

# Hometown Run Sports A Four-Footed Winner

By Donald Huff Washington Post Staff Writer

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By Joel Richardson—The Washington Post

**Pamela Briscoe crosses finish line in 57:31 on a humid day to become the leading woman runner in the D.C. Hometown 15-kilometer run.**

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With seven miles remaining, Mike Mansy and Allen Naylor were step for step about 60 yards behind leader Jim Hage. Just as the field of more than 2,500 began to come down North Capitol Street and under the New York Avenue bridge, Naylor and Mansy caught Hage and yelled that they were going past.

"I waited for them," Hage said with a laugh after coming in third. "All of us run for the Washington Running Club and the key was to win the team title. But I knew they were coming. Al is the best runner in the club when he's healthy."

Hage took the lead of yesterday's D.C. Hometown 15-kilometer run (9.3 miles) and held it for more than six miles until he began to tire. Naylor and Mansy ran the final streets far ahead of the field, exchanging chitchat and enjoying the scenery.

As the runners headed down Pennsylvania Avenue toward the finish line in front of the Old Post Office Pavilion, the crowd kept waiting for one runner to turn on the speed. It didn't happen.

The front-runners grasped hands and crossed together in 48:57, marking the first tie for first in the event, run for the fourth year.

"We just agreed to come in together," said Mansy, a graduate of T.C. Williams High School and East Tennessee State.

"We had to force the pace a little to catch Jimmy. Once we went to the lead, Mike said let's go in togeth-

er," said Naylor, 29, of Rockville. "This is only my second big run since I recovered from strained knee ligaments. I ran in the Cherry Blossom (10 miles) and finished 86th in 54 minutes. Today, it was hot and I was very concerned about that. Too hot to worry about running for time. I heard this course was nothing but rolling hills and it was."

Mansy, 23, said he was more than happy to share first place with Naylor and kept a watchful eye over his shoulder to make sure no one was putting on a late rush.

"It was a very good workout for us," said Mansy, resting on a lounge chair, sipping water. "Once we hit the last hill, we knew no one was going to catch us."

Another Williams graduate, Rick Garcia, set a strong pace for the first three kilometers, leading by more than 100 yards at one point.

"I've qualified for the Olympic steeplechase (8:37) and I just wanted to get out and run a quick two or three miles for my morning workout," said Garcia, a graduate of Penn State. "I just ran relaxed and when I had run far enough, I slowed down."

The WRC also had the fifth-place runner, Jack Coffey of Alexandria in 49:44, assuring the team trophy. Joe Abernathy of Garrett Park was fourth in 49:30.

On a rather humid morning, 11 men bettered 52 minutes. Pamela Briscoe of Chevy Chase was the leading woman, in 57:31. Kathy Hibbert of Rockville, in 57:59, was the only other woman under 60 minutes.