

83 runners pace Great Mosquito Chase

By Bill Shaw

The Facts

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CLUTE — Stephen King buzzed south from Houston to lead a swarm of 83 runners from start to finish to claim the 2006 overall male title in the annual Great Mosquito Chase 5K, and local Lauren Smith finished first in the female competition to add another trophy to her growing collection.

King, 42, ran the hot and humid 3.1-mile race route around Clute in 17:11, a 5:33 average mile pace. At the finish line, King had pulled 41 seconds ahead of his closest challenger.

"I thought it was a kind of a slow start, and all of a sudden, I found myself in the lead," King said. "I was worried I was going too fast; I hit the first mile at 5:18. The weather caught up with me, and I was looking to keep the lead and finish. It was pretty humid."

Bret Ramsey, a native of Angleton now living in Richmond, had King in sight but could not gain ground. Ramsey, 33, finished in 17:52.

"King took off, and I



Stephen King, first overall male finisher in Mosquito Chase. Bill Shaw photo.

thought he was going too fast when I hit the first mile at 5:35," Ramsey said. "I didn't want the lead; I wanted to see if he was for



Eventual Mosquito Chase winners led the pack early: first overall finisher Stephen King, 783, second-place male finisher Bret Ramsey (in yellow) 717, third-place male finisher Steven McCormack, 746, and first-place overall female finisher Lauren Smith, 761. Bill Shaw Photo.

real. He wasn't fading after the first mile, and I thought he's for real. I tried to gain ground, but he kept the same distance all the way to the finish."

Steven McCormack, 15, a sophomore at Katy Seven Lakes High School, finished third in the overall male competition in 18:27.

"I started off and stayed in second for about a half-mile," McCormack said. "I did get closer to the leaders, but they were pretty far ahead."

Brazoswood sophomore Lauren Smith, 15, finished sixth overall and first in the overall female competition and notched her second consecutive summer race title. She finished in 18:51. She ran a 6:05 race pace and finished 1:06 faster than she did in last year's chase. Smith also won the July 4 Firecracker 4.

When Smith crossed the finish line, she had a lead of three minutes on the second-place female runner.

"I was trying to stay with the front-runners," Smith said. "I felt like I was really going slow because it was so hot, but the

shady parts of the course were good."

Running friends and competitors Sabra Harvey, 57, and Yong Collins, 52, of Houston fought for second overall in the female competition back in the pack behind Smith.

"I kept track of her (Smith) throughout the race, but she pulled farther ahead in the



Lauren Smith, first overall female finisher in Mosquito Chase. Bill Shaw photo.

third mile," said Harvey. "I went out too fast, 6:45 at the first mile, and it was so hot; the sun in my face just drained me. In the last mile, I just hung in there and tried to maintain a good pace."

Harvey finished 19th overall and second in the female competition in 21:51 and outdistanced her friend Collins, who finished in 23:27, by 1:36.

"She (Sabra) is not supposed to go 6:45 in the first mile," said Collins. "I lost her at the first mile. I am injured, and today I was slow. Sabra and I are very good friends; we compete all the time."

King fell 1:04 short of the male Mosquito Chase record, but Smith was only 10 seconds short of the female record. Rudy Rocha of Houston posted a record 16:07 in 2003; Melissa Hurta of Jones Creek posted a record 18:41 in 1997.

Clute Mayor Calvin Shiflet directed his first Chase and expressed his appreciation to the runners for their participation and thanked the volunteers who ensured the race ran smoothly.

"I thought the race was well organized," said Abbie Artley of Lake Jackson, who won first place in her 30-39 age group. "The people, the organizers and the runners were friendly as well as the people along the course."

The top three overall male and female finishers, as well as the top three in seven age groups from 12 and younger to 60 and older, received awards. Race results and age group finishers are available at www.billshawsite.net and will be forwarded to www.runnertriathletenews.com.

Overall winners

MALES: 1. Stephen King (17:11), 2. Bret Ramsey (17:52), 3. Steven McCormack (18:27)

FEMALES: 1. Lauren Smith (18:51), 2. Sabra Harvey (21:51), 3. Yong Collins (23:27)

Ages 12 and younger

MALES: Cameron Theriot (29:23) 2. Ross Goff (36:31).

Ages 13-19

MALES: 1. Chris Bliss (19:39) 2. Clifford Wittig (20:33) 3. Evan Rogers (21:46)

FEMALES: 1. Ashleigh Thompson (23:26)

Ages 20-29

MALES: 1. Bobby Wilson (18:27), 2. Wes Heinkin (20:33), 3. Michael Perez (25:30)

FEMALES: 1. Trina Dominquez (25:50), 2. Leslie Thompson (33:55), 3. Amy Pena (41:03)

Ages 30-39

MALES: 1. Jason Culverhouse (20:14), 2. Christian Samora (21:26), 3. Shawn Grandushus (23:16)

FEMALES: 1. Abbie Artley (23:34), 2. Angela Autry (NTA), 3. Toisha Parker (NTA)

Ages 40-49

MALES: 1. Ed Sturavant (18:39), 2. Rick Autrey (18:55), 3. Kevin Regis (19:22)

FEMALES: 1. Sandra Cowart (NTA), 2. Audrey Christiansen (NTA) 3. Robin Crouch (31:48)

Ages 50-59

MALES: 1. Lenord Burns (20:56), 2. Danny Gilbreath (23:38), 3. Al Salinas (24:38)

FEMALES: 1. Margie Kveton (31:15)

Ages 60-69

MALES: 1. Roger Newcom (NTA) , 2. Tim Jahnke (27:54)

FEMALES: 1. JoAnn Luco (37:11)

Finish Overall	No.	Time	Last Name	First Name	Sex	Age
1	783	17:11:00	King	Stephen	M	42
2	717	17:52:00	Ramsey	Bret	M	33
3	746	18:27:00	McCormack	Steven	M	15
4	749	18:27:00	Wilson	Bobby	M	27
5	730	18:39:00	Sturdavant	Ed	M	40
6	761	18:51:00	Smith	Lauren	F	15
7	728	18:55:00	Aurtry	Rick	M	44

Finish Overall	No.	Time	Last Name	First Name	Sex	Age
8	781	19:22:00	Regis	Kevin	M	47
9	760	19:39:00	Bliss	Chris	M	16
10	798	19:51:00	Alvarado	David	M	42
11	774	20:08:00	Stevens	Mike	M	47
12	731	20:14:00	Culverhouse	Jason	M	32
13	740	20:32:00	Rinck	John	M	42
14	768	20:33:00	Wittig	Clifford	M	16
15	788	20:56:00	Burns	Lenord	M	59
16	765	21:13:00	Johnson	Terry	M	47
17	757	21:26:00	Samora	Christian	M	34
18	733	21:46:00	Rogers	Evan	M	15
19	722	21:51:00	Harvey	Sabra	F	57
20	713	22:11:00	Quarles	Edwin	M	40
21	744	22:35:00	Heinkin	Wes	M	28
22	758	23:16:00	Grandushus	Shawn	M	33
23	725	23:27:00	Collins	Yong	F	52
24	743	23:34:00	Artley	Abie	F	30
25	775	23:35:00	Wales	Mark	M	49
26	764	23:36:00	Thompson	Ashleigh	F	15
27	714	23:38:00	Galbraith	Danny	M	51
28	718	23:40:00	Stunz	Tommy	M	39
29	724	23:44:00	Lopez	Bryan	M	16
30	732	23:58:00	Harris	Ian	M	15
31	799	23:59:00	Cox	Mark	M	47
32	782	24:38:00	Salinas	Al	M	53
33	770	23:41:00	Callen	Trail	M	15
34	741	NTA	Smith	Bruce	M	44
35	738	NTA	Cowart	Sandra	F	44
36	745	NTA	Crabtree	Kasey	M	14
37	763	NTA	Christiansen	Audrey	F	45
38	793	NTA	Casey	Brian	M	45
39	786	NTA	Caceres	Armando	M	48
40	726	NTA	Rodriguez	Alex	M	15
41	752	NTA	Newcom	Roger	M	65
42	727	NTA	Autry	Angela	F	35
43	750	25:30:00	Perez	Michael	M	28
44	734	25:50:00	Dominquez	Trina	F	21
45	No num.		NTA	Unidentified		
46	759	26:01:00	Murphy	Don	M	48
47	747	NTA	McCormack	Joe	M	45
48	719	NTA	Stunz	Jakeb	M	13
49	762	NTA	Hahn	Steve	M	46
50	755	NTA	Parker	Toisha	F	39
51	784	NTA	Bucci	Joe	M	39
52	715	NTA	Finley	Tim	M	40
53	748	27:18:00	Slough	Karin	F	35
54	787	27:18:00	Ayala	Gonzalo	M	57
55	712	27:54:00	Jahnke	Tim	M	60
56	777	28:15:00	Hinkle	Terry	M	50
57	797	29:23:00	Theriot	Cameron	M	8
58	729	NTA	Burge	Nicky	F	36
59	735	NTA	Fine	Michael	M	32
60	785	29:45:00	Novak	Rebecca	F	39

Finish Overall	No.	Time	Last Name	First Name	Sex	Age
61	778	30:28:00	Hinkle	Ryan	M	25
62	716	31:15:00	Kveton	Margie	F	57
63	769	31:34:00	Martinez	Raul	M	14
64	791	31:48:00	Crouch	Stewart	M	44
65	789	31:48:00	Crouch	Robin	F	42
66	776	31:56:00	Payne	Jim	M	39
67	737	33:15:00	Sykora	Ellen	F	30
68	736	33:15:00	Sykora	Gary	M	58
69	780	33:55:00	Thompson	Leslie	F	29
70	779	34:53:00	Payne	Chelette	F	36
71	773	35:39:00	Goff	Haley	F	11
72	751	35:39:00	Perez	Ashley	F	11
73	772	36:31:00	Goff	Ross	M	8
74	771	36:31:00	Goff	Jill	F	41
75	756	37:11:00	Luco	JoAnn	F	67
76	792	37:22:00	Hernandez	Janett	F	47
77	790	39:02:00	Snyden	Paul	M	48
78	739	39:02:00	Fisher	Kayla	F	11
79	767	39:52:00	Pena	Terry	M	38
80	720	40:15:00	Allison	Michele	F	44
81	766	41:03:00	Pena	Amy	F	26
82	723	43:29:00	Treadaway	Alivia	F	9
83	721	43:48:00	Treadaway	Katherine	F	29