

## Fun-runners 'stagger' in

By DICK OSGOOD  
Republican Staff

The Greater Springfield Harriers set road racing back ten years Saturday.

"They used to have races like this ten years ago," said local expert Tom Derderian. "They did it for fun then."

And, they did it for fun Saturday as the Harriers joined with Budweiser in staging the first annual 5-mile Staggered Start race for the Jimmy Fund at Blunt Park.

Derderian enjoyed the opportunity to "chase after my friends. I usually don't get to see the people I race with." The Greater Boston Track Club member started as a scratch — without a handicap — and finished 67th, approximately 25 minutes later.

Allen Shepard, a 57-year-old doctor from Pelham, won the race with an 18 minute handicap.

"I've never run a race before, but it was great. It wasn't like winning though, because I started 18 minutes earlier," Shepard confessed.

Regardless of Shepard's misgivings, he was indeed the winner. His time was 44:43. Minus the seven minute advantage, that means he completed the race in 37:43. It may be nowhere near Derderian's time, but that's an example of the wide open opportunity afforded newer runners. Paul Biseti of East Longmeadow finished second.

Paul Oparowski, of East Longmeadow, who was also a scratch runner, clocked the best time with 24:31. Oparowski is a recent graduate of Bentley, who was third in the New England 5,000-meter run this past spring.

Of the 300 runners who started, 224 finished.

Pete Stasz of the Harriers' club, which manned water stations and turns, expected "chaos at the finish line," but the end mirrored the beginning in smoothness.

Stasz sent each group of runners off according to their handicaps at the starting line.

When he reached the final group — those without the benefit of time — he had a little humor to share with the best.

"You guys are being punished because you're too good. There'll be no water stops and you'll often be directed the wrong way. That's what you get for winning all those races," he joked.



Dr. Allen Shepard of Pelham comes home first in Jimmy Fund five-mile road run Saturday in Springfield.

Republican photo by Mark Murray

## Bosox pull away with 8-3 blast

By GERRY FINN  
Republican Staff

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox played the counter punch game Saturday. Butch Hobson answered Rick Dempsey's home run in the top of the third with one of his own in the bottom half. Carlton Fisk snapped back with a solo blast after Eddie Murray had cracked one out in the top of the fourth. After that, the Sox swung to and stayed on the attack to write off the Baltimore Orioles, 8-3, while 32,213 Fenway Park customers sat back in glee.

Luis Tiant went the distance, just barely. "I came close to lifting him two or three times," manager Don Zimmer disclosed. "But he wouldn't let me. He just had the right pitch when the wrong one would have decked him."

The victory pushed Tiant's record to 7-0 and spread the daylight between the teams to 8½ games in the American League East as the Sox solved the Orioles' highly rated pitching for the second straight day.

Boston went ahead for the first time in the fifth to break a 2-2 tie — created by that rash of homers. Hobson drove in the lead run with a single after Dwight Evans had doubled off the center field wall. That made it, 3-2, and over the next three innings the Sox built it to 8-2.

Scott McGregor was the victim of the gut of the Boston uprising. He put Fisk and Lynn on with one gone in the sixth and then left in favor of Joe Kerrigan who gave up two straight walks for one run a 4-2 count. Rick Burleson followed with a single off second baseman Billy Smith's glove for two more and Tiant had his cushion.

"This was a frustrating loss for me," McGregor told. "I gave up those homers but I had some bad breaks. You know the kind — walk men at the wrong time and then give up the damaging hit. But that's a strong team over there, a very good lineup. That doesn't relieve me, though. I'm still mad about the whole thing."

This wasn't a blow-out type of contest despite the score. Burleson's ball should have been handled and when the Sox tallied two more in the seventh, a Mark Belanger error fouled up what would have been an inning-ending double play. That miscue, by the way,

was the first for the O's shortstop after 37 straight flawless games.

Tiant wasn't overly pleased with the way the game progressed, but he was satisfied with the outcome. "I didn't feel right all day," the 37-year-old right hander revealed. "I don't know what it was. But I wasn't a hundred percent. The big pitches came in the fourth when we got out of that bases-loaded, no-out jam. I didn't make any mistakes then, not like those homers. They were all beautiful fastballs — beautiful to hit... and I paid for them."

The veteran hurler — pulling close to the 200

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mark with his 198th victory — gave up three homers in all. Doug DeCinces found him for a four-bagger in the ninth. So, all the O's runs came on fence-clearing shots.

Zimmer wasn't surprised that Tiant hung on to go the distance. "That's been the story of our pitching staff this year," he mentioned. "Even when they don't have their stuff, some of our guys still manage to win. That's the sign of a real professional and Luis was one out there today."

The three-game series concludes this afternoon with the Sox seeking a sweep against a team that came into Fenway victorious in 18 of their last 20 starts. Boston also will be looking to go over the million figure in attendance with only twenty-three thousand and change needed to pass that mark. Mike Torrez, shelled by the Yankees in his last outing, tries to improve on his 10-3 record. The job of salvaging the tie-closer for the O's goes to Dennis Martinez who brings a 6-4 card against the Sox who have won 13 of their last 14 games.

### National League...

## Barr beats Niekro as Giants win, 2-1



JIM BARR  
... hot for Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Roger Metzger doubled home a pair of sixth-inning runs and Jim Barr outduelled Phil Niekro Saturday to lift the San Francisco Giants to a 2-1 victory over the Atlanta Braves.

Barr walked none and struck out six in improving his record to 3-4. He scattered nine hits in pitching his third complete game of the year. Niekro, 8-8, also went the distance, also spacing nine hits. The win was the National League Western Division-leading Giants' 10th win in 13 games.

Trailing 1-0, Darrell Evans walked to start the Giants' sixth. One out later, Heity Cruz singled. Metzger followed one out later with a line drive over the head of Braves' left fielder Cito Gaston to score both runners.

Atlanta's only run came in the sixth when rookie third baseman Bob Horner doubled, took third on a single by Gary Matthews and came home when Roland Office singled up the middle with two out. Atlanta second baseman Jerry Royster was 4-for-4 in the game.

Dodgers 4, Reds 3

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — A bases-loaded walk to Jerry Grote highlighted a two-run sixth inning rally

and rookie right-hander Bob Welch recorded his first major league save Saturday in a 4-3 victory by the Los Angeles Dodgers over the Cincinnati Reds.

Don Sutton, who got relief help from Charlie Hough and Welch after six innings, improved his record to 7-6 while scattering nine hits. Sutton, who singled home a run in fourth inning, struck out three, tying him with Sandy Koufax as the all-time Dodger leader in that department with 2,283. Welch gave up just one hit over the last 11 1-3 innings.

The Dodgers, who remain 5½ games behind National League Western Division leader San Francisco, opened the sixth inning with consecutive singles by Dusty Baker and Lee Lacy. Reds starter Tom Hume, then walked Bill North and Jerry Grote to force in a run and snap a 2-2 tie. Los Angeles extended its lead to 4-2 when Dave Lopes grounded out, scoring Lacy.

Pirates 7, Mets 4

NEW YORK (UPI) — Ex-Met John Milner stroked a grand slam homer to climax a five-run 12th inning rally Saturday that brought the Pittsburgh Pirates a 7-4 victory over New York.

Manny Sanguillen, pinch hitting for winning

pitcher Ken Tekulve, started the 12th with a single off loser Paul Siebert and was sacrificed to second by Frank Taveras. Omar Moreno's single scored Sanguillen to snap a 2-2 tie and after Moreno stole second, Dave Parker was intentionally walked. Both runners advanced when Mets' catcher John Stearns threw wildiy to center field, attempting to pick Moreno off second.

Phillies 6, Cubs 2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Mike Schmidt's two-run first-inning homer started the Philadelphia Phillies toward their fourth consecutive victory, a 6-2 triumph over the Chicago Cubs Saturday night and a one-game lead over the second-place Cubs in the National League East.

Larry Bowa singled with one out and Schmidt poled Ken Holtzman's first pitch over the right-field fence for his 11th homer run of the season but his first in two weeks and first at home since May 14.

The Phillies knocked out Holtzman, 0-2, in the second inning when they tallied three runs on three hits, an error, two walks and a wild pitch. It wrapped up the Phillies' third straight victory over the slumping Cubs, losers of five in a row and nine of their last 12.

## Amherst girls sweep state

By JERRY RADDING  
Republican Staff

CHICOPEE — The girls from Amherst High's softball team will be turning in their uniforms Monday in exchange for their report cards.

"That's the only way I'm sure of getting the uniforms," said coach Betty Lawson. "After all, we want to have a team next year."

Report cards or not, the Hurricanes passed their final test on the diamond Saturday at Snot Park. They used an extra inning to topple Canton, 10-8, for the state championship.

It was the climax of a super season for Amherst. It's title wins in both the Western Mass. and state tourneys were firsts. The 'Canes ended with a sparkling 25-1 record.

While their two-run winning rally in the top of the eighth inning was somewhat on the tainted side, the champs hit with authority in this one. They banged out 11 hits — a sharp contrast to their 5-1 semifinal victory Wednesday when they were hitless against '77 state titlist St. Peter Marian of Worcester.

Canton got 10 hits and knocked out Amherst starter Suzy Petrizzo with a four-run sixth which produced an 8-8 tie. Reliever Sherry Collins finally slammed the door in the sixth and held the Eastern Mass. champions scoreless in the seventh and eighth to gain the victory.

"I really didn't want to come in," said Collins,

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Amherst's Suzy Petrizzo is out at plate in left photo as Canton catcher Debbie Moberger takes throw for force play in fourth inning of state softball finals Saturday at Snot Park. At right, Amherst's third baseman Jenny Gray grabs popup, with Petrizzo ready to help. Amherst won, 10-8.

Republican photo by Ed Matley



## Bodine takes Riverside 100

By NICK IMELIO  
Republican Correspondent

AGAWAM — Geoff Bodine of Bellingham moved up from 15th spot, increased his position steadily to finally take the lead on the 65th lap and went on to win the 100-lap main event at Riverside Park Speedway Saturday night before a capacity crowd of stock car enthusiasts.

Bodine, in winning for the 24th time at New England tracks this season, overtook Charlie Glazier, who was driving Dick Taylor's No. 79, when Glazier spun out on the fourth turn.

Most of the race was a battle among Bodine, Stan Gregor, Reggie Ruggiero and Jack Lecuyer. They finished in that order.

Fifth place went to Ron Wycoff, of Southington, Conn., who remained in the middle of the pack most of the race. He crept into fifth spot on the 65th lap and held the position.

Wycoff and Sonny O'Sullivan of Bristol, Conn., went at each other for a long stretch before Wycoff was able to shake him for the fifth spot.

W.J. Grez of Agawam, driving Bill Pelly's No. 10, started from the second pole position and took the lead on the second lap — passing pole-sitter Tony Papale of Meriden, Conn.

Grez held the lead until the 26th lap. That's when Bob Polverari of West Springfield passed him. Polverari, who got involved in the tangle with Glazier which eventually led to Bodine taking the lead for good, controlled the middle portion of the race — from the 27th lap to the 64th.

"I'll be back next week and try to win another one. I want to win as many as possible," Bodine said afterward.

Then, the winner praised Gregor, who dogged him for the late portion of the race. "That's the best race I've seen stan run all year," Bodine remarked.

The difference between first and second place in this one was a length.

Seven caution flags slowed the field and enabled drivers to jockey for positions. At the end, Bodine, Gregor and Ruggiero formed one closely-knotted group, and they were not too far ahead of Lecuyer.

Ruggiero, who won the 50-lap feature last week, remains the point leader in the unofficial standings. Bodine currently is tied with Gregor for sixth place in the points race.

Bodine started the evening on a successful note by winning the first qualifying heat of 15 laps. Polverari took the second heat and Ruggiero pulled under the checkers in the third qualifier.

Gregor was forced to qualify for the main event through the 15-lap consolation race. He won it, and nearly had enough to take the feature.