

Rossiter, Masopust Take The Roxbury Laurels In Kershner MidSpring

ROXBURY - - A former New Milford High School distance runner who scored his third triumph of 2015 at the Roxbury Road Race Series and the female champion from the previous week were the winners in the 4.2-mile MidSpring Challenge.

Cole Rossiter, 22, was the overall champion on the rolling, loop Saturday, May 2, with a time of 25-minutes, 36-seconds – a 5:57-per-mile pace.

Ken Merrick, the three-time defending season champion, was second overall in 25:54 during the jaunt, which included a trip down the hill on High Bridge Road.

Masopust, 31, took the female division and was seventh overall with a clocking of 29:53. She also has scored a victory at the weekly series April 25 over a different 4.2-mile layout.

Rossiter and Masopust each received a \$10 gift certificate to an area running store.

The race is named after the late Dr. Larry Kershner, a former longtime Roxbury resident who was the head director of the series from 1980-1985 and took the steps to expand it from an eight-week season through July and August to the current 40-race schedule from the third week February to the first week of December.

The runners raised \$194 from the entry fees, which will be donated to the Roxbury park improvement fund.

The series will resume Saturday, May 9, at 8:30 a.m. with the second annual Shepaug Valley High School Class of 2017 Lyme Disease Awareness Run. There will be a 4.2-mile race that will go down the incline on Ranney Hill Road and up the hill on Hemlock Road. There also will be a 1.9-mile walk that will take off at the same time as the race.

There will be a \$5 per runner entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20 a.m. The Shepaug Valley sophomores will also accept donations to promote Lyme Disease Awareness.

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

For further information, contact Scott Benjamin, the head director, at (860) 354-3521 or ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com.