

Roadrunner Race for all

By M.B. Dillon
staff writer

More than 1,200 runners, walkers and wheelers will gather 5:30 p.m. Saturday, July 20 in Livonia for the 8th annual Roadrunner Classic, fast becoming one of state's biggest races.

Staged by the Redford Road Runners, the certified 8-kilometer event features a flat, fast and accurate course with three aid stations and splits at every mile. The 8K starts at 6:30 p.m.

The Junior One-Mile Run at 6:45 of the evening's festivities at 5:30 p.m., followed by the One Mile Walk/Run at 6 p.m.

Late registration and the start will be near the Livonia Family YMCA on Stark Road, just west of Farmington Road (near Lyndon), half a mile north of the Jeffries Expressway.

The evening race is expected to draw a wheelers' field second in size only to the Detroit Free Press/Mazda International Marathon.

Co-race director Dan Domagalski says treats galore are in store for the Classic, which once again will be highlighted by dancing under the stars until midnight at Veterans Park.

RUNNERS WILL receive a musical send off from bachelors Doug Keyes, Ed Bicknell and David Machin, who'll sport their colorful wool kilts and berets (even if it's 90 degrees).

"For the dinner and party afterward, we've ordered 350 pounds of hotdogs," said Domagalski. "We'll have lots of fruit and big chocolate chip cookies, and Kool Aid and lemonade during dinner. Later on we'll have dancing, with music from disc jockeys Darryl and Terry Kelly, and besides beer, we'll have 2,000 glasses of 7-Up and root beer." (Racers will also be able to drink Exced.)

The Roadrunners Classic is known for its artful T-shirts, and this year is no different.

"We have a great T-shirt design this year," said Domagalski. "It's white with neon green, black, blue and light blue. It shows a bunch of little

running

runners with the moon behind them at twilight, running over this hill, and the hill is a shoe."

T-shirts aren't guaranteed for runners who register the day of the race.

"WE'LL HAVE all kinds of great little toys and throw-aways to throw into the crowd when people are dancing," Domagalski said. "I'll be kind of like Mardi Gras, we'll throw them a lot of trinkets, plus some nice prizes."

"For the awards, we tried to do something different this year. There'll be a two-inch by three-inch medal with the Roadrunner Classic logo on them on a ribbon for age group winners. We'll go three deep in five- and 10-year age groups."

The course will start near Veterans Park on Stark, head south past the Y and proceed south to Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive).

Runners will head west to Levan, and north on Levan as far as Lyndon. They'll go right on Lyndon into a subdivision for half a mile. The course takes a left at Fairlane, and a right onto Five Mile. Runners will continue east on Five Mile, cutting behind the shopping center at Farmington and Five Mile before heading north on Farmington to Lyndon. They'll take a right on Lyndon and head back to the park. The finish is in front of the Y on Stark.

"It's a P.R. (personal record) course if it's not too hot," said Domagalski. "The course itself is fast." (Runners may lose a few seconds if they succumb to the temptation to avail themselves of the Barb Llewellyn Hugstap.)

WATCH FOR clip-out entry forms in the Observer & Eccentric newspapers, or call Running Fit at 347-4949 for an application.

Late entry fee (after July 15) is \$20, which includes the race, t-shirt, dinner, snacks and beverages.

Entry is \$13 for each additional adult family member over 12. The fee is \$11 for the one-mile fun walk/run and party, and \$8 for those 12-and-under for all events.

The O&E, Jack Demmer Ford, Ross Mortgage Corp., Running Fit, Jet Speed Printing, General Fasteners Co., the Livonia Y, Livonia Recreation, Farmer Jack, Tri-County Orthopedic Group, P.C., and Exced Sports Nutritionals are corporate sponsors of this year's event.

Those who run the Classic, the Trenton Treadmill and the Allen Park run will complete the Triple Crown, and receive a magnetized can opener with the logos of all three races.

Kiosk entered in the one-mile run will receive medals. Those completing the one-mile walk will get ribbons.

Entrants may want to bring a towel for the outdoor co-ed shower and a pen to make their mark on the "Classic Graffiti Wall."

AMONG THE hundreds entered so far is veteran marathoner Jim Kenney of Pinckney. Kenney has multiple sclerosis and will wheel the race with help from members of the People Who Run Downtown.

Runners pushing Kenney are raising pledges for the M.S. Society of Michigan. For the top pledge raiser, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. is offering the use of a Toyota luxury Lexus sedan for two weeks.

"M.S. has always been a very good cause, and this really is an ongoing part of our community affairs program," said John McCandless, Midwest regional manager for Toyota. "This is a worthwhile event, and it's something we can do without too much trouble. Jim really is a very energetic individual; he's really the moving force behind a lot of the effort to gain awareness for M.S. He's always a pleasure to work with."

Use of the Lexus will be arranged at a time mutually convenient for the winner and Toyota, McCandless said.



Brad Emons

Boxer remembered

Continued from Page 1

HE MADE IT a point once to send our sports reporter, Steve Kowalski, a thank you note after a story appeared about him after one of his amateur tournaments.

His neighbors on San Juan in Detroit called him "warm and friendly."

A captain in the army reserve, Fitzpatrick led a disciplined lifestyle, but he always had a soft spot in his heart. Soucy also recalls the time Fitzpatrick wrote a letter for leniency to a Detroit judge for a defendant, a fellow boxer, who was involved in a murder case.

Being a trooper, Fitzpatrick wrestled with his decision about writing the letter, but the judge, upon sentencing, gave the defendant probation, citing Fitzpatrick's recommendation as the reason for his decision.

Fitzpatrick is gone, but not forgotten. His dream of making our society a better place to live will not die.

The Board of Directors at the Livonia Boxing Club recently established a \$100 scholarship in his name. A boxer from the Detroit area will be selected annually to receive a scholarship from the fund.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to: The Kermit Fitzpatrick Fund, Michigan National Bank, 3300 Five Mile, Suite 100, Livonia, MI 48154. Checks can also be dropped off at any Michigan National branch.

Payne making a return to ring

By Brad Emons
staff writer

"I'm back, not as Jason or Freddie Krueger," said the answer to one of boxing's best trivia questions.

What boxer owns wins over Mike Tyson, three-time Olympic Gold Medalist Teofilo Stevenson of Cuba and 1984 Olympic Gold Medalist Tyrrell Biggs of the U.S.?

Livonia's own Craig Payne, who was runner-up to Biggs in the 1984 U.S. Olympic Trials.

It's been six years since the highly touted amateur super-heavyweight stepped into the ring. Now 28, with just one professional bout (a victory) to his credit, Payne will face Detroit's Krueger's Vernon Griffin in a scheduled six-round Tuesday night along with LBC assistants Roger Coon and Bill Clements.

"Things happened, and I just walked away," Payne said. "Things just didn't work out when I turned pro, and I lost interest."

"I didn't want to get hurt. If I had made the type of money I was capable of making back then, I might not be here today, as wild and crazy as I was. I might be dead."

Payne, who is dedicating the fight to LBC teammate and slain State Trooper Kermit Fitzpatrick, said "I've settled down, I'm a homebody."

PAYNE IS NOT quite in fighting shape, the fit-and-tiddle form that earned the 1983 National Golden Gloves crown against the then 16-year-old Tyson.

But the Livonian is down to 285 pounds from a previous high of 365. "I ballooned, but I'll get in better shape. I've been out so long I don't want to waste any more time."

Payne, who lives on Five Mile in Livonia, has been doing construction work since he dropped out of boxing.

"My company is called Champ Construction. We'll do anything - patios, driveways, porches, any type of cement work. Call me at 425-6557 if you need anything done."

"I got my business going, and I'm doing OK. I want to get back

boxing

into the top 10."

Shortly after Payne turned pro, his problems started.

He fled with his amateur coach, Paul Soucy, and haggled over making bag money, managers and contracts.

IRONICALLY, Soucy, director and coach of the Livonia Boxing Club, will be in Payne's corner Tuesday night along with LBC assistants Roger Coon and Bill Clements.

"I used to worry what the public thought, but I'm over that now. I can fight with a clear conscience."

"I'm in it for me. I know there are a lot of doubters out there, but I'm out to prove them wrong. I'm fighting for the working people in the world, the ones just like me."

"I always had the dream, if never went away, and now it's come back to me. I had to get my house in order because you don't want to become, as they say, 'poor, broke or black.'"

Payne also said the George Foreman's comeback spurred him on.

"They said a big man and an older man couldn't do it," said Payne, who will have a large family cheering him on. "I'm in the same boat, only I'm a little younger."

Local linkers excel

Patricia White of Bloomfield Hills and Brian Donohoe of Rochester Hills came away as winners in their respective age groups last Monday at the eighth annual Great Lakes Junior Masters Golf Tournament at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville.

There were 259 junior golfers competing in the five divisions of the 54-hole tournament.

White fired 83-84-81/248 to edge Holly Alcala of Prospect Heights, Ill., by a single shot in the girls 15-17 division. Alcala shot 82-83-84/249.

Donohoe finished with a 75-72-77/224 to beat runner-up Matthew Smith of Columbus, Ohio (74-76-79/229) in the boys 14-15 division. Tom Stevens of Troy placed fifth with a 79-82-79/240.

Robert Nogart of Rochester Hills narrowly lost to Tyler Smith of Grand Blanc in the boys 11-13 division. Smith fired 90-87-82/259, while Nogart placed second, one stroke back with a 89-88-85/260.

golf

IN THE BOYS 16-17 division, Troy resident Jason Pablosky and Farmington Hills' Jason Buhn and Joe Sullivan tied for fifth, each carding 228. Pablosky shot 79-74-76, Buhn had an 81-71-77 and Sullivan scored 75-75-78.

Birmingham's Doug Voss placed 10th in the division (75-77-79/231), followed by Rochester Hills' Bryant MacKellar (80-72-80/232) and Farmington's Adam Hibbs (78-80-75/233).

Craig Cucinella of Orchard Lake earned the Sportsmanship Award.

On July 1, White, MacKellar and Stevens qualified for the Optimists' Junior World Golf Championships, which will feature 101 juniors from across the nation in a tournament at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego Tuesday through Friday.

Glen undefeated

Propelled by six individual double-winners, Farmington Glen Athletic Club kept its Northwest Suburban Swim League dual-meet record perfect by splashing past Woodbrook Hills Swim Club of Farmington Hills 319-234 Thursday at Glen.

Glen took 29 of 52 firsts in running its record to 5-0.

For the girls, there were three double-winners. Brenda Newton in the 13-14-year-old 50-meter freestyle (21:05) and 50 butterfly (35:41); Katie Booms in the 9-10 50 free (38:37) and 50 fly (45:08); and Hannah Pawlewicz in the eight-and-under 25 breaststroke (24:25) and 25 backstroke (24:28).

The boys were led by double-winners Eric Newton in the 15-16 100 individual medley (1:07:12) and 100 free (37:20); Nick Scorsone in the 11-12 50 fly (41:34) and 50 back (42:50); and Matt Egbers in the 9-10 50 breast (51:87) and 50 free (42:27).

Other Glen individual winners in girls' events were Karen Maible in the 11-12 50 back (42:34); Bridget Kozlowski in the 15-16 50 breast (42:04); Jessica Petrus in the eight-and-under 25 fly (26:70); Andrea Delle-Monache in the 11-12 50 breast (41:27); and Rebecca Weary in the 15-16 50 fly (34:22).

For the boys, other individual winners were Bob Holdridge in the 15-16 50 breast (34:72); Jared Fitzpatrick in the 11-12 50 free (35:22); Michael Murland in the eight-and-under 25 free (19:94); Karl Pawlewicz in the 11-12 100 IM (1:20:88); Robbie Gunkel in the eight-and-under 25 fly (24:80); Matt Loris in the 9-10 50 breast (46:74); Don Boyer in the 13-14 50 free (27:70); and Jason Hoher in the 15-16 50 fly (29:55).

PIEMONTESE SWIM CLUB of Farmington Hills used three triple-event winners to clober Deer Lake 356-181 in a Tri-City League dual meet Wednesday.

Jill Hawkins collected three individual firsts in the 15-17 girls division, winning the 50-meter butterfly (31:73), the 100 individual medley (1:12:41) and the 100 freestyle (1:02:13).

Ben Goebel had similar success in the boys division, posting wins in the 13-14 50 fly (33:08) and 50 free (30:39), and in 15-17 100 IM (1:19:29). Mark Benavenga was a triple-winner for the eight-and-under boys, taking the 25 fly (22:87), the 25 backstroke (23:92) and the 25 free (19:37).

Piemontese double-winners were Maureen Gerwatsky in the 13-14 girls 50 breaststroke (37:80) and 100 IM (1:15:28); Liz Mitchell in the 13-14 girls 50 fly (36:23) and 50 back (37:13); Danny Belanger in the 11-12 boys 50 breast (37:60) and 15-16 100 IM (1:16:94); Emily Curtin in the 11-12 girls 50 fly (40:51) and 50 free (36:44); Todd Benavenga in the 9-10 boys 25 breast (20:30) and 25 free (32:12); and Devin Hopper in the 9-10 boys 25 back (19:75) and 25 free (15:31).

Single-event winners were Sarah Weber, 15-17 girls 50 back (36:52); Tom Tessada, 15-17 boys 50 fly (40:86); Mike Langdon, 13-14 boys 50 back (39:93); Sean Hollister, 13-14 boys 50 breast (38:17); Jill Benavenga, 13-14 girls 50 free (30:27); Adam Weber, 11-12 boys 50 back (42:14); Adrienne Perry, 11-12 girls 50 back (42:91); Liana Rambois, 11-12 girls 50 breast (46:03); Sheri Hopper, 11-12 boys 50 fly (40:02); Scott Kneller, 9-10 boys 25 fly (17:75).

Committee tags Duggan

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soccer community; 4) population (the metro area is the sixth largest in the country); 5) geography (Canada and several states border Michigan); 6) community infrastructure (accessibility to the site); 7) International

Broadcast Capability (the ability to transmit the games to other parts of the world).

Ross Berlin, a 1974 Bloomfield Hills Andover graduate, is the site vice president of venues for the U.S. World Cup Committee.

CITY OF FARMINGTON ELECTION NOTICE

PETITIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE at the Office of the City Clerk, 33500 Liberty Street, Farmington, for the nomination of candidates for THREE seats on the Farmington City Council.

PETITIONS may be requested from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and must be filed between AUGUST 6 and AUGUST 16, 1991, by 5:00 p.m. All candidates who qualify will be placed on the ballot. There is no Primary Election. Voters will elect THREE Councilpersons on a Non-Partisan ballot at the Regular City Election on Tuesday, November 5, 1991.

Candidates for nomination must have the following qualifications:

- Must be a qualified, registered elector of the City of Farmington on August 16 and throughout the tenure of office;
- May not be in default to the City or any other governmental unit of the State;
- Must submit petitions signed by at least 50 and not more than 75 qualified registered electors by 5:00 p.m. on August 16, 1991;
- Must submit an affidavit of identity to duplicate;
- Must submit an affidavit of name change (if applicable).

The terms of Council members William Hartsock, JoAnne McShane and Ralph Yoder will expire in 1991.

JOSEPHINE M. BUSHEY,
City Clerk

Publish July 15, 1991

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