

Mother of two first female at Tal Morrison 15K

Story and Photo by Fiona Green



The first female finisher in the Dallas Running Club's Tal Morrison Classic 15K (March 1) was a 36-year-old mother of two, Patricia Vargas of Ennis, who clocked an impressive 57:06.66.

Vargas, a first grade teacher, has been running and racing since she was 15. She ran for Mount Union College in Ohio, specializing in the 3000 meters and now enjoys racing a variety of distances from 5K to the full marathon. While she concedes that it is not always easy juggling family life, a career and running, she successfully manages to maintain her amazing level of fitness by racing a couple of times a month and occasionally training with some of the runners on the Luke's Locker team.

With a marathon PR of 2:54 set in 2003, one of her goals is to run another sub 3-hour marathon. After her performance at the Tal Morrison run, there's no doubt she can do it.

The DRC drew another big turnout as there were 556 finishers at the Tal Morrison event.

Overall and first place finishers walked away with a full case of Joint Juice. All award winners were given a New Balance recovery kit, which included New Balance-branded items, such as lip balm, a bandage holder and a disposable ice pack. The ice packs are great to keep in your car; you squeeze it and then shake it and it gets ice cold!

Club founder Tal Morrison, 86, was there, too. The DRC presented four scholarships from the Tal Morrison Scholarship Fund, and the students had their picture taken with Tal. This year, DRC, which is the primary donor to the scholarship, gave \$5,000 to the fund. DRC President Libby Jones explained to participants how the DRC Half Marathon event is the primary fundraiser for the club. Scholarship winners at the \$2,500 level were Tyler Gunter of Bryan Adams High School and Maria Castro of Woodrow Wilson High School. Winners at the \$1,500 level were Alejandro Rodriguez of W.H. Adamson High School and Marcela Arellano of North Dallas High School.