

Clint Bell finishes second at Gasparilla 5K; Hall misses 15K U.S. record

Clint Bell of Dallas ran a 15:20 to finish second in the Gasparilla 5K in Tampa Bay, Fla., on Saturday (Feb. 28), which had about 9,500 competitors. Brian McGovern of Bonita Springs in 15:13 on a day when the temperature reached a warm 70 degrees.

The temperature probably was one reason that Olympian Ryan Hall fell about a minute short in his attempt to break the U.S. 15K record. Hall was trying to beat the 14-year-old U.S. record of 42:22, but he finished in 43:26 over the 9.3-mile course. It was the fastest time in Gasparilla since the event quit offering prize money in 1998.

Hall also was making his first official race since he finished 10th in the Olympics Beijing. Hall said he believes the effort sets him up for a good effort at the Boston Marathon in April. "I felt pretty good out there. I'm happy with this and I think I'm in pretty good shape."



Photo, submitted by Stan Bell, shows Hall at the finish line.