

FUN IN THE SUN

More than 1,500 runners fill streets of Dixon in 12th annual race

Rookie brothers from suburbs 1-2 in men's race

BY DAN WOESSNER
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800-798-4085, ext. 553

DIXON - For the better part of the last decade, Jim and Linda Foster of Dixon had been trying to convince their nephews to come to town and run in the Reagan Run 5K.

They offered free room and board, and anything else that Andrew and Paul Jellema of Lansing, Ill., wanted.

Finally, the two brothers accepted the offer.

The rest of the Reagan Run field knows who to thank, as the brothers took first and second Saturday in the 12th annual event.

"Our aunt and uncle have been trying to get us to do this for a long time," Andrew said. "We usually run in races closer to home this time of the year. I am really glad that we came up here for this. It was a fun course and a nicely ran race."

"Where we are from there aren't the kind of hills we had here. To get a hill, we go to the overpass in the interstate. Here the hills were a challenge and the trails kept it interesting."

Andrew, 24, won the race with only the second sub-16 minute performance in the history of the Reagan Run.

Andrew won in 15 minutes, 59 seconds. The record for the course was set last year by Belvidere's Paul Zeman at 15:47.

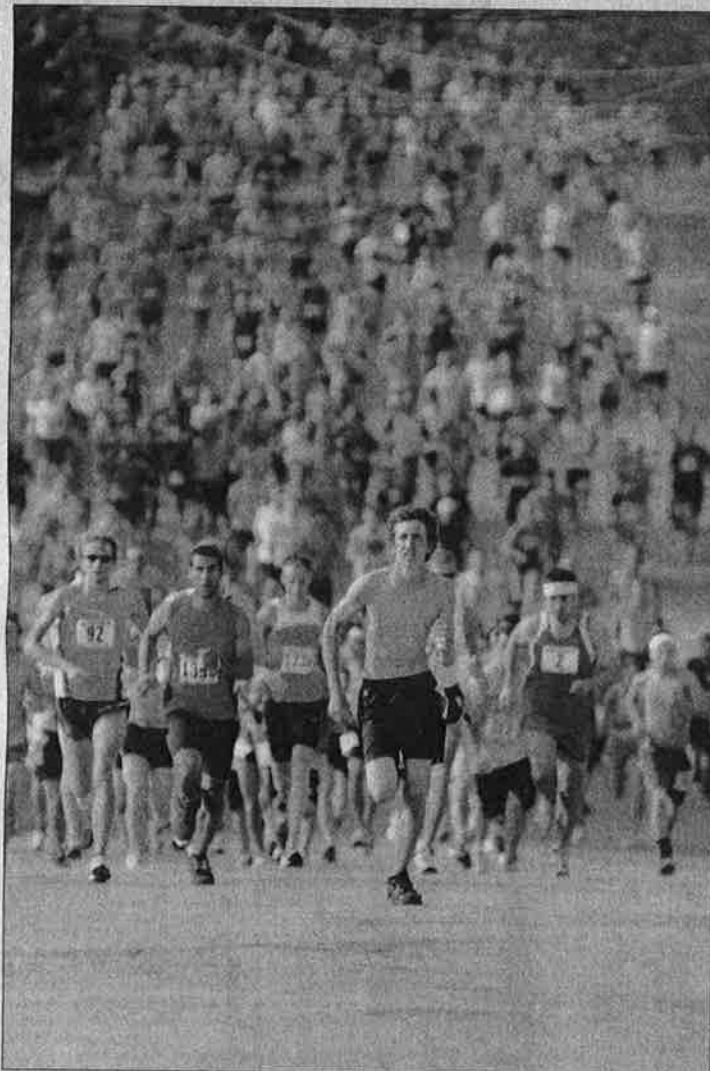
Paul Jellema was second in 16:10.

"I think if I had been able to keep up with him better, his time would have been lower," Paul said. "It's hard to keep pushing when you're so far ahead."

MEN CONTINUED ON B5 ▶

Top men

- | | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Andrew Jellema | 15:59 |
| 2. Paul Jellema | 16:10 |
| 3. Simon Thorpe | 16:26 |
| 4. Mark Johnson | 16:34 |
| 5. Dylan Reyes | 16:37 |



David Rauch/drauch@saukvalley.com

Runners make their way up Hennepin Avenue at the start of Saturday morning's Reagan Run, part of Dixon's Petunia Festival. Andrew Jellema (92) of Lansing, Ill., won the men's race in 15 minutes, 59 seconds. Rockford's Jessica Langford (below right) won her third consecutive women's race, in 18:14.

Langford wins women's race for third straight year

BY DAN WOESSNER
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DIXON - Jessica Langford didn't really have competition for her third straight Reagan Run women's title on Saturday.

The 40-year-old from Rockford won in 18 minutes, 14 seconds, which was 1:44 better than second-place Suzy Stahley of Rock Falls.

Despite the gap, it didn't mean that Langford was not tested.

With temperatures reaching up into the mid-80s even at a.m., with a punishing sun and high humidity, the course was a challenge enough for the veteran runner.

"It was really hot," Langford said. "Usually by July, you are used to running in this type of heat, but it has been so cool this year. That made it a challenge."

Langford could not best the women's record she set last year at 17:38. She also won in 18:34 in 2009.

"I kind of shot right in the middle," Langford said. "This is a race that you can attack tactfully. Once you've ran it once or twice, you can start to come up with a plan for the best race."

"I am not one of those runners that push up hills. I tend to lay back and then make up ground at the top and on the way down."

Langford is the second woman to win the race three years in a row. Dixon native Jessica Schauf won in 2003-05. Schauf is the only person to win either the men's or women's divisions four times.

Langford also joins men Anthony Welty and Bryan Glass as three-time winners.

WOMEN CONTINUED ON B5 ▶

Top women

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 1. Jessica Langford | 18:14 |
| 2. Suzy Stahley | 19:58 |
| 3. Chelsea Sondgeroth | 20:00 |
| 4. Brittany Schwarz | 20:15 |
| 5. Kaitlynn Thome | 20:43 |

Inside: Dan Woessner column, B5. Complete results, B5-6.



This was one hot run

DIXON - The temperature read 81 degrees on a bank's sign on Galena Avenue in Dixon at 7:30 a.m. Saturday.

Add in the sun, the humidity and a couple thousand people from up to 20 states and at least two foreign countries (United Kingdom and Singapore), and one thing was instantly clear.

The 2011 Reagan Run 5K was going to be hot. It is possible that other years have been just as warm, but as most of the runners agreed, this year felt it was the 50s.

"It's been 50s and 60s throughout my training," overall winner Andrew Jellema of Lansing said. "Even when it did get hot, it was raining. It's tough to go out hard in these conditions."

Women's champion Jessica Langford looked up at the sky about an hour after the start of the race.

"I think they should have started at 9 a.m. this year," Langford said. "It's starting to cloud up a little now. That would have made it easier."

Despite the high temps, the organizers of the

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Reagan Run did a great job being prepared, with plenty of water around the course and at the finish line.

There did not appear to be one dehydrated person among the 1,580 runners who signed up.

What seems to be even more unpredictable than the weather are the results of the race.

For the second consecutive year, a first-timer entered the field and won. In 2010, it was Belvidere's Paul Zeman. On Saturday, it was Jellema and his brother, Paul, leading the field pretty much from start to finish.

Behind them was 15-year-old Simon Thorpe. If he keeps improving, it won't be long before Thorpe adds his name to the list of accomplished runners to

win the Reagan Run. On the women's side, age seems to be no issue. Langford, 40, and Suzy Stahley, 41, took first and second.

"I am going to keep coming back here till I am too old that I can't win it anymore," Langford said. "I'll probably still come and try and win my age division. It won't be long till some of these high school girls start catching me."

The two closest heirs to the throne Saturday appear to be Dixon's Chelsea Songderoth and Brittany Schwarz. Songderoth was third in 20:00 and Schwarz fourth in 20:15.

Whoever can knock Langford from her throne will earn it. She's won three in a row now.

Who knows what will happen? The next Reagan Run could be in the rain and cold.

The only sure thing is that there will be even more folks crowding the streets in Dixon.

The event started with 315 runners in 2000. It's grown to 1,500 contestants.

Next year, expect more runners. Maybe 2,000.



David Rauch/drauch@saukvalley.com

Simon Thorpe of Dixon reacts to his third-place finish at Saturday's Reagan Run in Dixon. The 15-year-old finished in 16 minutes, 26 seconds.

Dixon's Thorpe top local

MEN
CONTINUED FROM B1

The brothers grew up in Lansing and attended Illiana Christian High School, where they ran cross country and track. They both continued running for the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Ind.

Andrew is working toward his graduate degree in physical therapy at Governors State University. Paul, 26, is working at a bicycle shop in Cedar Lake, Ind. As a result, he's been doing more biking than running lately.

"That was the first time I've beat Paul in a 5K,"

Andrew said. "I've done more marathons and longer runs, and he's usually stronger in these."

"I just haven't been doing as much running," said Paul, who ran professionally for two years after college. "I know that I can run a better time than this, but I have to get back into training."

Finishing behind the Jellema brothers was Dixon sophomore Simon Thorpe. The 15-year-old held his own against a solid group of older runners, finishing in 16:26.

Thorpe improved his time from last year by 20 seconds. He placed sixth in 2010.

"I am glad that I was able to represent my

community so well in the hometown race," Thorpe said. "With it being so hot, I tried not to go out too hard in that first mile. I ended up not having a whole lot left by the end, but I was happy with the run overall."

Former Rock Falls boys track coach Mark Johnson was fourth in 16:34, followed by Dylan Reyes, a member of Newman's 2009 state championship cross country team, in 16:37.

Anthony Welty, a 3-time champion and only former men's champion in the field, was eighth in 16:44. He came in right behind his younger brother Jon, who finished in 16:43.

RF's Stahley second in debut

WOMEN
CONTINUED FROM B1

ished in 19:58. "I finished under 20

decided that we'll do it again next year and make

2011 REAGAN RUN | OFFICIAL RESULTS

1. Andrew Jellema, Lansing	15:58	107. Brooke Smith, Dixon	21:31	213. Jim Dewey, Amboy
2. Paul Jellema, Cedar Lake, Ind.	16:41	108. Brandon Neaville, Dixon	21:31	214. Brooklyn Kania, Kansas City
3. Simon Thorpe, Dixon	16:26	109. Tressa McNair, Amboy	21:34	215. Stacia Drengrenberg, Dec
4. Mark Johnson, Sterling	16:34	110. Dagan Vanover, Dixon	21:39	216. Shane Miller
5. Dylan Reyes, Sterling	16:37	111. Tara Songderoth, Dixon	21:41	217. Gary Vlasopoulos, Rock Falls
6. Justin Jones, Sterling	16:38	112. Austin Jones, Dixon	21:42	218. Jason Hofer, St. Charles
7. Jim Welty, Dixon	16:43	113. Ron Haub, Rochelle	21:42	219. Jenny McBride, Dixon
8. Anthony Welty, Sterling	16:44	114. Jonathan Dempsey, Dixon	21:43	220. Parker Orbeson, Dixon
9. Matt Deane, Dixon	16:45	115. Matt Orso, Plainfield	21:43	221. Lisa Heiser, Dixon
10. Jake Bar, Menomonee	16:53	116. Spencer Carlson, Dixon	21:44	222. Brad Nolan, Clinton, Iowa
11. Jesse Landis, Sterling	17:45	117. Aaron Hardin, Dixon	21:46	223. K.C. Knack, Dixon
12. Dylan Reyes, Sterling	17:45	118. Gary Jungmann, Dixon	21:50	224. Kyle Erickson, Arlington
13. Nicholas Haller, Alton	17:47	119. Bryce Miles, Byron	21:56	225. Blair Teger, Spring Valley
14. Ryan Hummel, Dixon	17:45	120. Peter Hockop, Byron	21:59	226. Kala Gieseler, Sterling
15. Bryan Hayes, Sterling	17:52	121. James Long, Springfield, Va.	21:59	227. Robert Dasey, Amboy
16. Jeremy Miller, Dixon	18:00	122. Dakota Francisco, Dixon	22:00	228. Mike Vint, Sterling
17. Zach Bloomer, Sterling	18:03	123. Ben Carter, Bur Oak, Minn.	22:01	229. Matt Schuller, Rock Falls
18. Zach Bloomer, Sterling	18:07	124. Jason Gahner, Rock Falls	22:01	230. Jeremy Lawson, Crystal Lake
19. Michael Cook, Kewanee	18:08	125. Jessica Wind, Rock Falls	22:02	231. Zachary Kozminski, Deer Park
20. Kristen Conroy, Dixon	18:11	127. Dylan Kwag, DeKalb	22:04	232. Sara Harrison, Dixon
21. Christopher Deering, Rock Falls	18:13	128. Ryan Wachter, Rock Falls	22:05	233. Anne Fortin, Sterling
22. Jessica Langford, Rockford	18:14	129. Kayla Frost, Dixon	22:07	234. Zachary Kirschner, Chica
23. Matt Francisco, Rock Falls	18:24	130. David Appte, Dayton, Ohio	22:09	235. Chris Thompson, Dixon
24. Michael Halverson, Byron	18:26	131. Chris Pearson, Rock Falls	22:09	236. Samanthi Shroenaker, R
25. Eric Dewey, Sterling	18:26	132. Dakota Francisco, Dixon	22:10	237. Corrie Swanson, Rockford
26. Kyle Boone, Dixon	18:26	133. Ryan Hainstock, Dixon	22:11	238. Laurie Faller, Polo
27. Ryan Amst, Princeton	18:27	134. Todd Purdy, Sterling	22:12	239. Devin Love, Dixon
28. Jason Kozminski, Sterling	18:41	135. Ruben Johnson, Rock Falls	22:13	240. Chase Jamison, Dixon
29. Joey Songderoth, Dixon	18:43	136. Mandy Porter, Rock Falls	22:15	241. Tracy Choy, Plainfield
30. James Worley, LaPorte, Iowa	18:45	137. Patrick Hockop, Byron	22:15	242. Adam Love, Dixon
31. Brian Wagner, Dixon	18:45	138. Kyle Lytle, Dixon	22:15	243. Brittany Jensen, Crystal L
32. Brady Harrison, Sterling	18:55	139. Chad Lich, Woodrow, Mo.	22:19	244. Chase Jamison, Dixon
33. Ryan Amst, Princeton	18:56	140. Aaron Book, Dixon	22:19	245. Sydney Koman, Dixon
34. David Harty, Rock Falls	18:56	141. Jason Garcia, Rock Falls	22:20	246. Christopher Welly, Dixon
35. Zachary Piper, Amboy	19:10	142. Brian Dewey, Sterling	22:23	247. Tanya Drans, Sterling
36. Jason Wiseman, Dixon	19:17	143. Megan Hayes, Sterling	22:24	248. Joseph Bragg, Dixon
37. Nate Jones, Dixon	19:17	144. Robert Edinger, Sterling	22:26	249. James Harrison, Dixon
38. Brian Kozminski, Sterling	19:23	145. Dan Allen, Dixon	22:26	250. Amanda Kuczyński, Byron
39. John Forstman, Dixon	19:25	146. Lukas Wozniak, Dixon	22:29	251. Dan Johnson, Dixon
40. Jeff Forstman, Dixon	19:26	147. Jason Rogers, Mt. Morris	22:30	252. Ryan Johnson, Rock Falls
41. Sam Doherty, Rock Falls	19:29	148. Brock Lehman, Burlington	22:31	253. Dan Beckler, Sterling
42. Mike Baker, Sterling	19:29	149. Morgan Drew, Burlington	22:32	254. Dennis Humphrey, Ashton
43. David East, Rock Falls	19:29	150. Brian Hahn, Rock Falls	22:32	255. Evan Ryan, Sterling
44. Ben Truax, Chicago, Iowa	19:29	151. Matt Hoy, Sterling	22:32	256. Jason Smith, Rock Falls
45. David East, Rock Falls	19:29	152. Doug Kees, West Brookfield	22:32	257. Doug Casey, Sterling
46. Jake Gschwendt, Sterling	19:30	153. John Harman, Dixon	22:32	258. Tyler Ryan, Sterling
47. Anthony Wells, Amboy	19:32	154. John Harman, Dixon	22:32	259. Tom Stumpert, Sterling
48. Justin Truax, Dixon	19:35	155. Roger Schuber, Sterling	22:32	260. Andrew Stigmar, Dixon
49. Austin Truax, Dixon	19:35	156. Owen Van Horn, Dixon	22:32	261. Alison Gibson, Glen Elly
50. Daniel Pitts, Chicago	19:36	157. Jacob Fane, Dixon	22:32	262. Missy Copalick, Sterling
51. Ben Truax, Chicago, Iowa	19:40	158. Jason Mast, Hoffman Estates	22:32	263. Kaitie Rapp, Sterling
52. Ryan Cleary, Dixon	19:45	159. Luke Mayers, Dixon	22:32	264. Shannon Riley, Sterling
53. Nick Brunck, Oak Park	19:46	160. Emily Johnson, Dixon	22:32	265. Dan Johnson, Dixon
54. Ryan Cleary, Dixon	19:47	161. Todd McLean, Dixon	22:32	266. Dan Johnson, Dixon
55. Charlene Shek, Dixon	19:48	162. Steve Johnson, Sterling	22:32	267. Megan Leaf, Rock Falls
56. Michael Blas, Polo	19:51	163. Emma Vonnort, Sterling	22:32	268. Mike Bartz, Dixon
57. Jason Cook, Rock Falls	19:52	164. Eric Anderson, Menomonee	22:32	269. Mike Dale, Elmwoodpark
58. Kelley Wasscott, Bloomington	19:53	165. Michael Sotthol, Dixon	22:32	270. Ryan Johnson, Dixon
59. Andrew Thompson, East Moline	19:54	166. Colin Davis, Dixon	22:32	271. Richard Halverson, Rock
60. Mike Westfall, Sterling	19:57	167. Jacob Fane, Dixon	22:32	272. Alison Fratellotte, Sterling
61. Zach Paine, Dixon	19:57	168. Mike Grady, Dixon	22:32	273. Nicole Kozminski, Sterling
62. Ryan Jendry, Dixon	19:57	169. Mike Grady, Dixon	22:32	274. Aya Dewey, Dixon
63. Gary Sawyer, Rock Falls	19:58	170. Julie Giamberini, Dixon	22:32	275. Myra Nuchbaum, Rock
64. Jacob Hennessy, Sterling	19:59	171. Brett Bonwell, Aurora	22:32	276. Kuba Stronczyk, Chicago
65. Jacob Hennessy, Sterling	19:59	172. Jesse Nicholson, Dixon	22:32	277. Megan Leaf, Rock Falls
66. Greg Kozminski, Loves Park	20:05	173. Amanda Trincolo, Rock Falls	22:32	278. Cliff Galt
67. Joshua Landis, Sterling	20:05	174. Jason Garcia, Rock Falls	22:32	279. Mike Bartz, Dixon
68. Justin Burkett, Oregon	20:10	175. Savannah Dams, Rock Falls	22:32	280. Andrew Linares, Dixon
69. Chelsea Songderoth, Dixon	20:10	176. Stephanie Heald, Oregon	22:32	281. Christine Hoyte, Oregon
70. Brittany Schwartz, Dixon	20:15	177. Stephanie Heald, Oregon	22:32	282. Jim Dukow, Sterling
71. Cole Schneider, Clinton, Iowa	20:19	178. Nick Gave, Big Rock	22:32	283. Andrew Linares, Dixon
72. Jacob Nelson, Dixon	20:19	179. Dave Schreiner, DeKalb	22:32	284. Caroline Costello, Dixon
73. Justin Kopp, Sterling	20:20	180. Nick Gave, Big Rock	22:32	285. Patrick Watkins, Sterling
74. Tom McDermott, Rock Falls	20:22	181. Kay Haug, Yorkville	22:32	286. James Rodriguez, Dixon
75. Doug Rhodes, Polo	20:22	182. Nick Gave, Big Rock	22:32	287. Rachel Beckard, Dixon
76. Michael Casey, Wisconsin	20:23	183. Jim Larkins, Homer Glen	22:32	288. Sylvia Ozyan, Sterling
77. Amy Wilkins, Byron	20:24	184. Daniel Hansen, Sterling	22:32	289. Jennifer Johnson, Dixon
78. Chris Blankett, Dixon	20:27	185. Danyelle Ehrlich, Rock Falls	22:32	290. Jennifer Kleck, Cary
79. Alexander Hoyle, Dixon	20:27	186. Michael Lawton, Dixon	22:32	291. Ron Kucer, Indianapolis
80. Joseph Wiley, Dixon	20:29	187. John McFalls Jr., Oregon	22:32	292. Fuller Awarado Jr., Ster
81. Zachary Hayes, Sterling	20:32	188. Scott Pagan, Dixon	22:32	293. Ray Schmidt, Dixon
82. David Siskel, Sterling	20:42	189. Doug Halverson, Dixon	22:32	294. Samantha Vuk, Dixon
83. Jim Preston, Sterling	20:43	190. John Seelig, Dixon	22:32	295. Matthias Kermann, De
84. Kaitlyn Truax, Big Rock, Minn.	20:44	191. Alec Donahy, Rock Falls	22:32	296. Lissette Galt, Sterling
85. Kim Brown, Oregon	20:44	192. Joshua Baker, Dixon	22:32	297. Dyan Carita, Elmwood
86. Tim Halverson, Dixon	20:44	193. Steven Carlson, Dixon	22:32	298. Lucas Mackin, Elmhurst
87. Andrew Galt, Sterling	20:45	194. Kalle Johnson, Oregon	22:32	299. Brady Harris, Oregon
88. Ryan Morrison, Rock Falls	20:50	195. Tracy Hendel, Polo	22:32	300. Brannee Hunter, Oregon
89. Cody Hart, Ashton	20:52	196. Cameron Overman, Dixon	22:32	301. Melissa Hardin, Dixon
90. A.J. Acherman, Prosbuiltown	20:53	197. Michael Boshman, Bushville	22:32	302. Rocco Quattrio, Rock Fa
91. Andrew Kozminski, Rock Falls	20:57	198. Ray Tywinski, Dixon	22:32	303. Kyle Commons, Dixon
92. Jeffrey Kirby, Dixon	20:54	199. John Taylor, Green Lake, Wis.	22:32	304. Derek Mossholder, Dixon
93. Ben Dempsey, Dixon	20:56	200. Jason Garcia, Rock Falls	22:32	305. Steven Kaiser, Sterling
94. Matthew Sims, Sterling	20:57	201. Justin Wilczak, Sterling	22:32	306. Brittany Guzman, Ambo
95. Anne Wiseman, Dixon	21:10	202. Julie Aramian, Rock Falls	22:32	307. Anne Brouse, Dixon
96. Paul Jones, Ottawa	21:16	203. Jason Morrison, Dixon	22:32	308. Jennifer George, Sterling
97. Jacob Hennessy, Sterling	21:23	204. Jonathon Linds, Sterling	22:32	309. Chris Gentry, Oregon
98. Paul Campbell, Dixon	21:24	205. Rachel Laine, Dixon	22:32	310. Matt Schurmeier, Dixon
99. Chris Bishop, Dixon	21:24	206. Jeff Stahley, Sterling	22:32	311. Ryan Zeman, Woodstock
100. Andy Jackson, Sterling	21:25	207. Cindy Nolan, Iowa	22:32	312. Brian Halverson, Dixon
101. Norman Schlegel, DeKalb	21:25	208. Jon Miller, Loves Park	22:32	313. Terry McGraw, Sterling
102. Ryan Hayes, Sterling	21:28	209. John Taylor, Green Lake, Wis.	22:32	314. David Anderson, Franklin
103. Charlie Bishop, Sterling	21:27	210. Jeff Chapman, Arlington	22:32	315. Andrew Schriener, Dixon
104. Lucas Zimmerman, Amboy	21:28	211. Diane Schalkin, Dixon	22:32	316. Timothy McBride, Dixon
105. Mark The, Sterling	21:29	212. Christopher Padgett, Dixon	22:32	
106. Brandon Young, Rock Falls	21:29			

RESULTS CONTINUE

Sauk Valley Media will be publishing a player's page in recognition for any baseball or softball player, whether it be T-Ball, Little League, Boys, Minor League Girls Softball, Major League Girls Softball, e

The Player's Page will be published Saturday, July 16, 2011

The ads will also be on our e-edition at saukvalley.com on July 16, 2011!

Simply complete the form below and attach a photo and payment for All photos may be picked up at the Sauk Valley Media location they were delivered to on or after Monday, July 18, 2011. Fill out the form below and drop it off with payment in person

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103. Charlie B
104. Lucas Z
105. Mark T
106. Brandon

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Dixon's Thorpe top local

MEN
CONTINUED FROM B1

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RF's Stahley second in debut

WOMEN
CONTINUED FROM B1

"This has become a must stop every summer," Langford said. "I really enjoy the course and how excited the community gets about the race."

Stahley made her debut at the Reagan Run. The 41-year-old teacher's aide at Rock Falls had been an avid runner, but injuries forced her to take a 3-year hiatus.

Originally from Green Bay, Wis., Stahley fin-

ished in 19:58.

"I finished under 20 minutes and that was the one goal that I had set," Stahley said. "I hadn't ran or trained at all in 3 years. I finally got back in to it and ran in the Brad Onken Run [in Sterling] a couple weeks ago."

Stahley and several family members made a last-minute decision to enter the Reagan Run.

"I loved it," Stahley said. "We had a whole group of us here and we all had so much fun. We've already

decided that we'll do it again next year and make up shirts for it.

"It is just so nice to see so many young people out and running. It has a real family feel to it."

A pair of Dixon High School standouts finished third and fourth. Chelsea Sondgeroth, who will start running track and cross country for Eastern Illinois University in the fall, finished in 20:00. Dixon junior Brittany Schwarz was fourth in 20:15.

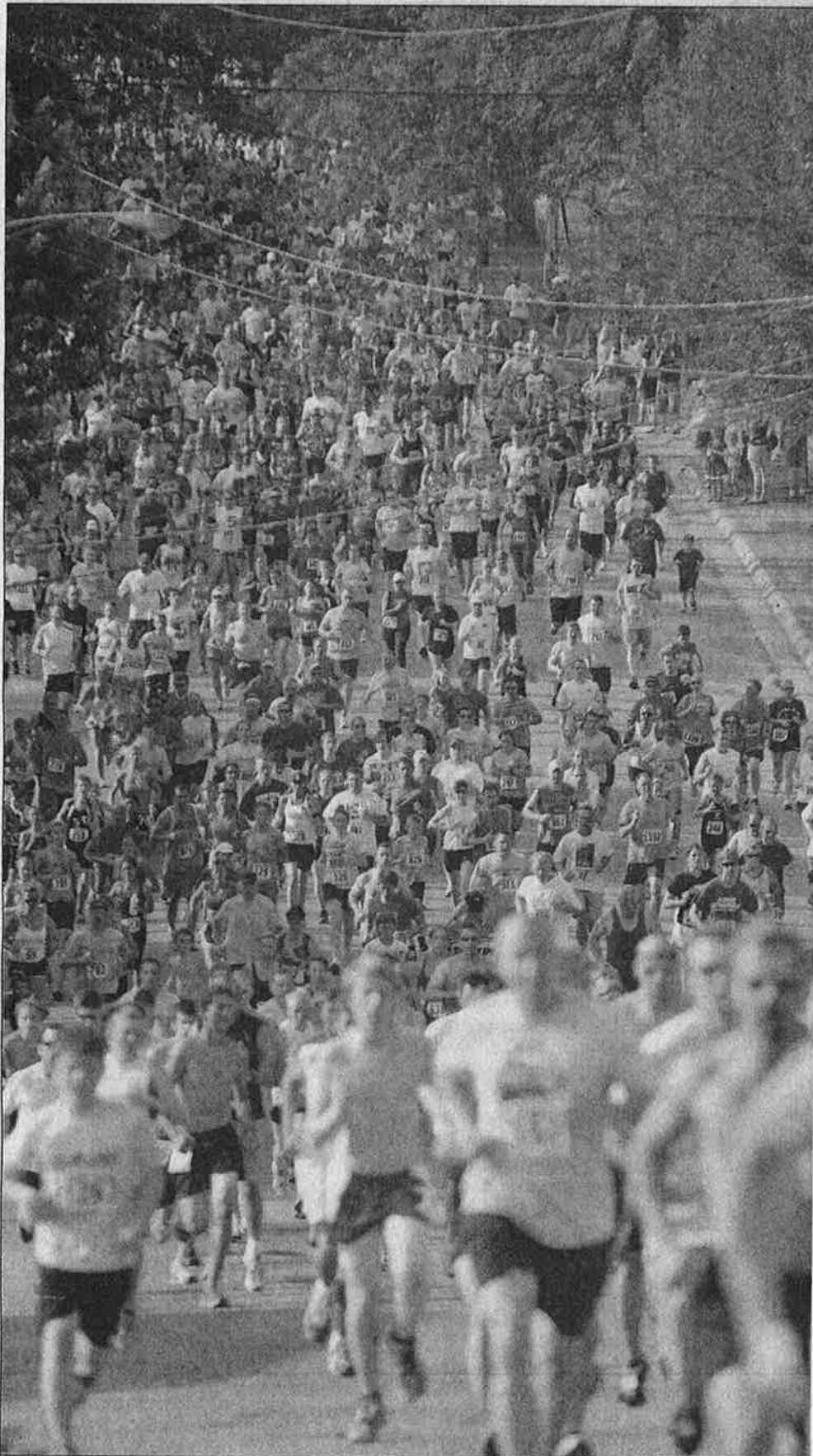
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ON THE RUN



Runners put their all into the Reagan Run July 2 in Dixon. Photo submitted by Paul Gierhart.

7/16/11

Jerry Holbert, The Boston (Mass.) Herald



NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEBT

Committee seeks public's ideas on review of state's tax structure

Our state's economy will never truly recover. We are encouraged the Democrats have committed to hold hearings starting next week to examine our state tax structure, with a particular focus upon the

ators is through our system of enterprise zones. Enterprise zones offer sales tax exemptions, investment tax credits, jobs tax credits and other benefits to businesses locating within them. The tim-



We support extending the lives of existing enterprise zones for up to 20 years without condition. ...

Tom Cross

Runners and walkers reap health benefits

Dr. JOE WELTY
Dixon

Congratulations to the organizers of the 2011 Reagan Run. For the 12th consecutive year, you have put on a great event for the runners and walkers of our community and beyond as evidenced by the number of states represented.

As a runner, I look forward to this event each year, as I know the organizers and their volunteers will offer up an experience that rivals other races I have had the opportunity to participate in over the years.

As a family physician, I hope all of you involved in pulling off this race realize the positive impact you have on the health of Dixon and its surrounding communities. My favorite part of this race each year is seeing the growing number of people participating in exercise together. The positive energy that this produces is always palpable on race day and for days after.

Thank you to the organizing committee and all of the volunteers. Keep up the great work.

What do you think?

■ Do you agree with these letters?
■ Do you disagree with these letters?
Let us know. Write your own letter to the editor and send it to letters@saukvalle.com

I've lived in Rock for 50-plus years. My father transferred from Clinton, and I had to have our house brought over from Sterling (by Mr. Sterling, the founder of the mill). We had to cut a point and put in a well, and we grew on well water.

The city officials then were a bit more compassionate for citizens. My father was a World War II veteran never stood big on politics - just the right every American to free, work, provide his family, and keep the law of the land. man-made laws for rich.

So I, too, say to mayor, chief of police, building inspector, city clerk, take your ordinance and violations.

You owe every Rock Falls citizen an apology for pretending to know the law. You boys are so funny. Maybe you need to get out more like mow all city parks, ways, trim trees, pick up trash, trim weeds and between fence lines