

Hills police again host 10K fun run for charity

BY TIM SMITH
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About 10 years ago, Farmington Hills police Officer Michael Farley had an idea and the department ran with it - literally.



Refreshed: 10K runners Doug Tilson and Leigh-Ann Godwin cool off after the race. Both are members of the Windsor, Ontario Police Department.

Today, the annual 10K fun run for the Muscular Dystrophy Association is going strong and Farley is still very much involved with it. Saturday, about 200 runners participated in the event, which began and ended at Oakland Community College - Orchard Ridge Campus.

The overall winner was Thomas Preiss, with a time of 33:20. Capturing the top women's time was Susan MacLenn, at 39:40. Nancy Sauer of Farmington Hills was the first woman to cross the 5K finish line.

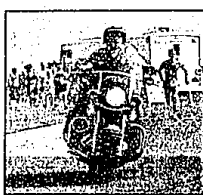
The names and times of other division winners were not yet available.

"We expect to donate between \$4,000-\$6,000 when all is said and done," said Farmington Hills police Assistant Chief Richard Niemisto, calling the event a success.



And they're off: Brett Marquardt protects his ears as Farmington Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer fires the starter pistol for the run.

Among top business sponsors were Boleford General Hospital, Nissan Research and Development and Household Insurance Co., Niemisto said. The route began and ended at the OCC campus, with runners going through various subdivisions and neighborhoods along



Follow the leader: Runners begin the race led by this officer, riding a Harley motorcycle.

the way. Niemisto said the course was basically bordered by Oakland Drive on the north, 10 Mile Road on the south, Orchard Lake Road on the east and Farmington Road on the west.

Niemisto said about 80 of the fundraising participants ran in the 5K event, which took place at the same time and isn't as competitive as the longer race.

The race, which is open to anyone, has always been to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association, he added.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL DEERER

On the move, in the heat: Nancy Sauer of Farmington Hills was the first woman to cross the 5K finish line during Saturday's 10th annual race to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. At left, some of the estimated 200 participants get going on a hot and humid day. The course began and ended at Oakland Community College - Orchard Ridge Campus.

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