

Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312



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DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Terry Elsey of Farmington Hills was the overall winner of Saturday's Heart of the Hills 10K race at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School. Elsey finished the course in 31:45.

Westland eliminates SF from AABC tournament

South Farmington's bid for a second straight appearance in a national baseball tournament was dashed by arch-rival Westland.

After splitting its first two games in the AABC tournament in Coldwater, South was eliminated by the eventual winner Sunday, 12-4.

Westland, the North-Central Region representative, leaves today on a return trip to Waterbury, Conn., where it will attempt to defend its national championship.

Farmington, which finished with a 28-9 record, was third in the National Amateur Baseball Federation's tournament in Northville last year. South and Westland both compete in the Little Caesars Mickey Mantle travel league.

Westland, which received an automatic bid to the regional, jumped to a 6-1 lead after two innings and added six more after South closed to within 6-4, invoking the eight-run mercy rule.

"IT SEEMED like we were hitting the ball hard; they just hit it better," said South coach Lou Pirronello, adding he fully anticipated another national appearance.

"I knew we had our hands full — as much as I thought we had a great team," he said. "There was a lot of competition."

Ben Underwood started against Westland, but was chased after 1 1/4 innings, allowing six runs on seven hits.

"It was a real credit to Westland the way they hit the ball against him," said Pirronello, recalling Underwood pitched one-hit relief to beat Team Tire No. 1 of Macomb County on Thursday.

David Mirale, Billy Hardy — both of whom were named to the all-tournament team — and Rich Hamel had two hits apiece, and Kevin Young hit a two-run double.



BILL BREISLER/staff photographer

Semifinals in hockey

Dan Lambert attempts a point-blank shot at Spartans goalie Dave Cergut in a Metro Summer Hockey League semifinal game Monday at the Plymouth Ice Arena. Lambert and his Wildcat teammates rallied from an 8-0 deficit in the third period to post a 13-10 victory. The surging Wolverines won the other game, 9-3 over the Broncos. See Page 4D for details on the games.

By Bill Parker
staff writer

Terry Elsey beat the heat and the hills.

Tisch Schmidt and Joe Thornburg beat the odds.

Elsey was the overall winner of Saturday's third annual Bloomfield Hills Heart of the Hills 10K run.

Schmidt was the women's division winner and Thornburg was the oldest participant in the race which took runners over a hilly course and across the winding streets surrounding Bloomfield Hills Andover High School.

Elsey, a 35-year-old Farmington Hills resident, hadn't intended to try to win the race, but the victory was "an added bonus."

"This has to be the toughest course in Michigan," said Elsey who completed the race in 31:45. "It was constant hills and some of them were pretty decent, too."

Having finished seventh in an Allen Park 5K run the night before, his 32nd race of the summer, Elsey wasn't going all out to win the Heart of the Hills race.

"I went out real slow so I was able to hold out pretty well near the end," explained Elsey. "It was a fun race, but I think I'm getting too old to be doing that stuff."

THORNBURG, AT AGE 71, would probably argue that point with Elsey after stating how much he liked the race.

"That was probably my best time of the year," said the Troy resident who completed the course in 47:24.

"I loved the course and enjoyed the run, but I hated those hills. I was a little humid, too, but not real bad. I thought the race was well conducted and it should draw more participants in the future."

Schmidt broke the tape in the women's division in 38:59. The win was a personal triumph for the Brighton resident who sustained a broken back three years ago in an accident.

After a long, tedious recovery period, Schmidt began running competitively in May. Not only was this her first 10K victory, but she also achieved a personal goal of breaking the 40-minute barrier.

"It was so hilly. It was an awesome course," Schmidt said. "The last three miles were all hills. I've been running almost every weekend since May. I was trying to break 40 (minutes) and I flooded it. I can't believe it. This is great."

OVERALL, NEARLY 400 runners took part in the race which featured a 10K run and a 2-mile fun run. Proceeds of \$8,000 will be donated to the

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— Terry Elsey
Heart of the Hills winner

SAKORAFIS ALSO apologized for any inconvenience during the two-mile fun run. Evidently there was a mix-up on the course. Many of the leading runners missed the turnaround at the one-mile mark and ended up running better than three miles instead of two.

"I want to apologize about the mishap on the two-mile run," Sakorafis said. "We have all volunteers out there helping us and I guess we overplanned. There was some confusion on the course and I'm sorry for any inconveniences."

In the under 19 division the top three female finishers were K Browne, 44:08; Jennifer Galland 45:31; and Susan Lee, 53:56. Top three male finishers were O. Meler, 32:20; Eric Blieverment, 36:34; and Jon Fry, 37:54.

In the 20-29 division the top three female finishers were Trish Schmidt, 38:59; Linda Filar, 39:51; and Elizabeth Lang, 44:40. Top three male finishers were Eric Barron, 32:52; Carl Rundell, 34:45; and Mike Frampus 35:41.

In the 30-39 division the top three female finishers were Jan Jacobs, 39:19; Maggie Zidar, 41:19; and Marlene McC, 42:28. Top three male finishers were Terry Elsey, 31:45; Stan Polkowski, 34:21; and Patrick Hoyle, 35:25.

In the 40 and over division the top three female finishers were Georgann Tonnigury, 41:34; Nancy Wales 44:11; and Roberta Thaxton, (time not available). Top three male finishers were Ronald Ruffin, 35:48; Alan Glosack, 36:49; and Tim Klinkhamer, 38:03.

Holzer wins regional, 2D

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