

It was a beach of a time in Corpus

It wasn't easy, and they posted their slowest time, but The DFW Wonder Women, a masters female team representing Irving, won its fifth consecutive division title Saturday (May 15) at the Beach To Bay Relays in Corpus Christi. Conditions, says team member Ruthie Tate, were "terrible." Thunderstorms, wind gusts to 54 mph and heavy rain plagued the event, but the estimated 14,000 participants braved the elements. The Wonder Women team members included Fiona Green, Yolanda Hopping, Frances McKissick, Leana Sloan, Ruthie and Cora Turner. They ran a combined 3:15:19.7 for the marathon and won by almost five minutes.

Yolanda had to drive the day before the race when flights were canceled from Love Field because of bad weather. She arrived at 11:30 p.m. the night before the race and had to be up early. Several other teams weren't as fortunate as team members failed to arrive. Ruthie said a few of the Wonder Women team members have been battling injuries and "we felt fortunate to bring it on home this year."

Three other teams with area runners placed second in their divisions. In the Mixed Masters 3&3, the Master Blasters, also representing Irving, was runner-up with a 3:21:29.7. Team members included Lisa Coleman, Linda Kelly, Lesley Smith, Mirek Kunagl, Scott McKissick and Tommy Smith. Taking second in the Ultra Senior Men 60+ Division was the Time Bandits, representing Fort Worth, with team members Bob Benson, Steve Conly, Larry Lichnovsky, John Nance, Bill Richardson and Ian Rodger. They ran a 3:28:12.6. In the Commercial Division, Hard Oaks Design, which had one runner from San Antonio and the others representing Irving, took second in 3:15:13.5. Team members were Corey Dean, Monty Hardy, Mike Lopez, Val Lopez, Roberto Moreno and Alex Smith.