Lewis, 34	27:27:29
6. Nick Pedatella, 25, CO	22:31:58	32. Mark Lisak, 53, CO	27:29:51
7. Jared Campbell, 31	22:39:36	33. Benjamin Corrales, 36	27:39:09
8. Aaron Spurlock, 35, ID	22:53:40	34. Chad Armstrong, 41, TX	27:39:34
9. Peter Lindgren, 40	23:05:31	35. Lex Curtis, 35	27:44:41
10. David Larsen, 39, OR	23:19:00	36. Shaun Christian, 37	27:48:20
11. Todd Gangelhoff, 38, CO	23:19:52	Marc Sanderson, 39	27:48:20
12. Darcy Africa, 35, CO	23:20:01	38. Jeffrey Holdaway, 51, VA	27:51:08
13. Luke Nelson, 29, ID	23:30:30	39. Grant Sisler, 33, CA	27:53:45
14. Glen Merrill, 34	23:32:43	40. Sander Nelson, 43, OR	27:59:17
15. Erik Storheim, 37	23:41:55	41. Arie Leeftang, 33	28:00:18
16. Hyperphil Lowry, 44	23:51:55	42. Kyler Rendle, 37	28:01:07
17. Stuart Gleason, 30	24:21:08	43. Jeff Bertot, 37	28:04:12
18. Matthew Connors, 32	24:51:55	44. Derek Blaylock, 41	28:05:44
19. Patrick McMurtry, 51	25:21:25	45. Andrew Wittwer, 40	28:11:25
20. Rich McDonald, 34	25:24:10	46. Dan Kuperberg, 46, WA	28:23:43
21. Tom Remkes, 48	25:32:39	47. Gary Redwine, 53, OR	28:27:11
22. Ross Litherland, 34, UK	25:46:36	48. Davy Crockett, 52	28:28:47
23. Dave Walick, 39, TX	26:10:05	49. Tom Dunham, 57	28:30:30
24. David Hunt, 51	26:18:08	50. Mark Colby, 42	28:35:56
25. Cory Johnson, 45	26:23:04	51. Brian Harward, 36	28:38:43
26. Steve Takahashi, 39	26:34:25	52. Ben Doar, 26, CA	28:43:19

53. Richard Lee Nef, 40
 54. Ryan McDermott, 34
 55. Charlie Vincent, 50
 56. Chris Anderson, 51
 57. David Pease, 47
 58. Scott Kunz, 28
 Cody Haycock, 32
 60. Trace Lund, 40
 61. Phil Canning, 46, GA
 62. Ian Farris, 28
 63. Josh Greenwell, 30
 64. Michael Tilden, 43, CA
 65. Thomas Higgins, 43
 66. Gilles Cote, 53, CO
 67. Andy Avery, 33
 68. Eric Johnson, 44
 69. Stan Sieverts, 36
 70. Dustin Haycock, 35
 71. Thomas Nelson, 36
 72. John Lewis, 43
 73. Unknown Miller, 59
 74. Vishal Sahni, 30, IL

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 75. Shane Martin, 43
 76. Rich White, 29, WA
 77. Lorie Hutchison, 46
 78. Kean Hankins, 44, NC
 79. Jamshid Khajavi, 57, WA
 80. Catherine Litherland, 33, UK
 81. Troy Robertson, 45
 82. Henry Liston, 35
 83. Pam Reed, 49, WY
 84. Chip Collins, 47, OR
 85. Roy Cardwell, 32, CO
 86. Kris Quandt, 36, WY
 87. Chris Nunn, 41, WA
 88. Elizabeth McCoy, 45
 89. William Cook, 41, CA
 90. Chris Gerber, 36, CO
 91. Greg Moellmer, 30
 92. Darrell Phippen, 32
 93. John Maack, 49
 94. Henry Peck, 53, MD
 95. Carl Tippets, 57
 96. Pete Mehok, 32, TX

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 97. Fran Zelenitz, 37, MT
 Mark Fuhrman, 46, CA
 99. Ernie Floyd, 56
 100. Rodger Smith, 39
 101. Ken Ward, 53, OR
 102. Amie Blackham, 31
 103. Dave Briggs, 41, NV
 104. Chad Piala, 34, CO
 105. David Klein, 46
 106. Dave Evans, 33
 107. Shawn Krause, 30, MD
 108. Carter Williams, 52
 109. Jeff Pauline, 38
 110. Steven Anderson, 49, VA
 111. Charles Yuen, 41, WA
 112. Trey Barnes, 26, CA
 113. Andy Knight, 25
 114. Dale Holdaway, 43, MI
 115. Pete Stevenson, 37, CO
 116. Kelly Paasch, 29
 117. Donald Milligan, 50
 118. Michael Schlier, 54
 119. Jeff Nielsen, 48
 120. Bob Murphy, 52, NE
 121. Jim Milar, 48
 122. Ryan Lauck, 29
 123. Brian Caplin, 43
 124. Gordon Hardman, 59, CO
 125. Anna Bates, 48, WA
 126. John Wells, 36
 127. Michael Bevers, 49
 128. Chihping Fu, 44, CA
 129. Brian Wade, 36
 130. Ken Cushing, 43
 131. Wayne Harrell, 45
 132. Dominic Guinta, 40, IL
 133. Yitzhak Gilon, 60, CA
 134. Stanford Petersen, 50
 135. Rick Gates, 53
 136. Jordan Ward, 24, ID
 137. Donn Zea, 52, CA
 138. Marc Collman, 53
 139. Jon Tilp, 53, CO
 Todd Cook, 40
 141. Cole Christensen, 35
 142. Alex Bennett, 38
 143. Ryan Martin, 41, CO
 144. Danny McDowell, 34
 145. Martin Fritzhand, 67, OH
 146. Troy Lesovsky, 45, CA
 147. Karen Helfrich, 43
 148. Jeff Lunt, 53
 149. Kathy Milligan, 47
 150. Eric Grol, 33, PA
 151. Mike Price, 60
 Steve Westlund, 59
 153. Jeri Neese Pugh, 58
 154. Jason Thomas, 18
 155. Jim Knight, 57
 156. James Ehasz, 57, AZ
 157. Franklin Wood, 41, SW
 158. Ron Hammett, 40, NV
 159. Paul Escola, 41, CA
 160. Bill Losey, 38, OH
 161. Heidi Bennett, 33
 162. David Dyatt, 44
 163. Aristotle Theodore, 38
 164. Guy Hardcastle, 42
 165. J Miller, 40
 166. Drew Meyer, 63, TX
 167. Harris Goodman, Md, 45, CA
 168. Mike Blommer, 30
 169. Kimberly De Marco, 40
 170. Steve Tibbitts, 37
 171. Jeff Bethers, 25
 172. Quintin Barney, 51
 173. Jim Williamson, 50
 174. Kerry Collings, 61
 175. Lori Pratt Smith, 57
 176. Cheryl Meltzer, 38
 177. Keith Straw, 55, PA
 178. James McGregor, 67
 179. Joe Judd, 47, CO
 180. Gary Tinker, 46, IL
 181. Colleen Ford, 48
 182. Teruo Ouchi, 64, AI

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