

Field Grows, Records Tumble at 2002 Tussey Mountainback 50 Mile Relay

On October 5, 2002, just hours after a drizzly night gave way to a cool, cloudless morning, a record 53 teams and 7 ultra runners converged on the newly certified course of the third annual Tussey mOUntaiNBACK 50 Mile Relay in Central Pennsylvania's scenic Rothrock State Forest, a few miles south of Boalsburg, Pa.

The relay puts teams of 2 to 8 runners through a fixed rotation over 12 race legs that range from 2.8 to 6.2 miles in length and from relatively flat sections to long, challenging hills.

The field of new and returning ultramarathoners and club, university and corporate teams included Joe Shuta, the first and only ultra division participant in the inaugural Mountainback, and Pat Klaus, the sole woman to compete in the 2001 ultra division. The team traveling furthest to participate was the Hayden Runners, from the Columbus Road Runners Club, and the most represented groups were Williamsport area's Oregon East and the Penn State Triathlon Club, which entered five teams each. The distinction of most miles traveled to get to the race went to Karen Shepherd, of Los Angeles. Shepherd, who did most of her distance and hill training in the southern California heat in nearby Griffith Park, teamed with her sister, Robin Riglin, of Philipsburg to form the Mountainback's first-ever women's supra team, dubbed Dumb & Dumber.

In overall results the Ace Fierce Gnarled Tree Guys, a foursome from the Penn State Tri Club, hammered out first place in a record time of 4:51:39. This return performance (two of the four ran on last year's winning team) featured a smaller team (pared down from last year's six) running a longer course (certification having slightly lengthened the course) more than 7 minutes faster. Second overall went to student sextet division leader The Stallions of Coconut County in a time of 5:15:34. The men's duo of Ken Davis and Joshua Corbin, a.k.a. Wind and Waves, recorded a blistering supra record of 5:26:20, garnering third place overall.

In the women's relay results the sextet of Team No Pickle took top honors handily in 6:37:47, more than 7 minutes ahead of the nearest category competition and effectively avenging their narrow loss to a university triathlon team last year. Dumb & Dumber overcame injury to set the women's supra mark at 8:17:52. The women's 3-person "tri" title went to Oregon East New Women, in a record time of 7:12:13. Oregon East Veteran Women took the women's quad title in 7:14:50.

In the ultra division, State College's Steve Thorne clicked off the 50 miles in 7:23:36, shaving more than 11 minutes off the course record set last year by Penn State senior Ben Haldeman. In her first 50 mile effort, Penn State junior Morgan Windram paced off a new women's ultra division record, finishing in 8:31:16.

Among the military teams represented, Marine Company PSU NROTC edged out Navy ROTC by just over a minute to finish in 6:01:50. Navy ROTC finished in 6:02:57, and Army ROTC in 6:10:53.

Four corporate teams took titles: JB's Harriers, from Raytheon (standard mixed corporate, 5:59:12); AGFA NDT, from AGFA (standard men's corporate, 6:21:08); Where's Larry, of Penn State's Kinesiology Department (mega mixed corporate, 6:46:16), and Raytheon Runners, from Raytheon (mega men's corporate, 7:03:03).

Sponsors of this year's Mountainback include Ski Tussey Mountain & Family Fun Center, Classic Rock 93.7 The Bus, Hotel State College, Danone Waters of North America, McClarren Financial Advisors, Rapid Transit Sports, The Autoport, Irving's Bagels, The Sign Stop, Nittany Mountain Trail Rides, Nittany Valley Running Club, and *Runner's World*, with special thanks to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for access to the scenic roads of Rothrock State Forest. Proceeds from this year's Mountainback support the renovation of the historic State Theatre in downtown State College.

The 4th annual Tussey mOUntaiNBACK 50 Mile Relay is set for October 11, 2003. Complete information is available at www.nvrn.com/MTB50.html.

Overall Results

Place/Team	Cat.*	Time
1. Ace Fierce Gnarled Tree Guys	qmo	4:51:39**
2. The Stallions of Coconut County	sso	5:15:34
3. Wind and Waves	sumo	5:26:20
4. Rothrock Warriors	qmo	5:28:09
5. Wanderlost Race Team	qmo	5:39:14
6. Oregon East Z Team	qmo	5:47:54

7. Oregon East A Team	qmo	5:59:02
8. JB's Harriers	smxc	5:59:12
9. Marine Company, PSU NROTC	msuo	6:01:50
10. Team Hurricane	smxo	6:02:39
11. Navy ROTC	msuo	6:02:57
12. Triathlon Tres	smo	6:06:15
13. Army ROTC	qmo	6:10:53
14. Outliers	smxo	6:12:42
15. Y's Guys	smxo	6:14:14
16. Avocados	mmxo	6:16:22
17. AGFA NDT	smc	6:21:08
18. DeltaKappaDeltaBetaThetaRhoBetaPi	msuo	6:22:12
19. The Ricketty Runners	smxo	6:23:03
20. Runnin' On Empty	mmxo	6:23:39
21. First Lutheran Cross-Trainers	qmo	6:29:13
22. Ex Pede Herculem	smo	6:31:32
23. The Burd Turglars	mmxo	6:32:25
24. Juniata Running Eagles	smxc	6:32:33
25. Kickin' Rubber Chickens	mmo	6:33:25
26. Team No Pickle	sw	6:37:47
27. Plan B	msuo	6:42:09
28. Oregon East B Team	qmo	6:45:09
29. 3 Dolls and The Dogs	smxo	6:45:32
30. Tri-Goddesses	sw	6:45:45
31. Where's Larry?	mmxc	6:46:16
32. Boalsburg/Bellefonte Running Club	mmxo	6:46:58
33. Roadkill	smxc	6:50:24
34. Kinesiology 150	sso	6:53:12
35. Raging Storm	mmxc	6:55:41
36. Tri-Gooneys	sw	6:57:48
37. Dannon Dash	mmxo	7:02:29
38. Six Pack	sw	7:02:57
39. Raytheon Runners	mmc	7:03:03
40. Oregon East New Women	two	7:12:13
41. Motorvators	mmxo	7:12:56
42. Oregon East Veteran Women	qwo	7:14:50
43. Oedipus and the Mama's Boys	mmxo	7:16:22
44. Mary's Little Lambs	mmxo	7:19:44
45. Cassville Mountain Pounders	mmxo	7:21:33
46. The Hoppy Trailers	mmxo	7:22:44
47. Steve Thorne	umo	7:23:36
48. Faster Next Year	smo	7:27:16
49. Hayden Runners	smo	7:34:36
50. SMG Run Time Errors	mmxc	7:43:21
51. Penn State OCE	mmxc	7:47:33
52. SMG Running With Scissors	mmxc	7:48:50
53. Warren Renninger	umc	8:08:23
54. Dumb & Dumber	suwo	8:17:52
55. Morgan Windram	uso	8:31:16
56. Joe Shuta	umo	8:59:09
57. Larry Ryan	umo	10:22:43
58. Joe Novicky	umo	10:55:52

59. Pat Klaus

uwo

12:50:10

Category/Division Results***

Ultra Men's Open:

Steve Thorne	umo	7:23:36
Joe Shuta	umo	8:59:09
Larry Ryan	umo	10:22:43
Joe Novicky	umo	10:55:52

Ultra Student Open:

Morgan Windram	uso	8:31:16
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Ultra Women's Open:

Pat Klaus	uwo	12:50:10
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Ultra Men's Corporate:

Warren Renninger	umc	8:08:23
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Supra Men's Open:

Wind and Waves	sumo	5:26:20
Joshua Corbin 1, Kenneth Davis 2		

Supra Women's Open:

Dumb & Dumber	suwo	8:17:52
Karen Shepherd 1, Robin Riglin 2		

Tri Women's Open:

Oregon East New Women	two	7:12:13
Christine Everdale 1, Amy Larson 3, Marcia Snyder 2		
Ain't No Mountain High Enough	two	dnf
Erin O'Leary-Rallis 3, Alison O'Leary Murray 2, Lisa Nancollas 1		

Quad Men's Open:

Ace Fierce Gnarled Tree Guys	qmo	4:51:39**
Dennis Koch 2, Sean Ion 3, Joseph McDaniel 4, Brian McNally 1		
Rothrock Warriors	qmo	5:28:09
Marty Klanchar 3, Brandon Dugan 2, Jim Moran 4, Eric Kuhl 1		
Wanderlost Race Team	qmo	5:39:14
Sam Bray 1, Scott Roycroft 4, Dean McHenry 3, Chele Modica 2		
Oregon East Z Team	qmo	5:47:54
Kristopher Shaner 4, Joel Gladfelter 3, Philip Soohy 1, Ken Bear 2		
Oregon East A Team	qmo	5:59:02
Fredrick Glenwright 4, Fred Springman 2, William Martens 1, Garth Everett 3		
Army ROTC	qmo	6:10:53
Richard Szczurowski 1, Edward Speeckaert 2, Travis Nichols 3, Patrick Brettell 4		
First Lutheran Cross-Trainers	qmo	6:29:13
Michael McCloud 3, Jason Fritz 1, John Uehling 2, Kevin Warren 4		
Oregon East B Team	qmo	6:45:09
Mike McMunn 2, Keith Steimling 4, Nick Altebrando 3, Michael Scalzone 1		

Quad Women's Open:

Oregon East Veteran Women	qwo	7:14:50
Paula Fantaskey 1, Ellen Chambers 3, Janee Shaner 4, Becky Snyder 2		

Standard Men's Open:

Triathlon Tres	smo	6:06:15
Jeremy Cornman 5, Justin Holmes 1, Tim Aydin 2, Jonathan Felsen 3, Jose Torres 4		
Ex Pede Herculem	smo	6:31:32
Martin Mazur 6, Jay Lynch 4, Ronald Cunfer 1, Richard Brazier 2, Kerim Genc 5, Joseph Cor 3		
Faster Next Year	smo	7:27:16
Jason Saltman 1, Jamie Brown 2, Jerry Kisatsky 3, Steve Randall 4, Daniel Wert 5, Jeffrey McClarren 6		
Hayden Runners	smo	7:34:36
Robert Herrin 4, Bion Hall 2, Steve Roberts 1, Robert Harless 5, Taylor Hall 3		

Standard Mixed Open:

Team Hurricane	smxo	6:02:39
Tim Holter 6, Nathan Waterfield 3, Heather Wilmoth 1, Tony Lawson 4, Rick Wolfe 5, Stephanie Knorr 2		
Outliers	smxo	6:12:42
Stephen Erath 4, Amy Erickson 3, Jay Reid 2, Cheryl Gigante 5, Kelly Flanagan 1, Ann Erath 6		
Y's Guys	smxo	6:14:14
Hayley Weyhe 1, Richard Barrickman 2, Wendy Duran 3, Jim Martin 4, Scott Mitchell 5, Pamela Mitchell 6		
The Ricketty Runners	smxo	6:23:03
John Gieng 1, Tanya Mosbacher 2, John Blair 3, Michele Duffey 5, Bob Ricketts 4, Mike Duffey 6		
3 Dolls and The Dogs	smxo	6:45:32
Shelley Heasley 5, Edward Helfrick 4, Ruth Ann Helfrick 2, Tricia Good 6, John Dunkelberger 1, Joel Heasley 3		

Standard Mixed Corporate:

JB's Harriers	smxc	5:59:12
Robert Boozer 1, Ron Kustaborder 2, Jenny Striner 3, Boyd Brumbaugh 4, Jason Sellers 5, Deanna Brown 6		
Juniata Running Eagles	smxc	6:32:33
Henry Thurston-Griswold 4, Ryan Mathur 5, David Sowell 6, Jill Keeney 1, Jim Borgardt 2, Sharon Frandsen 3		
Roadkill	smxc	6:50:24
Alan Brumbaugh 1, Michele Jacoby 2, Jim Kaseler 3, Rachel McMillan 4, Walt Hobson 5		

Standard Student Open:

The Stallions of Coconut County	sso	5:15:34
Nathan Peifer 4, Mike Lahm 2, Jeff Stromberg 5, John Niederhaus 1, Scott Baker 3		
Kinesiology 150	sso	6:53:12
Eric Durante 2, Mike Kushner 4, Dan Cowden 1, Rainie Doll 5, Sean Lynch 3		

Standard Women's Open:

Team No Pickle	sw0	6:37:47
Jill Garrigan 1, Beth Shisler 2, Carole Dudukovich 3, Bethann Scott 4, Kiernan Pierce 5, Julie Christie 6		
Tri-Goddesses	sw0	6:45:45
Jill Dugan 6, Holly Dunsworth 1, Michele Pendrak 4, Michelle Laczynski 3, Tricia Rihl 5, Christina Catts 2		
Tri-Gooneys	sw0	6:57:48
Katie Hoberg 4, Julie Gavin 3, Nicole Peters 1, Kristi Carver 5, Isabella Von Roemeling 2		
Six Pack	sw0	7:02:57
Elizabeth Gross 1, Cecelia Becerra 2, Shari Keefe 3, Tanja Cutting 4, Jennifer Shunk 5, Elyse Laufer 6		

Standard Men's Corporate:

AGFA NDT	smc	6:21:08
Dan Ahern 5, Ronald Watkins 3, Kirk Rager 4, Jeffrey Powell 2, Joseph Young 1		

Mega Student Open:

Marine Company, PSU NROTC	msuo	6:01:50
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Matthew Kralovec 1, Paige Stull 2, Bradley Bathgate 3, Andrew Kingsbury 4, Thomas Carey 5, Lindsay Mathwick 6, Megan Burlingham 7, Andrew Myers 8

Navy ROTC msuo 6:02:57

Jim Scianna 4, Leif Liberg 3, Clayton Williamson 1, Robert Walker 2, Benjamin Coyle 7, Stephanie Simoni 6, Katie Glesner 5, Meghan McManus 8

DeltaKappaDeltaBetaThetaRhoBetaPi msuo 6:22:12

Brett Wamsley 1, Teresa Gaudiose 6, Tiara Packer 8, Daniel Wilson 3, Hayden Kwast 2, Alex Robinson 4, Carolyn Beans 7, Daniel Dinger 5

Plan B msuo 6:42:09

Mike Fornecker 4, Tyler Frederick 5, Andrew Hivner 3, Meghan McGrath 6, Ashley Simpson 2, Ruth Uselton 7, Anya Williamson 1

Mega Men's Open:

Kickin' Rubber Chickens mmo 6:33:25

Jimmy Tran 7, Mike Vandolah 1, Mike Eschoo 3, Jonathan Cohen 6, Eric Cummings 4, Ian Rosenberger 2, Liz Dols 5, Carolyne MacAdam 8

Mega Mixed Open:

Avocados mmxo 6:16:22

Teresa Timmerman 7, Elizabeth Corwin 8, Robert McGrath 3, Pedro Andia 4, Annie Ericson 2, Sally Bondurant 5, Becky Baum 6, Toby Baum 1

Runnin' On Empty mmxo 6:23:39

Staley Karchner 6, Marvin Hall 4, Michelle Dimidio 2, Michael Jonson 8, Janet Jonson 5, Robert Jones 7, Tom Cali 1, James Karchner 3

The Burd Turglers mmxo 6:32:25

Jeremy Frank 3, Amy Frank 5, Joseph Szefi 1, John Donoughe 2, Brenda Donoughe 7, Philip Gipe 4, Katharine Derge 6

Boalsburg/Bellefonte Running Club mmxo 6:46:58

Keith Johnson 1, Robert Sutherland 2, Michelle Schaaf 3, Dan Guss 4, John Sheehan 6, Rob Wykoff 5, Andrea Young 7, Margaret Sutherland 8

Dannon Dash mmxo 7:02:29

Brian McMahon 1, John Marshall 2, Kristen Garnes 3, Barry Nicholson 4, Kathleen Henry 5, Pratima Gatehouse 6, Steve Johnson 7, Chad Trithant 8

Motorvators mmxo 7:12:56

Holly Snyder 6, Randy Earhart 1, Tony Moscatello 2, Chip Mock 3, Sherry Tirko 4, Rosalie Moffett 5, Gregory Luna 7, Abby Caporuscio 8

Oedipus and the Mama's Boys mmxo 7:16:22

Julie Kosto 4, Jacqueline Stecklow 7, Sarah Thomas 8, Christopher Kocuba 3, Jeffrey Kosto 5, Dennis Powell 6, Beth Auman 1, Erin-Michelle Luhks 2

Mary's Little Lambs mmxo 7:19:44

Nicholas Burke 1, Robert Roberts 5, Mary Nguyen 8, Brian Coutlangus 4, Lisa Plessl 7, Laura Nattress 2, John Coupland 3, Matthew Rokita 6

Cassville Mountain Pounders mmxo 7:21:33

Jeff Meitrott 1, Kenneth Covert 2, Glenn Wright 3, Michael Miller 4, Tammy Wright 5, Staci Dodson 6, Richard Meitrott 7, Tara Shaffer 8

The Hoppy Trailers mmxo 7:22:44

Rebecca Pointer 1, Beth Bailey 2, Chris Millet 3, Gina Ikenberry 4, Malena Moore 5, Christa Peck 6, Keith Bailey 7, Joseph Pointer 8

Mega Mixed Corporate:

Where's Larry? mmxc 6:46:16

Jim Pawelczyk 7, Jane Pierzga 2, Kristin Stolarczyk 6, Lindsay Baker 3, Michael Curren 1, Marlana Tickerhoof 5, David Conroy 4

Raging Storm mmxc 6:55:41

Gerald Mohler 1, Bob Niescier 2, Dale Mohler 3, Kathleen Heller 4, Stephen Wistar 5, Ken Reeves 6, Karianne Smith 7, Lori Reeves 8

SMG Run Time Errors mmxc 7:43:21

Joni James 8, John Daley 4, Grace Eberhardt 3, Christopher Hawk 2, Kristin Martin 5, Bill Martin 6, Rebeckah Abu-Shaheen 7, Mark Henderson 1

Penn State OCE mmxc 7:47:33

Nancy Hallberg 3, Donna Yorukoglu 7, Stevie Rocco 4, Jean McGrath 8, Ann Luck 6, Karl Leitzel 5, Courtney Burroughs 1, Jeffrey Luck 2

SMG Running With Scissors mmxc 7:48:50

Luke Levis 6, Sally McConville 8, Paul McConville 4, Diane Skorina 3, Michael Lam 7, James Taylor 2, Melissa Golemboski 1, Bevin Valentine 5

Mega Men's Corporate:

Raytheon Runners mmc 7:03:03

Michael Gess 1, Raechelle Saylor 7, Mike Bratton 2, Vicki Fritton 3, Jim Vogelsong 6, Bruce Karaffa 4, Dean Rossman 8, Thomas Ellis 5

*Categories: First letter denotes team size: m=mega (7-8), s=standard (5-6), q=quad (4), t=tri (3), su=supra (2), u=ultra (1). Second letter(s) are division: m=men's, w=women's, mx=mixed, s=student. Final letter: o=open, c=corporate.

** Course record.

***Numbers indicate runner's order in team rotation.