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The Athlete's Foot
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## RUNNING SHORTS

## HE ONLY CAME TO WATCH

Mark Patrick only came to watch. He had little running experience in his brief ten years growing up in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, England. He was standing on the sidelines at the Truxtun Park Summer Series—to watch his Annapolis relatives run. Who could tell that a highly competitive heart beat eagerly in Mark's chest?

Mark accepted the invitation to run the 1.5-mile cross country race with the Striders. Eyebrows were raised when the youngster not only outdistanced all the other kids in the race, but finished overall second with a very respectable time of 10 minutes. While presenting him with the first place trophy for children, Mike van Beuren, race director for the fun run series, commented that Mark's time was a record for the 10-to-14-year age group.

Unfortunately for the Striders, Mark's talented legs will not be around to break his own record. He had to return to England.

-submitted by Lee J. Patrick

## RUNNER AGES NEAR FINISH LINE

I've been running for a good many years and am surely approaching the golden Masters years. I must, however, be getting there faster than I bargained. As I entered the Navy/Marine Corps stadium at this year's Annapolis 10-Mile Run, the goodhearted announcer exclaimed, "Here comes Ben Mathews, an old Annapolis Strider!"

That's the price I have to pay for longevity.

—Ben Mathews

