

Maryland's Premier Event Taken By Clapper and Moore

BY GEORGE BANKER

ANNAPOLIS, MD--And while the excitement never stops, the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, MD was the scene for the 18th running of Maryland's Premier event, the Annapolis Ten Miler (Sunday, August 29, 1993). In this event you feel the road but not the heels. The heat and humidity is present every year and the Annapolis Striders and support organizations were prepared to battle the conditions. The Naval Academy Athletic Association continues to hold a key role in the success of this event.

This event has built up a solid following of runners and each year runners are turned away; this year 600 did not make the cut. The event is in two stages; the opening is flat with two miles on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Academy. In this segment the leaders are jockeying for the pole position while others are trying to settle down.

The second stage takes over at the five mile mark where the runners exit the Academy and are greeted by the first hill. As the runners crossed the Old Severn River Bridge the major hill near six was there to extend a warm welcome and the next two miles were up and down.

The early male leaders were last year's second place finisher, Gerry Clapper, Columbia (50:53) and last year's winner, Doug Mock, Bowie, (50:38). There was another unknown runner in the early part of the race but the pace proved to be too much. The temperature was making its way through the 80's and taking strength with each degree. The front runners continued to battle performance and how well their bodies adjusted to the heat.

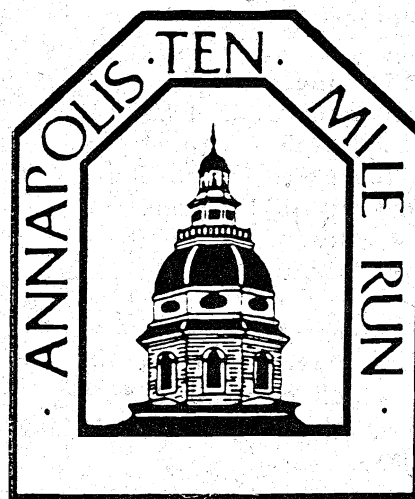
Last year Mock and Clapper had a race to the finish. Clapper did not want a repeat and over the last miles a gap began to widen which placed Clapper in sole control. There would be no new record but a first place finish was good enough. Clapper registered a 52:01. Mock was picked off by Stephen Clarke of Leesburg, VA the second place finisher with 52:31. The third to roll in was Mark Donohue of Virginia Beach, VA with 52:44. Mock settled in for fourth with 53:08.

Leading the way for the masters was Ric Banning of Alexandria, VA with 55:04 in 14th place overall (last year Banning was in 13th place, 53:24). In close pursuit was Chuck Molser of Herndon, VA with 55:32 (18th overall). The third masters was



The male and female winners of the Annapolis Ten Miler, Gerry Clapper and Donna Moore. (George Banker photo)

Michael McHale of Fairfax Station, VA with 57:27 (36th overall). The open record for this event was set in 1982 by Gary Siriano, age 25 of Pittsburgh, PA with 48:42. Siriano has been a triple winner of this event. Having a first mile split of 4:45 does help.



Once again, Donna Moore (1989 - 1:00:32) and Rose Malloy (1990 - 1:00:40) both prior winners were on the line. Last year Malloy captured second with 1:00:40 and

Moore took third with 1:01:04. In 1991 Malloy set the masters record at 1:00:36. The women's open record stands at 56:12 (1982 by Eleanor Simonsick).

The event for Malloy began to unravel near the four mile mark where a prior injury forced her to drop out and this left a clear path for Moore. The opportunity was there and Moore of Kensington, MD took control of the event and began to put the other competitors away. First place was captured with a 1:01:01. The second position went to Cynthia Carpenter of Baltimore, MD with 1:02:02. Janet Healy of Fairfax Station, VA was third with 1:02:28.

Malloy not only left the top spot open but the masters spot was up for grabs. Being at the right place at the right time helps. The masters lead was taken up by Beverly Pritts of Alexandria, VA with 1:10:25 (30th overall). The second position went to Sharon Heidel of Baltimore, MD with 1:10:57 (34th overall). Barbara Ekstrom of Reston, VA was third with 1:11:03 (36th overall).

The Second Annual Pat O'Brien Award
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