

# 'Road Runners' give the Palouse a run of a lifetime

Organization sponsors Snake River Half Marathon

**Jason Moll**  
Daily evergreen staff

On the first Saturday of March, Palouse Road Runners, a local running organization, sponsors the Snake River Half Marathon, a 13.1-mile race on the Wawawai River Road along the Snake River.

Favorable conditions brought 286 runners to the river at 10 a.m. Saturday for the start of this year's race, which marks the beginning of the running season in the Palouse.

"This is the first race of the season; people are anxious to get out and test their iron to see what kind of shape they're in and gauge where they are in their training," said Nancy Chaney, a board member of Palouse Road Runners.

The sun was shining and the temperature was a cool 52 degrees at the water's edge, with a 9 mph wind pushing against runners for the first half of the race.

The race began and ended at

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Palouse Road Runner board

Wawawai Landing, where the WSU rowing teams store their boats. The course was flat and paved, and participants ran out and back.

A Palouse Road Runners course marshal stood at the turnaround near Water Canyon, about 6.6 miles into the race, to direct people around a series of cones, pointing them toward the finish line.

"It was a great day, one of the best," said Ellen Brown of Sandpoint, Idaho.

Runners were placed in classes according to age, and awards were handed out to those who placed in the top three of each class. An entry drawing was also held, and prizes were handed out to par-

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For more information:  
[www.palouseroadrunners.org](http://www.palouseroadrunners.org)

ticipants.

Leif Kohler, a WSU student and former cross country runner, won the men's overall race with a time of 1:12.34.

"I had a really good time," Kohler said. "It was a really flat course; there wasn't too much wind, we had good scenery and a lot of good runners."

Jane Hewett, of Juliaetta, Idaho, was happy to do as well as she did, finishing first overall in the women's race with a time of 1:23.10.

Palouse Road Runners will sponsor four more road races this year, including the upcoming WSU 100K in April, the Albion 5K and 11-miler in August, Moscow Mountain Madness on the second Sunday after Labor Day and the Women's Run in October.

"What I love most about this event is the enthusiasm and support of the runners who come from all over to run," said Chaney. "The only bad thing is I wasn't in shape to run it this year."

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