

Malek, Papsin Triumph Again Over Roxbury Roads

ROXBURY – Paul Malek and Leah Papsin captured the respective overall male and female titles at the Roxbury Road Race Series for a third consecutive week, although Papsin received a strong challenge in the Mar. 29 event from her nearest competitor over the 3.7-mile loop.

Malek, 22, a former Brookfield High School harrier who is now a captain on the cross country team at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, finished the course, which included a trip down the hill on Chalybes Road and up the steep incline on Ranney Hill Road, in 21-minutes, 3-seconds – a 5:41-per-mile pace.

Two-time defending season champion Ken Merrick, 45, of New Fairfield, placed second in 22:40.

Papsin, 26, a former soccer player at the University of Connecticut at Storrs had to hold off Alana Levy, 24, of Chappaqua, N.Y., to make it five consecutive victories to start the 2014 season in the weekly runs.

Papsin placed seventh overall in 24:42 and Levy was eighth in 24:45.

The series will continue Saturday, Apr. 5, at 8:30 a.m. with a 3.95-mile race that will include a trip along a jeep trail.