

September 2, 2017

Merrick, De Marrais Master Roxbury Mile II

ROXBURY – The most dominant runner of the current era at the Roxbury Road Runners Club series and a hedge fund manager who ran and studied at an Ivy League school annexed the crowns in the Roxbury Mile II.

Ken Merrick, 48 of New Fairfield – the five-time defending champion in the weekly series and the leader of this year’s point standings - covered the route from near the end of Apple Lane to the Booth Free School on South Street in 5-minutes, 33-seconds. It was the former Danbury High School football player’s 11th victory this year at Roxbury and third in a row.

Merrick also had captured the Roxbury Mile I on May 27. This marked the 15th consecutive year that the Roxbury Mile has been run.

Chris Deming, 50, of Danbury – a former season champion at Roxbury and an assistant director for the weekly runs - took second in 5:45 on Saturday, September 2, in the field of 46 finishers.

Marge De Marrais, 53, of Sharon - who has worked on Wall Street after writing research papers and running cross country and track & field at Princeton , which Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos also attended at that time – was the first female finisher and placed fifth overall in 6:03.

It was her first race in a year after sustaining injuries. Since 2003, De Marrais has contributed more than \$3,000 to the series’ T-shirt/grants campaign.

The series will resume on Saturday, September 9, at 8:30 a.m. with a 3.7-mile run that will include a trip in both directions along part of South Street and also up the long incline on Ranney Hill Road.

Runners can enter through the \$50 season membership or the \$5 weekly waiver.

The ninth annual Roxbury Land Trust Race over a 3.0-mile loop will be held on Saturday, September 16, at 8:30 a.m., starting and finishing near the land

preserve on River Road. There will be a \$5 entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20. Proceeds will go to the land trust.

All other weeks 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 race director, at ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com, (860) 354-3521 or access www.roxburyraces.net.