

## **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Cross Country Captain Captures Roxbury Run**

**ROXBURY – Former Brookfield High School runner Paul Malek, 22, now a captain on the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute cross country team, easily won a 3.52-mile run Saturday, Mar. 15, at the Roxbury Road Race Series.**

**Malek covered the layout, which included a trip up the long hill on Hemlock Road, in 20-minutes, 36-seconds – a 5:51-per-mile pace.**

**Ken Merrick, 45, of New Fairfield, the defending two-time season champion in the weekly race series, placed second in 21:35.**

**Leah Papsin, a former Wamogo High School and University of Connecticut at Storrs soccer player, took first in the women’s division and ninth overall with a 23:18 clocking.**

**The series will continue Saturday, Mar. 22, at 8:30 a.m. with a 3.57-mile run that will include a journey down the steep hill on Chalybes Road and up the long incline along Hemlock Road. There will be no entry fee.**

**The Larry Kershner 4.3-mile MidSpring Challenge will be held Saturday, Apr. 26, at 8:30 a.m. There will be a \$5 entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20. Proceeds will go to the Roxbury park improvement fund.**

**The race is named after the late Dr. Kershner, who was head director of the race series from 1980-1985.**

**The top overall male and top overall female finisher will each receive a \$10 gift certificate to an area running store.**

**The runners also will announce at the post-race awards ceremony the high schools that will receive their annual grants.**

**The races, which are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission, start and finish near the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane.**

**For more information, contact Scott Benjamin, the head director, at [BenjaminS@wcsu.edu](mailto:BenjaminS@wcsu.edu), (O) (203) 837-9999, ext. 19825 or access [www.roxburyraces.net](http://www.roxburyraces.net).**