

Fast times highlight Millet Mile

By Don Wallace, Plano Pacers vice president

The Millet Mile is probably our premier race of the year. It is conducted annually on the last Saturday in June in tribute to former club president Dan Millet, who was instrumental in building and sustaining the Plano Pacers during our formative years.

This year's race on June 26 was one of the fastest and most competitive on record. Three men finished in under 4:30, with former Plano Senior High School distance star, Juan Sanchez taking the title in 4:26.11. He had finished third in 2008 and second in 2009. Sanchez will be running for Mississippi State beginning this fall. Kiplimo Chemirmir was right behind in second place with a 4:27.61. Perennial favorite Clint Bell, having won the Millet Mile the previous four years in a row, finished third in 4:29.71. Bell holds the Millet Mile record of 4:23 that he set in 2007. Michael Held was the Masters winner in 5:22.17, while 60-year old Ronnie Bardin finished in an amazing time of 5:45.99 to easily win the Senior title.

On the women's side, Dawn Grunnagle dominated, winning in 5:02.58. In doing so, she also smashed the women's Millet Mile record of 5:10 set in 1996 by Allison Noe. Finishing in second place was Rachel Johnson, with a time of 5:16.2. Johnson will be a senior at Plano Senior High this fall. She also won the girls 5A state championship at both 1,600 meters and 3,200 meters this past spring. Angela Eusery was the Masters winner in 5:59.99, while Kim Andres finished in 7:07.67, capturing the Senior title.