

A HISTORY OF THE COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN

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At 10 A.M. on Sunday morning April 2, 1978 the starting gun was fired for the First COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN and the race began. Even at that time it was successful beyond the organizers wildest expectations. Or was it? The first race entry form had this prophetic line just under the race name: ' . . . destined to become a legend.'

Race director for the inaugural race, Keith Hamilton said the best part of the day for him was standing in the parking lot at Patriots Point after the race started and seeing the bridge covered with humanity. He said they had expected a maximum of 500 runners and that 340 had pre-registered. The \$3.00 entry fee included a T-shirt designed by the race director. There were only 4 awards categories in the first race, with merchandise awards 3 deep in each. The categories were: open male, open female, masters male and masters female.

Race day morning was sweltering hot, but despite the 82 degree heat, another 600 or 700 runners registered. Olympian (1952, marathon) Ted Corbitt was one of the runners. A lot of runners fell out from the heat and some had to be hospitalized. In the early days of road racing there was a lot of debate as to whether water should be provided for runners on race courses and by committee vote there was none for the first Bridge Run.

Race day morning, after the race had begun, the police made the race officials move the finish line back about 150 yards, which made the course short. The race began at Patriots Point in Mt. Pleasant, went across the reversible lane of the new bridge (use of the bridge had required legislation sponsored by State Senator Dewey Wise), went down Meeting Street to finish at White Point Gardens on the Battery.

Benji Durden of Atlanta (who later made the 1980 U.S. Olympic marathon team) ran away from the field and won easily in 30:22. Gary Wilson of the Citadel was lead bicyclist for the race and he said it seemed Benji was going so fast that he had trouble keeping up with him going up the bridge and had to work to catch him going down the spans. Two of Baptist College's (now Charleston Southern University) track team members, both from Kenya were next: Francis Mwobobia Ruchugo in 31:34 and Anderson Obare in 31:44. Russ Pate from Columbia was the first South Carolina finisher, placing fourth in 31:54. Lisa Lorrain of Atlanta, who was traveling with Benji and his wife, was an easy winner and the only female under 40 minutes as she ran 39:39. Marty Long of Summerville was second in 43:53 while Julie Embler was third in 45:01.

Male Masters award winners were Bill Wooley 36:44, Rudy Nimmons 39:29 and Alan Miles 39:45. Women Masters winners were A. Lipowski 46:12, Eileen Hallman 59:00 and Diana Osbertson 59:15. Complete results were mailed to all pre-registered runners, establishing a tradition, as results have been mailed for all but one Bridge Run. The results show 766 runners (653 male and 113 female) crossed the finish line. A total of 66 runners ran faster than 40 minutes.

The idea of a race across the Cooper River Bridge originated with Dr. Marcus Newberry of MUSC. He had been impressed on a visit to his Ohio home by the track constructed by Bonnie Bell Cosmetics to encourage their employees to run and stay fit. He wanted to get the Charleston Community involved in running and fitness and thought a run across the bridge would do it. He got together with Terry Hamlin, then President of the Charleston Running Club. They set up a committee which was comprised of representatives from The Charleston Running Club, The Citadel, The Medical University, and the College of Charleston. They worked out the details, overcame numerous obstacles and thus the Cooper River Bridge Run was born. State Senator Dewey Wise intervened with the Highway Department to allow use of the bridge. He met with the highway commissioner and said he him saying "We don't close bridges for people. Bridges are for vehicles." The Bridge Run would prove that at least one day a year, bridges were for people as well.

The Second BRIDGE RUN, March 31, 1979, was moved back a day, from Sunday to Saturday, due to complaints from the churches. The entry fee was raised to

\$4 with T-shirt and a no t-shirt option was offered for \$2. The time was moved back an hour to 9 A.M. to try to avoid the heat problems of the previous year. The date change worked as it was just under 60 degrees when the race began that year. Water was also provided for the runners as they came off the bridge. The course was changed. It began at Patriots Point, went across the reversible lane of the new bridge, down East Bay Street to Market. Across Market and up Meeting to George Street to finish at the College of Charleston. Dr. Brian Smith was race director for the second through fifth Bridge Runs. When the race began, Avery Goode from Clover, SC took the lead and was never challenged as he won in 32:55. The battle for second place was exciting as Bob Schlau of Charleston overtook Silky Sullivan, a Navy man from California who was stationed in Charleston, and edged him by 6 seconds in 33:33. In the female division, Marty Long of Summerville moved up from her runnerup spot the first year, to the winner's spot in 40:10. Susan Jones was second in 40:42 and Michelle Moore was third in 41:40.

The first 3 Masters were Jones (first name not shown) 38:35, John Dunkleberg 38:46 and Charles Duell 41:20. The female Masters winners were: Glassman 52:04, Margaret Wright 56:51 and Pat Rhode 57:22.

Complete hand written (by the race director Dr. Brian Smith) results showing last name only were mailed to the finishers, male results to all the men and female results to all the women. There were 1350 entrants and 1050 official finishers, 778 male and 237 female with 47 runners breaking the 40 minute barrier.

The history of the Cooper River Bridge Run almost ended right there. The highway department had made the reversible lane one way when heavy trucks were banned from the old bridge for safety reasons. The reversible lane was therefore no longer available for the race and the highway department denied a request for use of the old bridge for the run. Fortunately, State Senator Dewey Wise came to the rescue again. He sponsored and pushed through legislation allowing the Bridge Run to continue by using the old bridge one morning per year. A special award was created and named to honor the Senator. The Dewey Wise trophy to be awarded each year to the oldest runner who runs a time faster than his or her age.

The Third BRIDGE RUN, held March 29, 1980 produced the race's only tie finish. Alleghaney Track Club teammates (driving home from the Florida Relays) Kim Burke and Steve Littleton crossed the line together in 31:26. Defending champion Avery Goode of Clover, SC was never able to challenge them and finished third in 32:10. Michelle Moore moved up from third place in the previous race to win in 41:29. Two Charlestonians provided excitement as Gail Bailey outkicked Anne Reed (Boone) for second place by one second in 42:43.

The top Masters finishers were: Ed Ledford of Charleston in 37:08, Bernie Sher second in 37:42 and Maynard Ealing third in 38:02. Pat Rhode of Walterboro was female Masters winner in 49:53, followed by Jackie Krawcheck in 50:06 and Patricia Goodwin in 51:27.

For the second year in a row, the temperature was just under 60 degrees for the 9 A.M. start. Runners had to fight a strong headwind going up the bridge. There were 1500 entrants and the complete results list (mailed to all finishers) showed 1330 official finishers, 1063 male and 267 female, with 115 runners faster than 40 minutes.

Dr. Brian Smith was race director for the second year in a row. Entry fee remained the same: \$4 with T-shirt, \$2 without.

The race used its third course in three years: starting at Patriots Point, over the old bridge, down East Bay Street, across Queen Street to Logan, up Coming Street to finish at George Street beside the College of Charleston.

The Fourth BRIDGE RUN was held MARCH 28, 1981. It was again about 60 degrees for the 9 A.M. start and very windy. For the first time, runners enjoyed a tailwind going up the bridge. The course and entry fee were unchanged from 1980. Marc Emblar, then a student at Baptist College (now Charleston Southern University) and now a resident of the Tri-County area, and Bicky Timms, battled all the way over the bridge. Marc took the lead and pulled away slowly to win 30:54 to 31:19. Marc is the only local resident to

ever win the overall male title in the Bridge Run. Kevin McDonald was third in 31:38.

Kiki Sweigart of Darien, CT, who was rated on of the country's top 10 marathoners that year, ran away from the rest of the women, setting a course record 35:10 which stood until 1984. Michelle Moore caught Sallie Driggers of Hanahan going down the second span of the bridge and pulled slowly away to take second 38:36 to 38:52.

The top Masters were: Ed Ledford of Charleston 36:36, E. Crum 37:25, Bernie Sher 37:54. Female Masters: S. Foster 44:49 & Pat Rhode 45:54 both from Walterboro and Barbara Rolfs 47:35 from Charleston.

There were 1650 entrants and the results list 1338 official finishers: 1046 male and 292 female. A total of 138 runners broke 40 minutes, 3 of them female.

It was a crisp 45 degrees with a strong headwind waiting for the runners as they headed up the bridge for the Fifth BRIDGE RUN. It started at 9 A.M. on March 27, 1982. The course was the same as the previous year, entry fee was raised to \$5 with T-shirt, \$2 without. The Sunday Post-Courier newspaper summed up the race: " 'Unknown' Officer King of the Span." Mark Donahue, a Navy officer on 6 weeks temporary duty in Charleston surprised everyone when he jumped to an early lead going over the bridge. He was never challenged as he went on to win in 30:28. Defending champion Marc Embler was second in 31:12, while Robbie Devlin of Summerville (now residing in Columbia) was third in 32:09.

In the women's division, Sallie Driggers of Hanahan went to the front quickly and won easily in 37:21. Jane Lesesne from North Carolina was second in 38:53 while Anne Reed (Boone) of Charleston ran her best Bridge Run time to take third in 38:59.

The top masters were Ed Ledford of Charleston in 36:05, Clebe McClary of Florence, SC second in 37:11 and Steve Comer of Charleston third in 37:39. Peggy Ledford of Charleston was female Masters winner in 42:46 with Lynn Hopkins of Charleston second in 47:17 and J. Blair third in 47:21.

Guest speaker at the pre-race symposium was well known running author, Dr. George Sheehan. He broke 40 minutes in the race and was so pleased that he wrote about it in RUNNER'S WORLD magazine, giving the Bridge Run its first major national publicity.

Dr. Brian Smith was race director for the third year in a row. There were 2100 entrants and the complete results showed 1734 official finishers, 1348 male and 386 female. The 40 minute time barrier was broken by 146 runners, 5 of them female.

The Sixth BRIDGE RUN was held on March 26, 1983 and saw several changes from the previous races: The starting time was moved to 8:30 A.M. Entry fee was raised to \$7 with T-shirt, \$3 without. The course added a third major upgrade: the Crosstown Overpass. Roy Hills was the new race director. The T-shirt design and color were changed for the first time, disappointing many 'traditionalists' who had wanted the color of the shirt changed but wanted the design retained. The race began at Patriots Point, went across the old bridge, then over the Crosstown, down King Street, crossed at Queen Street and up Meeting Street to finish in front of the Federal Building next to Marion Square.

It was almost 50 degrees when the race started and runners had a crosswind on the bridge. David Branch of Travelers Rest, SC and Mark Friedrich of Camden, SC (now a resident of the Isle of Palms), became the first runners to ever break 30 minutes on any of the challenging Bridge Run courses. Branch took the first mile in 4:25 and slowed only to 5:00 for the second mile going up the first span to hit 2 miles in 9:25 on his way to a course record 29:28. Friedrich was second in 29:58. Marc Embler of Summerville took third in 30:57. Olympic Marathon gold medalist Frank Shorter had predicted at the pre-race clinic which he conducted the night before the race, that he would break 30 minutes in the race. However, he never challenged the leaders and finished fifth in 31:10.

In the women's division, Mary Copeland of Charleston (now residing in Ohio) led the entire way. It was never a comfortable lead as Nancy Grayson of

Columbia, SC was never more than 30 yards behind. Mary was aware of her lead based on crowd reaction. They finished first and second in 38:09 and 38:15 respectively. Marty Long was third in 38:58.

The winning male and female Masters were repeats: Ed Ledford and Peggy Ledford both of Charleston in 36:43 and 41:44 respectively. Second place male Masters was Jim Adams of N. Augusta, SC while Tom Woodward of the Isle of Palms was third in 36:55. Pat Rhode of Walterboro was second female Masters in 45:30 and L. Paxton was third in 46:27.

There were 3115 entrants and the results showed 2585 official finishers, 2052 male and 533 female. Including the 2 runners under 30 there were 234 runners under 40 minutes, 3 of them female. Roy Hills was the new race director.

The Seventh BRIDGE RUN was held on March 31, 1984. The entry fee remained at \$7 with T-shirt, but the no T-shirt option was dropped. For the first time, the race had been named one of the top races in the country in THE RUNNER magazine. It was scheduled to start at 8:30 A.M., but two separate 15 minute delays set the actual start time back to 9 A.M. The weather cooperated - clear skies, low humidity and 50 degrees.

There was a course change from the previous year. For the first time the race did not start at Patriots Point as the increased number of runners had created dangerous congestion on the narrow access road to the Point. The race started at the Common just across Shem Creek in Mt. Pleasant. The course followed Coleman Boulevard across the old bridge, went over the Crosstown Overpass, down King Street across Market Street, then up Meeting Street to finish in front of the Federal Building. Mark Blatchford was the new race director.

For the first time ever, prize money was awarded. A total of \$3,000 was paid: \$1500 to male and \$1500 to female winners. Defending champion David Branch went to the front early with a 4:35 first mile. John Rogers from North Carolina took the lead going up the first span, but by the 3 mile mark Branch had the lead again. He became the first person to successfully defend a Bridge Run title. Branch also broke his own course record to win in 29:25, establishing a record which stood for six years. Tom Wysocki from California came on strong to take second in 29:32, with Rogers holding on for third in 29:45.

The women's race was never close as Brenda Webb from Knoxville, TN ran to a course record 34:09. Ruth Wysocki from California, who later in the year would gain fame in the Olympic Trials by upsetting Mary Decker, was second in 35:04 and Nancy Grayson from Columbia was third in 36:37.

The top Masters runners were Bill Voight 35:48, Jim Adams 35:57 and Jim Blackwell 36:00. Nationally ranked Masters runner Cindy Dalrymple was female winner in 36:57. Charlestonians took second and third: Peggy Ledford in 43:12 and Joyce Ploeger in 46:54.

There were 4 men under 30 minutes, 324 men and 15 women under 40 minutes. There were 4460 entrants and the results showed 3784 official finishers, 2977 male and 807 female.

1984 Prize money winners: (Prize money awarded for the first time)

Male

1. David Branch	Travelers Rest	29:25	\$800
2. Tom Wysocki	El Toro, CA	29:32	\$500
3. John Rogers	Raliegh, NC	29:45	\$200

Female

1. Brenda Webb	Knoxville, TN	34:09	\$800
2. Ruth Wysocki	El Toro, CA	35:04	\$500
3. Nancy Grayson	Columbia, SC	36:37	\$200

The Eighth BRIDGE RUN began at 8:30 A.M. on March 30, 1985. Entry fee was raised to \$8. It was a hot, sunny morning but fortunately a cloud cover came up about half an hour before the race. This held the temperature down to 70 degrees, making it the second hottest Bridge Run to date. The course was

the same as the previous year with one difference: it was TAC certified (#SC85012WN), only the 12th race to be certified in the state of South Carolina that year and among the first courses certified, as no courses had been certified before 1984. The race joined the RACING SOUTH (now RUNNING JOURNAL) magazine Grand Prix race circuit which attracted a number of high caliber, though not world famous, athletes.

For the first time the race was broadcast live on local television. Local Television Channel 5 carried the broadcast live through 1990.

Mike O'Reilly of Ireland won in 29:28 followed by Craig Holm of New York in 29:32 and Hans Koeleman of Holland (residing in Clemson) was third in 29:40. Christina Boxer of England, running only her second 10k race won in a course record 34:08. Sue Schneider of Minnesota was second in 34:15, while Dianne Bussa of Michigan was third in 34:42.

Don Coffman of Kentucky was Masters winner in 32:27, followed by Art Williams in 33:54 and Mike Kelly in 33:59. Female Masters: Peggy Ledford 44:51 and Joyce Ploeger 46:14 both of Charleston, and Frankie Crume 46:53.

A total of 5440 runners registered while 4482 official finishers were listed in the results, 3483 male and 999 female. There were 6 men under 30 minutes while 283 men and 16 women bettered 40 minutes.

1985 Prize money winners:

Male

1. Mike O'Reilly	Ireland	29:28	\$1,000
2. Craig Holm	Victor, NY	29:32	\$500
3. Hans Koeleman	Holland	29:40	\$400
4. Mark Scrutton	England	29:50	\$300
5. Bremdam Quinn	Ireland	29:52	\$200
6. Jeff Scuffins	Clemson, SC	29:55	\$100

Female

1. Christina Boxer	England	34:08	\$1,000
2. Sue Schneider	Minneapolis, MN	34:15	\$500
3. Diane Bussa	East Lansing, MI	34:42	\$400
4. Jan Ettle	St Cloud, MN	35:35	\$300
5. Candice Strobach	Charlotte, NC	35:41	\$200
6. Ruth Wysocki	Canyon Lake, CA	37:20	\$100

The Ninth BRIDGE RUN will never be forgotten due to fog, delays and heat. The date was moved back into April and the start was scheduled for 8:30 A.M. on April 5, 1986. At 7:20 A.M. disaster struck. Incredibly dense fog caused a bus/car/bus sandwich collision which blocked the new bridge - the only access to the start. All the fog had burned off by the scheduled 8:30 start, but so many cars and buses were still on the bridge that the start was delayed several times and the race actually began at 9 A.M. The temperature rose 5 degrees during that time to 72 degrees, making the ninth run second only to the first one for hot weather conditions.

Ironically, this was the second time that THE RUNNER magazine had named the Bridge Run to its best races list and the second time the start was delayed causing the race to lose that ranking. An estimated 300 to 500 runners were still on the new bridge when the race started. Some of them just jumped out of their cars and ran across the cut through road and joined the race in progress. The race entry fee was raised to \$9.

For the second year in a row, the race was broadcast live on local television channel 5. Hans Koeleman of Holland had learned from the previous year and stayed with the lead pack until he got off the bridges. Then he pulled away on the flats downtown to win in 29:29. Mark Scrutton of Boulder, CO was second in 29:34 and Jim Haughey of Clemson was third in 29:40.

Twin sisters from Newton, MA took first and third in the female division as Lesley Welch set a course re-

Kelly 35:14. The female Masters winners were Gail Bailey of Charleston in 39:21, Mary Anne Wehrum of Memphis, TN 40:32 and Natalie Spalding 41:05.

A new award, the Dr. Marcus Newberry trophy was presented to the first male and female finisher from the Tri-County area. Bob Schlau of Charleston was 12th overall in 31:26 and Benita Brooks (Schlau) of Charleston was 15th female in 38:36 to claim these prizes. Karl Gueldner was race director for the ninth through the twelfth Bridge Runs.

Olympian Jim Ryun was guest speaker at the pre-race symposium. The race course was changed, and re-TAC certified (#SC86008WN), due to construction downtown. The start was moved almost a mile further back on Coleman Boulevard, making the runners cut-through street Wentworth instead of Market, to get over from King to Meeting Streets. Otherwise the course remained the same.

Of the 6684 entrants, there were 5318 official finishers listed in the results booklet, 4116 male and 1202 female. This marked the first time over 1,000 women completed any race in South Carolina. A total of 5 men broke the 30 minute barrier, while 251 men and 17 women broke 40 minutes. In 1986 the readers of CAROLINA RUNNER magazine (now RUNNING JOURNAL), voted the Bridge Run 'favorite race'.

1986 Prize money winners:

Male

1. Hans Koeleman	Holland	29:29	\$2,000
2. Matt Scrutton	Boulder, CO	29:34	\$1,000
3. Jim Haughey	Clemson, SC	29:40	\$500

Female

1. Lesley Welch	Newton, MA	33:37	\$2,000
2. Kathy Pfiefer	Albuquerque, NM	34:03	\$1,000
3. Lisa Welch	Newton, MA	34:20	\$500

On April 4, 1987, the Tenth BRIDGE RUN became the second in a row to be made unforgettable by the weather. It was the coldest and windiest to date. At the 8 A.M. (the time had been set earlier due to the heat of the previous two races) the temperature was only 39 degrees. Not too bad unless you know that there was a steady 20 mile per hour wind gusting to 35 mph on the bridge. To make matters worse, it was a headwind.

The elite runners ran slower than usual due to the wind. The race returned to the 1985 certified course. The entry fee was raised to \$10. The lead pack ran the first mile in a slow (for them) 4:55. A record 10 runners came off the bridge together. Defending champion Hans Koeleman of Holland surged to the lead but was quickly caught by Jeff Smith of Boulder, CO and Paul Cummings of Orem, UT. From then on it was a 3 man race until the 6 mile mark where Cummings pulled away from them. Then he almost made a costly mistake. He followed the Channel 5 Television truck (which was broadcasting the race live for the third year in a row) as it turned off the race course onto Calhoun Street, shortly before the finish line. He was waved back on course and had enough leg speed to win the closest Bridge Run ever: 30:19.23 to Smith's 30:19.9, with Koeleman third in 30:21.

The women's race was never in doubt as Mary Ellen McGowan of Gainesville, FL won in 34:31. Sue Schneider of Minneapolis was making her second Bridge Run appearance. She finished second for the second time - this year in 35:10. Kim Bird of Austell, GA was third in 35:48.

Prize money was awarded to the top two Masters males and females for the first time. Richard Weeks of Nashville, TN was Masters winner in 34:43, with Morgan Looney of Birmingham, AL next in 34:56 and Don Wright of Mobile, AL just out of the money in third at 35:05. Charlestonians Gail Bailey in a time of 38:42, and Anne Reed (Boone) in 39:59 took home the money with June Hartley of Columbia, SC third in 42:33.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County finisher went to Tom Mather of Mt. Pleasant, 12th overall in 32:04 and Megan Othersen (Gorman) of Charleston, 6th female in 37:19. No runners broke the 30 minute barrier, 301 men and 21 women finished under 40 minutes.

A total of 6997 runners registered for the race: 6976 crossed the finish line and had times recorded on the chronomix timer tapes; 5588 through the male chutes, 1388 through the female chutes. According to the finish line director Chuck Magera, the finish line had tremendous problems due to the cold. He estimated that about 10% or more of those crossing the finish line were unregistered 'bandit' runners, which created a number of problems. All 'bandit' runners without numbers were usually escorted from the race course at George Street prior to reaching the finish line. However, since so many runners had kept their warm-ups on for the race due to the extreme cold, it was impossible to tell if they had a number on under their warm-ups. Thus the bandits could not be distinguished from the registered runners so all runners were allowed to cross the finish line.

Karl Gueldner was race director for the second year in a row. For the first and only time, results were not compiled and mailed out to all finishers. All available partial results (the first 1899 male and 468 female names and times) were published in the March-April 1988 edition of the LOW COUNTRY RUNNER, newsletter of the Charleston Running Club, which was mailed only to club members. The January 1987 issue of RUNNER'S WORLD magazine had listed the Bridge run as one of the top 25 races in the country.

1987 Prize money winners:

Male

1. Paul Cummings	Orem, UT	30:19.23	\$2,000
2. Jeff Smith	Boulder, CO	30:19.92	\$1,000
3. Hans Koeleman	Holland	30:22	\$700
4. Martyn Brewer	Louisville, KY	30:41	\$500
5. Marty Flynn	Clemson, SC	30:46	\$400
6. Jeff Scuffins	Carrboro, NC	30:51	\$325
7. Ron Boreham	Jenkintown, PA	30:59	\$300
8. Steve Venable	Roswell, GA	31:10	\$225
9. Glen Banker	Stone Mountain, GA	31:36	\$200
10. Craig Thompson	Knoxville, TN	31:45	\$150
11. John Barbour	Atlanta, GA	31:49	\$100

Female

1. Mary Ellen McGowan	Gainesville, FL	34:32	\$2,000
2. Sue Schneider	Minneapolis, MN	35:11	\$1,000
3. Kim Bird	Austell, GA	35:49	\$500
4. Laura Caldwell	Stone Mountain, GA	36:17	\$300
5. Ann Wehner	Martinez, GA	37:13	\$200
6. Megan Othersen (Gorman)	Charleston, SC	37:20	\$100

Masters Division: (prize money added for the first time)

Male

1. Richard Weeks	Nashville, TN	34:43	\$200
Morgan Looney	Birmingham, AL	34:56	\$100

Female

1. Gail Bailey	Charleston, SC	38:42	\$200
2. Anne Reed (Boone)	Charleston, SC	39:59	\$100

The Eleventh BRIDGE RUN, March 26, 1988, faced the prospect of being the first one to get rained on. The weather forecast said there was a 75 to 100 percent chance of rain. Fortunately it did not rain but it was overcast, about 65 degrees, extremely humid and windy. The headwinds gusting to 20 to 25 mph on the bridge

overtook early leader Joan Nesbit of Durham, NC who finished second in 34:56, after they came off the bridges. Defending champion Mary Ellen McGowan of Gainesville was third in 35:21.

Mike Hurd from England was Masters winner in 31:32 while Charleston's Bob Schlau was second in 32:19 and Jim Lester of Magna, UT was third in 32:47. Gail Bailey of Charleston repeated as Masters female winner in 39:12 while Pat Sher of Jacksonville, FL was second in 40:22 and Judy Melton of Greenville, SC was third in 42:18.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award was a family affair as Bob Schlau won it for his 18th place overall finish, while Benita Schlau was the female recipient for her 9th overall 38:11.

Karl Gueldner was race director for the third year in a row. The entry fee was raised to \$11. There were 6904 entrants and the results booklet listed 5465 official finishers, 4105 male and 1360 female. Only the race winner broke 30 minutes while 268 males and 16 females finished under 40 minutes. The race was broadcast live on Channel 5 television for the fourth year in a row.

1988 Prize money winners:

Male

1. Ashley Johnson	Bowling Green KY	29:56	\$2,000
2. Don Janicki	Tucson, AZ	30:20	\$1,000
3. Jim Haughey	Clemson, SC	30:30	\$700
4. David Krafstur	Knoxville, TN	30:31	\$500
5. Rickey Pittman	Knoxville, TN	30:46	\$400
6. Marty Flynn	Clemson, SC	30:51	\$350
7. Kevin Ruch	Camp Hill, PA	30:59	\$300
8. David Geer	Clemson, SC	31:35	\$250
9. Craig Thompson	Knoxville, TN	31:40	\$200
10. Rob Wilder	Summerville, SC	31:42	\$150

Female

1. Carla Borovicka	Tallahassee, FL	34:38	\$2,000
2. Joan Nesbit	Durham, NC	34:56	\$1,000
3. Mary Ellen McGowan	Gainesville, FL	35:21	\$700
4. Kathleen Champagne	Pittsburg, NY	36:08	\$300
5. Kathy Hadler	Ann Arbor, MI	36:15	\$200
6. Laura Caldwell	Stone Mountain, GA	36:48	\$150

Masters Division

Male

1. Mike Hurd	England	31:32	\$300
2. Bob Schlau	Charleston, SC	32:19	\$200
3. Jim Lester	Magna, UT	32:47	\$100

Female

1. Gail Bailey	Charleston, SC	39:12	\$300
2. Patt Sher	Jacksonville, FL	40:22	\$200
3. Judy Melton	Greenville, SC	42:18	\$100

The Twelfth BRIDGE RUN was held April 1, 1989 with near perfect crisp clear 55 degree weather conditions at the 8 A.M. start. The runners had a headwind gusting to 20 mph on the bridge.

Confusion reigned at the start as an estimated 50 to 100 runners were warming up in front of the starting

The men's race was closer. Defending champion Ashley Johnson of Bowling Green, KY ran in a pack of about 10 runners until they got over the bridges. Then he slowly pulled away to become only the second runner to successfully defend a Bridge Run title. His winning time was 29:48. Mike O'Reilly of Boulder, CO '85 race winner was second in 29:52 while Erik Hansen of Gainesville, FL was third in 29:53.

Charleston's Bob Schlau was Masters winner in 32:20 with Wes Wessely of Lilburn, GA second in 33:04 and Don Coffman of Frankfort, KY third in 33:15. Judy Greer of Orlando, FL was female Masters winner in 37:38 with Claudia Ciaveralla of Cary, NC second in 37:52 and Gail Bailey of Charleston third in 39:20.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County finisher went to Tom Mather of Mt. Pleasant who finished 20th overall in 32:02 and to Megan Othersen (Gorman) of Charleston, 9th female overall in 36:06. The race was broadcast live on Channel 5 television for the fourth year in a row.

Karl Gueldner was race director for the fourth year in a row. The entry fee was raised to \$12. The race attracted 7510 entrants and the results booklet listed 5885 official finishers, 4433 male and 1449 female. A total of 4 men broke the 30 minute barrier while the 40 minute barrier was broken by a record 393 runners, a record 364 males and a then record 29 females.

1989 Prize money winners:

Male

1. Ashley Johnson	Bowling Green KY	29:48	\$2,000
2. Mike O'Reilly	Boulder, CO	29:52	\$1,000
3. Erik Hansen	Gainesville, FL	29:53	\$700
4. Greg Beardsley	Charlotte, NC	29:56	\$500
5. Hans Koeleman	Holland	30:05	\$400
6. Espen Borge	Gainesville, FL	30:24	\$350
7. Craig Thompson	Knoxville, TN	30:33	\$300
8. Rob Devlin	Summerville, SC	30:47	\$250
9. Kevin Ruch	Camp Hill, PA	30:58	\$200
10. Doug Consiglio	Gainesville, FL	31:14	\$150

Female

1. Grete Waitz	Norway	33:29	\$2,000
2. Carla Borovicka	Tallahassee, FL	34:01	\$1,000
3. Joan Nesbit	Durnham, NC	34:17	\$700
4. Jo White	Richmond, VA	34:35	\$300
5. Teresa Ornduff	Abingdon, VA	35:14	\$200
6. Maureen Custy-Roben	Denver, CO	35:26	\$150

Masters Division

Male

1. Bob Schlau	Charleston, SC	32:20	\$300
2. Wes Wessely	Lilburn, GA	33:04	\$200
3. Don Coffman	Frankfort, KY	33:15	\$100

Female

1. Judy Greer	Orlando, FL	37:38	\$300
2. Claudia Ciaveralia	Cary, NC	37:52	\$200
3. Gail Bailey	Charleston, SC	39:20	\$100

The Thirteenth BRIDGE RUN was held April 7, 1990. Is 13 an unlucky number? Shortly before the

the bridge. Then 4 or 5 of them broke away on the overpass. Mike O'Reilly, runner-up in '89 and winner in '85 took the lead and only Sam Obwacha, a Kenyan living in Van Nuys, CA went with him. At the 6 mile mark Obwacha kicked by O'Reilly, pulled away but turned off course at Calhoun. He was waved back on course and won in a course record 29:20 with O'Reilly also under the old record in 29:23. Don Janicki of Louisville, Colorado was third in 29:30.

Shelly Steely from Eugene, Oregon wasn't the women's favorite, but her 5:07 first mile gave her a lead she never surrendered as she went on to set a course record 32:57. The pre-race favorites finished second and third: Jody Dunston of San Antonio, TX in 33:00 and Kellie Cathey of Fort Collins, CO in 33:13. The top three were all under the old course record.

Earl Owens of Dunwoody, GA almost missed the start of the race getting there just seconds before the race began. He took off fast and built a huge lead which he held on to take the Masters title in 31:26. Defending champion Bob Schlau of Charleston was second in 31:53 while Lee Fidler of Stone Mountain, GA was third in 33:26. For the female Masters, the top three finished in the exact order they had in 1989: Judy Greer of Orlando won in 37:45, Claudia Ciavarella of Winter Park, FL second in 38:02 and Charleston's Gail Bailey third in her best Bridge Run time, 38:28.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first local finisher went to Michael Brown of Charleston, 19th overall in 32:04 and to Alison Roxburgh of Mt. Pleasant, 10th female and 124th overall in 36:33. There were 7820 entrants and the results booklet listed 5866 finishers; 4432 male and 1434 female. A total of 7 runners broke 30 minutes, while 332 men and 28 women broke the 40 minute barrier.

The race was broadcast live on Channel 5 television for the fifth year in a row. Mark Blatchford was race director for the thirteenth through fifteenth Bridge Runs. The entry fee remained at \$12. In 1990 RUNNER'S WORLD magazine named the Cooper River Bridge Run as one of its 'Cream of the Crop' races.

1990 Prize money winners

Male

1. Sam Obwocha	Kenya		29:20	\$3,000
2. Mike O'Reilly	Boulder, CO		29:23	\$1,500
3. Don Janicki	Louisville, CO	29:30		\$750
4. Jim Cooper	Atlanta, GA	29:33		\$500
5. Mark Curp	Lee's Summitt, MO		29:36	\$400
6. Douglas Tolson	Powell, TN		29:39	\$300
7. Stephen Kartazia	Washington, MD	29:48		\$200
8. Muriki Ngatia	Kenya		30:29	\$100

Female

1. Shelly Steely	Eugene, OR		32:57	\$3,000
2. Jody Dunston	San Antonio, TX		33:00	\$1,500
3. Kellie Cathey	Ft Collins, CO		33:13	\$750
4. Carla Borovicka	Tallahassee, FL		34:11	\$500
5. Elespth Turner	Tuscaloosa, AL		35:12	\$300

Masters prize money not mentioned on race entry form

The Fourteenth BRIDGE RUN was held April 6, 1991. It was a humid, foggy morning with the temperature at 64 degrees for the 8 A.M. start. The 15 mph cross wind blew the fog away before the runners reached the bridge. It was a good year for Carolina runners as two of them surprised pre-race favorites U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials winner Mark Conover from San Luis Obispo, CA and John Tuttle of Douglasville, GA. After running over the bridge with the lead pack, Steve Kartalia of Pendleton, SC and Jeff Cannada of Carrboro, NC pulled away. Cannada kicked past Kartalia to win 29:38 to 29:39. Conover and Tuttle were the only other run-

Bird of Newnan, GA was never challenged as she won in 34:49. Sabina Wallace of Athens, GA was second in 35:24. Nancy Grayson of Columbia, SC was running as a Masters for the first time, but she didn't let that slow her down as she finished third overall, her highest finish since her 1983 runner-up slot. She ran a Masters course record 35:39.

John Campbell of New Zealand also took overall money and set a Masters course record as he finished 7th overall in 30:33. Kaare Osnes of Brighton, MA was second Masters in 32:52 while Charleston's Bob Schlau was third in 33:22. Nancy Oshier of Rush, NY ran 36:21 and Jenny Kyle of Savannah, GA ran 37:45 to take second and third female Masters awards.

Mark Blatchford was race director for the second year in a row. The entry fee was raised to \$13 and for the first time a late entry fee was added - it was \$20. Channel 5 cancelled its scheduled live television coverage 3 weeks before the race. Channel 24 picked up the coverage option and broadcast a one hour tape delay review of the race.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first local finisher went to Mark Friedrich (1983 overall runner-up) of the Isle of Palms, 13th overall in 32:18 and to College of Charleston senior Micky Kawohl (Reger) who was 5th female, 68th overall in a personal best 35:48. There were 6527 entrants and the results booklet listed 5503 finishers; 4172 male and 1331 female. A total of 4 runners broke 30 minutes, while 283 runners broke the 40 minute barrier, 19 of them female.

1991 Prize money winners

Male

1. Jeff Cannada	Carrboro, NC	29:38	\$3,000
2. Stephen Kartalia	Pendleton, SC	29:39	\$1,500
3. Mark Conover	San Luis Obispo, CA	29:43	\$750
4. John Tuttle	Douglasville, GA	29:52	\$600
5. Jeff Smith	Morrison, CO	30:06	\$500
6. Glen Banker	Newnan, GA	30:29	\$400
7. John Campbell	New Zealand	30:33	\$300
8. Larry Clark	Easley, SC	30:50	\$200

Female

1. Kim Bird	Newnan, GA	34:49	\$3,000
2. Sabina Wallace	Athens, GA	35:24	\$1,500
3. Nancy Grayson	Columbia, SC	35:39	\$750
4. Karen Schotte	Alpharatte, GA	35:45	\$500
5. Micky Kawohl (Reger)	Charleston, SC	35:48	\$400
6. Nancy Oshier	Rush, NY	36:21	\$300
7. Gina Latham	Greenville, SC	37:17	\$200
8. Alison Roxburgh	Mt Pleasant, SC	37:23	\$100

Masters prize money not mentioned on race entry form

The Fifteenth BRIDGE RUN, on April 4, 1992, had probably the most favorable conditions yet of any of the races. The sun was shining, it was 48 degrees and the wind was a crosswind and so slight at 5 mph as to be almost imperceptible at the 8 A.M. start.

A contingent of late entrants from Kenya led an assault on the race's course records, as 3 of the 4 would fall. William Mutwol, who had set a 5k road race world best of 13:12 the week before, led the first 2 miles. Then fellow Kenyan Dominic Kirui took the lead which he held all the way to the 6 mile mark where Mutwol pulled even. Kirui kicked away to win by 2 seconds in a course record 28:24. William Sigei of Kenya ran 28:57, John Halvorsen of Norway 29:03 and Ondoro Osolo of Kenya 29:10 were also under the old course re-

Nick Rose of England finished 8th overall and set a masters male course record 29:52, becoming the first Master to break the 30 minute barrier on any Bridge Run course. Kurt Hurst of Switzerland was second in 30:57 and Doug Kurtis of Northville, MI was third in 30:59. Nancy Grayson of Columbia, SC missed her own course record by 11 seconds, but repeated as Masters female champion in 35:50. Barbara Filutze of Erie, PA was second in 36:26 and Catherine Lempeis of Columbia, SC was third in 37:31.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first local finisher went to Tom Mather of Mt. Pleasant, 23rd overall in 32:11 and to Patti Previtte Clark who ran a personal best 38:58 to place 20th female and 258th overall.

Mark Blatchford was race director for the third year in a row. There were 7602 entrants and 6403 finishers; 4675 male and 1728 female, a record number of official finishers. The entry fee remained at \$13 early, \$20 late. The 3 Kenyans became the first runners ever to finish under the 29 minute mark, 8 runners broke the 30 minute barrier and a total of 332 runners, 28 of them female, broke the 40 minute barrier. Channel 24 television, for the second year in a row, showed a one hour tape delay review of the race.

1992 Prize money winners

OVERALL

Male

1. Dominic Kirui	Kenya	28:24	\$5,000
2. William Mutwol	Kenya	28:26	\$2,000
3. William Sigai	Kenya	28:57	\$1,000
4. John Halvorsen	Canada	29:03	\$750
5. Ondoro Osora	Kenya	29:10	\$500
6. Jim Farmer	Raleigh, NC	29:28	\$400
7. Steve Kartalia	Pendleton, SC	29:35	\$300
8. Nick Rose	England	29:52	\$200
9. Gavin Gaynor	Raleigh, NC	30:15	\$125

Female

1. Jill Hunter	Albuquerque, NM	32:34	\$5,000
2. Janis Klecker	Minnetonka, MN	33:08	\$2,000
3. Irina Poushkariva	Russia	33:55	\$1,000
4. Wendy Frazier	Gainesville, FL	34:46	\$500
5. Maggie Kraft	Columbia, SC	34:55	\$300
6. Valerie McGovern	Lexington, KY	34:56	\$200
7. Kerry Robinson	Central, SC	35:13	\$125

Masters Division

Male

1. Nick Rose	England	29:52	\$1,000
2. Kurt Hurst	Switzerland	30:57	\$500
3. Doug Kurtis	Northville, MI	30:59	\$300

Female

1. Nancy Grayson	Columbia, SC	35:50	\$1,000
2. Barbara Filutze	Erie, PA	36:26	\$500
3. Catherine Lempeis	Columbia, SC	37:31	\$300

Excellent weather for the second year in a row greeted the runners of the Sixteenth BRIDGE RUN on April 3, 1993. It was a crisp clear 50 degrees for the 8 A.M. start. The 10 mph crosswind on the bridge made it feel much colder, but the wind was a tailwind for runners as they exited the Crosstown Overpass and headed

and was never headed, falling just 7 seconds short of the course record, winning in 28:31. Fellow Kenyans Simon Chemoiywo and Jackson Kipngok had a kicking contest for second place with Chemoiywo taking it by one second in 28:34. John Halvorsen had the identical time and finish place as in the '92 race: fourth in 29:03.

Nick Rose of England finished fifth overall to repeat as Masters winner in 30:21. Wilson Waigwa, a Kenyan now living in El Paso, TX was second Masters in 31:09 followed by Charles McMullen of Rochester, NY in 31:40.

The women's race was a battle between two runners who had both complained before the race that they were suffering from head colds. They battled for four and a half miles before Sabrina Dornhoefer of Minneapolis, MN broke away from Inna Pouskhariva of St Petersburg, Russia to win 33:53 to 34:05. Tamara Karlikova, of Russia, now residing in Carmel, CA was third in 34:48. Dornhoefer said after the race that "These were the toughest hills I've ever run on." Carol McLatchie of Houston, TX took the female Masters title in 35:50 while defending champion Nancy Grayson, now residing in Northville, MI was second in 36:16. Barbara Filutze of Erie, PA was third in 36:21.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award was sweetened by adding a \$500 award for each winner. Tom Mather of Mt Pleasant repeated as winner by finishing 17th overall in 31:42. The female division saw the closest contest ever as two Charlestonians were credited with the same time of 39:56. Suzanne Lynch ran a personal best to edge Robin Roughton by a fraction of a second. Lynch was 27th female, 303rd overall.

For the third year in a row, Channel 24 television broadcast a one hour tape delay review of the race. Benita Schlau was the new race director for the sixteenth Bridge Run. The race entry fee was raised to \$14 early, \$20 late. There were 7544 entrants and 6192 finishers. There were 4405 males and 1787 females listed in the official results. There were 3 runners under 29 minutes, a total of 4 runners under 30 minutes. A total of 307 runners, 28 of them female, broke the 40 minute barrier. Runners from 49 states and a number of foreign countries made this Bridge Run the most cosmopolitan yet.

1993 Prize money winners

OVERALL

Male

1. Paul Bitok	Kenya	28:31	\$3,000	
2. Simon Chemoiyo	Kenya	28:34	\$1,500	
3. Jackson Kipngok	Kenya	28:35	\$1,000	
4. John Halvorsen	Canada		29:03	\$750
5. Nick Rose	England	30:21	\$500	
6. Antoni Niemczak	Poland	30:28	\$400	
7. Eric Ashton	Columbia, SC	30:31	\$300	
8. Michael Doborohotov	Russia	30:34	\$200	
9. Selwyn Blake	Columbia, SC	30:50	\$100	

Female

1. Sabrina Dornhoefer	Minneapolis, MN	33:53	\$3,000	
2. Irina Pouskhariva	Russia	34:05	\$1,500	
3. Tamara Karlikova	Russia	34:48	\$1,000	
4. Betsy Schmid	Chapel Hill, NC	35:08	\$750	
5. Karen Hoffman	Atlanta, GA	35:30	\$500	
6. Maggie Kraft	Columbia, SC	35:43	\$200	

Masters Division

Male

1. Nick Rose	England	30:21	\$1,500	
2. Wilson Waigwa	Kenya	31:09	\$1,000	
3. Charles McMullen	Rochester, NY	31:40	\$500	

Female

1. Carol McLatchie	Houston, TX	35:50	\$1,500
2. Nancy Grayson	Northville, MI	36:16	\$1,000
3. Barbara Filutzie	Erie, PA	36:21	\$500

Dr Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County Charleston Area finisher
(prize money awarded for the first time)

1. Tom Mather	Mt Pleasant, SC	31:42	\$500
1. Suzanne Lynch	Charleston, SC	39:56	\$500

The Seventeenth BRIDGE RUN on MARCH 26, 1994 will probably always be remembered as the year a non winning runner got more publicity than the winners. Talk show host Oprah Winfrey ran the race and despite finishing 3,839th place (under an assumed name) in a time of 55:48, she received massive publicity in the local papers and even in the national tabloids.

The more important facts attracted less attention: it was the largest Bridge Run ever with 8,670 entrants and a record 7,355 official finishers. There were 5,063 males (68.8%) and 2,292 females (31.2%) listed in the results booklet. It was the largest number and highest percentage of female finishers in race history. It also marked the first time over 2,000 females ever completed a race in the Carolinas.

The conditions were good for racing, about 60 degrees but rising at the 8 A.M. start. There was a slight crosswind as the runners went over the spans of the bridge. Once again Kenyans dominated the open race. Three Kenyans and one American took the first mile together in 4:25. The Kenyans were still together with no one else close when they reached the 5 mile mark. Simon Karori kicked away from Jackson Kipngok (who had finished 3rd in '93) to win 28:35 to 28:37. Fellow Kenyan Gilbert Rutto was third in 28:57. The Kenyan runners remained the only ones to have broken the 29 minute barrier in any Bridge Run. Eric Ashton of Columbia, SC was 4th overall and the first American in 29:56. England's Nick Rose ran 30:04 to take the masters title for the third year in a row. His time was good for fifth place overall.

In the women's race, Elaine Van Blunk of Drexel Hill, PA led virtually from the start and won in 34:01. Lisa Vail of Pine Palms, NY was second in 34:12 and despite scorch marks on her legs received when the starting cannon was fired (after the race she questioned why it was pointed at the runners) Inna Poushkariva of Russia was third in 34:21.

Nick Rose repeated as Masters winner in 30:04, followed by Wilson Waigwa, a Kenya now of El Paso, TX who repeated as second place Master, this year in 31:31. Charleston's Bob Schlau ran his best Bridge Run time in a number of years, 31:48, to move up to third place Masters. Female Masters winner was Rebecca Stockdale-Wooley, a recent convert from Triathlon to running, in 36:32. Diana Tracy of Hermosa Beach, CA was second in 36:55. Columbia, SC's Catherine Lempesis repeated her third place finish from '93, improving her time to 37:07.

The Dr Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County finisher again went to Tom Mather of Mt Pleasant who finished 9th overall in 30:54, his fastest Bridge Run to date. Kathy Kanes of Charleston took the female division in 34:43 as the 7th female and 49th overall runner.

Channel 24 television, for the fourth year in a row, showed a one hour tape delay review of the race. The race entry fee remained at \$14 early, \$20 late, the walk entry fee was \$9 early, \$12 late. There were 3 runners under the 29 minute barrier, and as in '93, a total of 4 runners under the 30 minute barrier. A total of 327 runners, 32 of them female, broke the 40 minute barrier. Julian Smith was the new race director for the 17th Cooper River Bridge Run.

1994 Prize money winners

OVERALL

Male

3. Gilbert Rutto	Kenya	28:57	\$1,000
4. Eric Ashton	Columbia, SC	29:56	\$800
5. Nick Rose	England	30:04	\$600
6. Keith Johnson	Dallas, TX	30:44	\$500
7. Jamie Barnes	Easley, SC	30:51	\$400
8. Derek Mitchum	Columbia, SC	30:52	\$300
9. Tom Mather	Mt Pleasant, SC	30:54	\$250
10. Scott Walshlager	Winston Salem, NC	30:56	\$150

Female

1. Elaine Van Blunk	Krexel Hill, PA	34:01	\$3,000
2. Lisa Vaill	Pine Plains, VY	34:12	\$1,500
3. Irina Poushkariva	Russia	34:21	\$1,000
4. Elena Vinitaskaia	Russia	34:27	\$800
5. Kirsten Russell	Boulder, CO	34:39	\$600
6. Lynn Doering	Atlanta, GA	34:41	\$500
7. Kathy Kanes	Charleston, SC	34:43	\$400
8. Debbi Kilpatrick	Berea, OH	34:43	\$300
9. Betsy Schmid	Chapel Hill, NC	35:05	\$250
10. Lorraine Hochella	Williamsburg, VA	35:14	\$150

Masters Division

Male

1. Nick Rose	England	30:04	\$1,500
2. Wilson Waigwa	Kenya	31:31	\$1,000
3. Bob Schlau	Charleston, SC	31:47	\$750
4. Richard Banning	Alexandria, VA	31:52	\$500
5. Charles McMullen	Rochester, NY	32:25	\$250

Female

1. Rebecca Stockdale	Chaplin, CT	36:32	\$1,500
2. Diania Tracy	Hermosa Beach, CA	36:35	\$1,000
3. Catherine Lempesis	Columbia, SC	37:07	\$750
4. Gretchen Maurer	Norfolk, VA	37:09	\$500
5. Barbara Filutze	Erie, PA	37:16	\$250

Dr Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County Charleston Area finisher

1. Tom Mather	Mt Pleasant, SC	30:54	\$500
1. Kathy Kanes	Charleston, SC	37:59	\$500

The Eighteenth COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN on April 1, 1995 marked the first course change since the 1987 return to the 1985 course. The new course was USATF certified #SC94030BS and returned to the 'new' Silas Pearman bridge which was last used as part of the race course in 1979.

There was much pre-race speculation that the new course would prove to be faster because the 'new' bridge is not as steep. After the race, the general consensus was that it was faster. The new course began in Mt Pleasant on Coleman Boulevard near Live Oak Street, proceeded across the Pearman bridge and the Crosstown Overpass, turned left onto Coming, left onto Line then turned right onto King Street to follow the previous

the race, it was about 59 degrees with clear sunny skies and a rapidly climbing temperature when the race began. There was only a slight crosswind for runners, which due to the wider bridge was almost unnoticeable.

The race start was delayed by about 5 minutes as hundreds of runners scrambled from the overloaded shuttle buses (the increased size of the field put unexpected demands on the transportation system) and rushed to get behind the starting line. For the first time, a voice command was used to start the race to prevent the problem caused by the cannon at the '94 race.

Once again Kenyans dominated the race. Almost from the word go, it was a pack of Kenyans and one American (Travis Walter of Cary, NC who would finish as first American in 7th place overall), who ran together all the way to the bridge. Once Joseph Kimani took control of the race he never let it go as he ran to a new course record 27:49 (4:29 pace). He became the first runner to break the 28 minute barrier in any Bridge Run. He led 3 other Kenyans: Francis Mbui 28:13, Simon Chemoiywo 28:21 and Ondoro Osoro 28:23, under the old course record. Defending champion Simon Karori finished 5th in 28:41.

The top three women ran together, exchanging the lead until the last mile when Laura LaMena-Coll of Eugene, OR pulled away to win in 33:58. Cindi Girard of Red Bank, NJ was second in 34:11 and defending champion Elaine Van Blunk of Drexel Hill, PA was third in 34:35.

Wilson Waigwa, a Kenyan now residing in El Paso, TX, moved up from two consecutive second place Masters finishes to win the masters title in 30:33. Former 5,000 meter world record holder David Moorcraft of England was second in 30:58 and Doug Kurtis of Northville, MI was third in 31:48. The female Masters title went to Irina Bondarchouck of Russia in a Masters female course record 35:13 followed by Rebecca Stockdale-Wooley of Chaplin, CN in 36:25 and Joanne Scianna of Savgus, MI in 36:42.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County area finisher again went to Tom Mather of Mt Pleasant who finished 22nd overall in 31:14. Lynn MacDougall, also of Mt Pleasant took the female division in 37:59 by finishing as 16th female and 197th overall.

For the fifth year in a row, Channel 24 TV showed a one hour tape delay review of the race. One runner broke the 28 minute barrier, with a total of 5 runners under 29 and a total of 12 runners under the 30 minute barrier. This compares to 4 runners breaking the 30 minute barrier in each of the previous 2 Bridge Runs. A total of 379 runners, 26 of them female, broke the 40 minute barrier.

Race director for the second year in a row was Julian Smith. The race entry fee remained at \$14 early, \$20 late, the walk entry fee was \$9 early, \$12 late. For the first time all the official finishers names and times were listed in the Sunday edition of the Post-Courier newspaper. In 1995, complete results were mailed to all finishers as a part of an issue of CAROLINA ACTION SPORTS magazine instead of in a separate results booklet as had been done in the past.

1995 Prize money winners:

Overall

Male

1. Joseph Kimani	Kenya	27:49	\$3,000
2. Francis Mbui	Kenya	28:13	\$1,500
3. Simon Chemoiywo	Kenya	28:21	\$1,000
4. Ondoro Osoro	Kenya	28:23	\$800
5. Simon Karori	Kenya	28:41	\$600
6. Joseph Kamau	Kenya	29:02	\$500
7. Travis Walter	Cary, NC	29:16	\$400
8. Cormac Finnerty	Atlanta, GA	29:28	\$300
9. Simon Peter	Tanzania	29:35	\$250
10. Eddy Hellebuyck	Albuquerque, NM	29:43	\$150

Female

1. Laura LaMena-Coll	Eugene, OR	33:58	\$3,000
2. Cindi Girard	Red Bank, NJ	34:11	\$1,500

5. Mary Alico	Orlando, FL		34:54	\$600
6. Irina Bondarchouk	Russia		35:13	\$500
7. Karen Hoffman	Stone Mountain, GA		35:49	\$400
8. Rebecca Stockdale-Wooley	Chaplin, CT		36:25	\$300
9. Dee Goodwin	Cohulla, GA		36:33	\$250
10. Joanna Scianna	Savgus, MA		36:42	\$150

Masters Division

Male

1. Wilson Waigwa	Kenya		30:33	\$1,500
2. Dave Moorcroft	England		30:58	\$1,000
3. Doug Kurtis	Northville, MI	31:48	\$750	
4. Charles McMullen	Rochester, NY	31:59	\$500	
5. Pete Metzmaker	Whitefish, MT	32:05	\$250	

Female

1. Irina Bondarchouk	Russia		35:13	\$1,500
2. Rebecca Stockdale-Wooley	Chaplin, CT		36:25	\$1,000
3. Joanne Scianna	Savgus, MI		36:42	\$750
4. Nancy Grayson	Northville, MI	36:58	\$500	
5. Susan Segraves	Greer, SC	37:29	\$250	

Dr Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County Charleston Area finisher

1. Tom Mather	Mt Pleasant, SC		31:14	\$500
1. Lynn MacDougall	Mt Pleasant, SC		37:59	\$500

The Nineteenth BRIDGE RUN was held on March 30, 1996. The new course for 1996 (USATF certified #SC96010BS) was basically the 1995 course with only minor alterations: the finish line was moved from the front of the Federal Building to the corner of Meeting and Calhoun Streets. This was done to help avoid runner congestion after the race. The starting line was pushed back a corresponding distance on Coleman Boulevard.

The race again set a record for entrants and finishers: with 14,030 entrants and 11,444 official finishers crossing the finish line. There were 7,362 men (64.3%) and 4,082 women (35.7%). For the third year in a row, it was the largest number and highest percentage of female finishers in race history. It also marked the first time over 4,000 women ever completed a race in the Carolinas.

For the second year in a row all of the official finishers' names and times were listed in the next day's Post Courier newspaper. For the first time, they were separately listed by sex. Results were later mailed to all finishers in a special edition of the LOW COUNTRY RUNNER, the newsletter of the Charleston Running Club.

The weather forecast led to a lot of surprised runners as the predicted warm morning turned into an overcast, cool 50 degrees at start time with a steady 20 mile per hour wind which made the temperature feel much colder. For only the second time in Bridge Run history, the wind was a tailwind for the runners as they went over the first span of the bridge. Despite the fact that this made the wind a headwind as runners headed down King Street, there were very few complaints about the weather.

Once again Kenyans dominated the race, though not as completely as in 1995. Joseph Kamau won in 28:32, followed by fellow countrymen Zakaria Kuniyiha in 28:40 and Daniel Kihara in 28:59. Travis Walter of Wilmington, NC was the first American runner for the second year in a row, this year finishing 4th in 29:29. The Kenyans remained the only runners who had run under 29 minutes on any Bridge Run course.

Liz McColgan of Scotland ran behind Kenya's Catherine Ndereba for almost five and a half miles, then she turned on the speed. McColgan set a new course record by 53 seconds, 31:41 (5:07 pace) with Ndereba also

The Masters division went to Antoni Niemczak of Poland who won handily in 30:14. Tom Stevens of Middleton, MD was second in 30:48 and Paul Barron of Willowdale, Canada was third in 31:29. The female Masters title went to Maureen de St. Croix of Ottawa, Canada in 35:19. Rebecca Stockdale-Wooley of Chalin, CT in 35:56, was second for the second year in a row. Third place went to Irina Bondarchouk of Russia in 36:02, she had set the Masters course record in '95.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County area finisher went to Mark Friedrich of the Isle of Palms who ran 31:59 and finished 19th overall. He said after the race that it was his best Bridge Run effort since his 29:58 which placed him second overall in 1983. Clarice Marana of Charleston ran 37:18, 20th female and 162nd overall, to take the female division.

For the sixth year in a row, Channel 24 TV showed a one hour tape delay review of the race. Entry fee for the race and walked remained the same as the previous year. In 1996, 3 runners broke the 29 minute barrier with a total of 6 runners under the 30 minute barrier. A total of 357 runners, 315 male and a record 42 female, broke the 40 minute barrier. Julian Smith was the race director for the third year in a row.

1996 Prize money winners:

Overall

Male

1. Joseph Kamau	Kenya	28:32	\$3,000
2. Zakaria Kunyiha	Kenya	28:40	\$1,500
3. Daniel Kihara	Kenya	28:59	\$1,000
4. Travis Walter	Wilmington, NC	29:29	\$800
5. Valeri Pedotov	Russia	29:34	\$600
6. Jerry Lawson	Jacksonville, FL	29:53	\$500
7. Antoni Niemczak	Poland	30:14	\$400
8. Amit Neeman	Israel	30:22	\$300
9. Tom Stevens	Middleton, MD	30:48	\$250
10. Larry Brock	Anderson, SC	31:01	\$150

Female

1. Liz McColgan	Scotland	31:41	\$3,000
2. Catherine Ndereba	Kenya	31:48	\$1,500
3. Cathy O'Brien	Durham, NH	32:53	\$1,000
4. Laura Mykytok	Brevard, NC	33:24	\$800
5. Cindy Gerard	Red Bank, NJ	33:30	\$600
6. Svetlana Vasilyeva	Russia	33:33	\$500
7. Ludmilla Ilina	Russia	33:41	\$400
8. Deanna O'Neal	Canby, OR	34:10	\$300
9. Tamara Karlioukova	Russia	34:35	\$250
10. Tania Jones	Canada	34:55	\$150

Masters

Male

1. Antoni Niemczak	Poland	30:14	\$1,500
2. Tom Stevens	Middleton, MD	30:48	\$1,000
3. Paul Barron	Canada	31:29	\$750
4. Dave Kannewurf	Portsmouth, VA	31:36	\$500
5. David Geer	Clemson, SC	31:47	\$250

Female

1. Maureen de St Croix	Canada	35:19	\$1,500
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The Twentieth COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN was held on April 5, 1997. For the second year in a row the race grew by over a thousand in both entrants; 15,216 and finishers, 12,583, setting records in both categories. With 7,839 male finishers (62.3%) and 4,744 female finishers (37.71%), the race continued increasing female participation to its highest level yet. The race used the same USATF course as in 1996. Actor and comedian Bill Murray served as starter for the race, ran in the race and graciously signed autographs afterward.

For the first time, runners were timed using the ChampionChip computer timing chip. Since most runners were unfamiliar with how the system worked at the time I included the following explanation: A quarter sized computer chip is laced into each runner's shoe. This chip is activated when the runner crosses the special pad laid across the starting line and deactivated by a pad across the finish line. The chip transmits the runner's total running time and actual elapsed time to a master computer. Results can be printed out showing both times. The device eliminated the massive stack-ups of runners in chutes awaiting pull tab collection. Most runners, except the very small percentage whose chips malfunctioned (calculated at 1.28 percent by going through complete results and counting the 159 "Unknown" listings and adding 3 other errors I was told about by runners) seemed to like the new system very much.

For the third year in a row, all of the official finishers, except one masters division runner, Tom Stevens, who had worn his computer chip on his race number instead of his shoe, were listed in the next day's Post Courier newspaper. He was shown in the separate masters box as one of the masters overall winners, but not listed in the male/female separate finish order results. His name was never added to the 'official' results and does not appear in the results posted on the race website (which was established a number of years later). Complete results were mailed to all finishers in a special supplement of the newspaper.

The weather played a cruel trick on the runners. All week the Low Country and the entire state of South Carolina had enjoyed a string of unseasonably cool, crisp, low humidity days. Then race morning came and with it came heat and humidity. With clear skies and bright sunshine, the 68 degree start time was the fourth hottest yet in Bridge Run history. Runners had an almost negligible wind, most unusual in itself. The conditions sent over 150 runners into the emergency treatment tents after the race and 10 runners were hospitalized.

The heat did not seem to bother the large Kenyan contingent. Paul Koech won in 27:57 (4:30 pace), just 8 seconds off the course record, despite the heat. Tom Nyariki, also from Kenya was second in 28:13. For the first time ever a non Kenyan ran under 29 minutes as Khalid Khannouchi of Morocco was third in 28:15. For the first time ever, no Americans finished in the top ten as Travis Walter of Wilmington, NC was first American for the third year in a row, this time in 29:42.

The women's race was perhaps the most exciting of the day, as pre-race favorite Elana Meyer of South Africa was as surprised as everyone else when Sally Barsosio, a 19 year old Kenyan ran most of the first mile just behind the lead pack of male runners. In fact it was not until the last half mile that Meyer overtook Barsosio. Meyer accelerated to a new FEMALE COURSE RECORD 31:19 (5:03 pace). After the race Meyer was quoted in the newspaper as saying she would much rather have heat than windy conditions.

The Masters division was again won by Antoni Niemczak of Poland, this year in 31:11. This time it was not easy as he held off Valery Svetegor of Russia, who finished 2 seconds behind him. Third place went to Dimitri Dmitriev, also of Russia in 32:07. Maureen de St. Croix was female Masters winner for the second year in a row, this time in 37:31. Second place went to Claudia Kasen of Williamsburg, VA in 37:54, with third going to Alendia Vestal of Brevard, NC in 38:14.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County area finisher went to Tom Mather of Mt. Pleasant who finished 21st overall in 31:42. Clarice Marana of Charleston ran a personal best 36:33 to finish as 16th woman and 134th

overall, it was her second win in a row.

For the seventh year in a row, Channel 24 television showed a one hour, tape delay review of the race. Entry fees remained at \$14 early \$20 late for the race and \$9 early \$12 late for the walk. In 1997, only 1 runner broke the 28 minute barrier, 6 others broke the 29 minute barrier and a total of 13 runners broke the 30 minute barrier. A total of 330 runners broke the 40 minute barrier, 38 of them female. The accompanying 4 mile fun walk attracted an estimated 10,000 participants. Julian Smith was the race director for the fourth year in a row.

1997 Prize money winners:

Overall

Male

1. Paul Koech	Kenya	27:57	\$5,000
2. Tom Nyariki	Kenya	28:13	\$3,000
3. Khalid Khannouchi	Morocco	28:15	\$1,500
4. John Kariuki	Kenya	28:37	\$1,000
5. Peter Githuka	Kenya	28:43	\$800
6. Simon Sawe	Kenya	28:51	\$600
7. Charles Mulinga	Zambia	28:55	\$500
8. Phillimon Hanneck	Zimbabwe	29:12	\$400
9. James Bungei	Kenya	29:24	\$300
10. Joseph Kariuki	Kenya	29:35	\$250
11. Travis Walter	Wilmington, NC	29:42	\$200
12. John Kagwe	Kenya	29:56	\$150
13. Francis Wanderi	Poland	29:58	\$100
14. Vladimir Afanasiev	Russia	30:22	\$75
15. Berthold Berger	Hulzen, SC	30:24	\$50

Female

1. Elana Meyer	South Africa	31:19	\$5,000
2. Sally Barsosio	Kenya	31:52	\$3,000
3. Liz McColgan	Scotland	31:58	\$1,500
4. Valentina Yegorova	Russia	32:49	\$1,000
5. Carol Howe	Canada	33:22	\$800
6. Ludmilla Petrova	Russia	33:36	\$600
7. Ludmilla Ilina	Russia	33:59	\$500
8. Lieve Siegers	Belgium	34:02	\$400
9. Tamara Karliovkova	Russia	34:10	\$300
10. Olga Yegorova	Russia	34:20	\$250
11. Patty Pitcher	Charlotte, NC	34:47	\$200
12. Svetlana Vasilieva	Russia	35:19	\$150
13. Tatiana Ivanova	Russia	35:24	\$100
14. Mary Ellen Kelly	Columbia, SC	35:49	\$75
15. Stephanie Agosta	Lancaster, OH	36:27	\$50

Masters:

Male

1. Antoni Niemczak	Poland	31:11	\$1,500
2. Valery Svetegor	Russia	31:13	\$1,000
3. Dmitri Dmitriev	Russia	32:07	\$750

Dr. Marcus Newberry Award, Tri-County Local Winners:

1. Tom Mather Mt Pleasant, SC 31:42 \$500

1. Clarice Marana Charleston, SC 36:33 \$500

The Twenty First BRIDGE RUN was held on April 4, 1998. The number of entrants jumped to an all time high 18,007, while the number of finishers increased only slightly, to 12,919. There were 7,916 men (61.3% of finishers) and 5,003 women (38.7%) listed in Charleston's Sunday Post-Courier newspaper. This was the third year in a row the newspaper printed complete results. It marked the first time over 5,000 women ever completed a race in South Carolina. This continued the race's pattern of increased female participation each year.

The race used the same USATF certified course it had used since 1996. For the second year in a row, the runners were timed by the ChampionChip computer timing chip system. There was a chip error rate of 1.23 percent based on 156 "Unknown" listings in the results plus 4 runners who completed the race but appear to have been left completely out of the results.

The weather was probably the prime factor in the 71.7% finisher versus entrant percentage, which was the lowest in the race's history. The day before the race saw torrential rain and thunderstorms with over 2 inches of rain falling in the Charleston area. Heavy rain, high wind and even some tornadoes struck nearby counties. Many runners may have decided not to make the trip.

Race morning dawned looking beautiful. The humidity was low, the temperature at the 8 A.M. start was 64 degrees, but oh, the wind. The Sunday morning newspaper headline borrowed the title of Bob Seger's song to say it all: "AGAINST THE WIND". With a steady 25 mile per hour wind which was gusting to 35 mph, the runners ran directly into a headwind for virtually the first 4 and a quarter miles and last half mile of the race. Going up the bridge spans into such a stiff headwind made the race much slower than usual. It looked like no runners would break the 30 minute barrier: something which had not happened since the last time the race had similar wind conditions back in 1987.

Pre-race favorite Tom Nyariki of Kenya led the entire race except for one brief stretch right after the 4 mile mark when eventual second place finisher James Kariuki, also of Kenya briefly took the lead. Nyariki had to turn on a powerful finishing kick, not to win, but to get under the 30 minute mark, as he was the only runner to do so, winning in 29:58. Kariuki was second in 30:18. Another Kenyan, James Bungei was third in 30:26. Craig Young of Colorado Springs, CO was first American and second masters runner in 31:29 as he finished 9th overall.

Defending champion Elana Meyer of South Africa did not leave it to the last minute this year. She jumped out quickly and settled in with the second pack of male runners. Meyer was well off her own course record, but won handily in 32:46. Sally Barsosio of Kenya who had led Meyer for most of the 1997 race was never a factor, although she finished second for the second year in a row, this time in 34:31. Naomi Mugo, also of Kenya was third in 34:37.

The Masters division had a new champion as Keith Anderson of England finished 8th overall in 31:04. He was followed by the next two overall finishers who were also Masters runners: Craig Young 31:29, and defending champion Antoni Niemczak of Poland in 31:38. The female Masters division was won by Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine who despite the windy conditions managed to set a new Female Masters course record 35:09, 4 seconds under the old record. Patty Valadka 36:53 and Irina Bondarchouck 36:58, both of Russia, were second and third.

For the first time the race added prize money (3 deep) for the Grand Masters (50 and over) division. Well known Charleston runner Bob Schlau in his first year as a Grand Masters runner had suffered a severe hamstring injury. He ran the race anyway and was glad to be able to finish and to win in 37:37. He admitted he was disappointed to have run 4 minutes slower than any of his previous Bridge Runs. Terry Van Natta of Greensboro, NC was second in 37:44, while Porter Reed of Elgin, IL was third in 39:15. Betty Ryberg of

Aiken, SC ran away from her competition to win handily in 42:44. Susie Kluttz of Winston Salem, NC was second in 46:59 and Kathy Jagers of Rock Hill, SC was third in 47:19.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County area finisher went to Tom Mather of Mt. Pleasant for the second year in a row. He finished 21st overall in 32:53. Female winner for the third year in a row was Charleston's Clarice Marana. She finished 8th female and 74th overall in 36:44.

For the eighth year in a row, Channel 24 television showed a one hour, tape delay review of the race. It was shown on Saturday night and repeated on Sunday morning. Entry fee for the race was raised to \$15 early, \$20 late, and for the walk \$10 early, \$12 late. In 1998, only 1 runner broke the 30 minute barrier. A total of 211 runners broke the 40 minute barrier, 21 of them female. The accompanying untimed 4 mile fun walk drew an estimated 11,000 participants. Julian Smith was the race director for the fifth year in a row.

1998 Prize Money Winners:

Overall:

Male

1.	Tom Nyariki	Kenya	29:58	\$5,000
2.	John Kariuki	Kenya	30:18	\$3,500
3.	James Bungei	Kenya	30:26	\$1,500
4.	Steve Nyamu	Kenya	30:43	\$1,000
5.	Simon Chemoiyo	Kenya	30:52	\$800
6.	John Mwai	Kenya	30:55	\$600
7.	Joseph Kahuga	Kenya	31:00	\$500
8.	Keith Anderson	Somerset, England	31:04	\$400
9.	Craig Young	Colorado Springs, CO	31:29	\$300
10.	Antoni Niemczak	Poland	31:38	\$250
11.	Eric Ashton	Columbia, SC	31:40	\$200
12.	Paul Marmaro	Delray Beach, FL	31:46	\$150
13.	Patrick Phillips	Winston Salem, NC	31:55	\$100
14.	Julius Rotich	Kenya	32:10	\$75
15.	Michael Tunget	Kenya	32:17	\$50

Female

1.	Elana Meyer	South Africa	32:46	\$5,000
2.	Sally Barsosio	Kenya	34:31	\$3,000
3.	Naomi Mugo	Kenya	34:37	\$1,500
4.	Teresa Wanjiku	Kenya	34:44	\$1,000
5.	Tatyano Pozdnyakova	Ukraine	35:09	\$800
6.	Silvia Skvortsova	Russia	35:20	\$600
7.	Tina Jensen	Greenville, SC	36:35	\$500
8.	Clarice Marana	Charleston, SC	36:44	\$400
9.	Patty Valadka	Houston, TX	36:50	\$300
10.	Irina Bondarchouk	Russia	36:58	\$250
11.	Megan Flowers	Fort Collins, CO	37:21	\$200
12.	Amy Kattwinkel	Charlotte, NC	38:07	\$150
13.	Victoria Crisp	Nashville, TN	38:41	\$100
14.	Mary Jo Ferrigan	Athens, GA	38:47	\$75
15.	Tracy Center	Greenville, SC	38:49	\$50

Masters:

6.	Keith Anderson	Somerset, England	31:04	\$1,500
7.	Craig Young	Colorado Springs, CO	31:29	\$1,000
8.	Antoni Niemczak	Poland	31:38	\$750

(prize money awarded for the first time)

Male

1.	Bob Schlau	Charleston, SC	37:37	\$750	
2.	Terry Van Natta	Greensboro, NC	37:44	\$500	
3.	Porter Reed	Elgin, IL	39:15		\$250

Female

1.	Betty Ryberg	Aiken, SC	42:44		\$750
2.	Susie Kluttz	Winston Salem, NC	46:59	\$500	
3.	Kathy Jagers	Rock Hill, SC	47:19	\$250	

Dr. Marcus Newberry Award, Tri-County Local Winners:

1.	Tom Mather	Mt Pleasant, SC	32:53	\$500	
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1.	Clarice Marana	Charleston, SC	36:44	\$500	
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The Twenty Second BRIDGE RUN was held on March 27, 1999. Unseasonable cold rain all during the week probably contributed to the decline in the number of race entrants, as 15,349 runners signed up. The number of finishers also declined, though only slightly from the previous year, to 12,536. There were 7,523 men and 5,010 women listed in the Sunday Post-Courier newspaper. Complete results printed after the newspaper had gone to press listed 7,524 men (60%) and 5,012 women (40%) finishers. The total number of male finishers decreased while female participation continued to increase. It was the second year in a row over 5,000 women had finished the race.

The race used the same USATF certified course used since 1996. For the third year in a row runners were timed by the ChampionChip computer timing chip system.

Race morning was cold, cloudy and windy with 35 degrees registered at dawn. Fortunately the clouds blew away and it was a sunny 45 degrees with a 10 mile per hour wind when the race began at 8 A.M.

The race itself was the Kenyan story again. Kenyans took 13 of the 15 spots including the first 7, and a Kenyan woman was female winner for the first time ever at the Bridge Run. Lazarus Nyakeraka and William Kiptum made a race of it, as Nyakeraka edged into the lead in the final miles and held off Kiptum to win by 5 seconds in 28:40. Daniel Kihara was third in 29:06. Johnathan Hume of Lakewood, CO was the first American finisher, running 29:39 to finish eighth overall.

Eunice Sagero became the first Kenyan woman to win the Bridge Run as she ran 33:18. Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine smashed her own FEMALE MASTERS COURSE RECORD set one year earlier as she finished second overall in 33:49. Chris McNamara of Boulder, CO was third in 34:18.

John Tuttle of Douglasville, GA was male masters winner in 30:27. David Geer of Clemson was second in 33:11 with Randy Pochel of Charleston third in 33:22. As mentioned above, Pozdnyakova set a female masters course record with her 33:49. She was followed by Patty Valadka of Houston, TX in 35:52 and Lee Dipietro of Ruxton, MD in 36:41.

Grand Masters prize money winners were as follows: Bob Schlau of Charleston won for the second year in a row, this time in 34:48. Terry Van Natta of Greensboro, NC was second in 35:44 while Tom O'Connor of Smyrna, GA was third in 38:19. Female Grand Masters winner was Terry Mahr of Oregon, OH in 39:24. She was followed by Betty Ryberg of Aiken, SC in 41:43 and Susie Kluttz of Winston Salem, NC 44:50.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County local area finisher went to Eric Ashton of Mt Pleasant who finished 18th overall in 30:32. Female winner was Sue Tandy of Goose Creek, 21st female overall, who ran 38:44.

For the ninth year in a row, Channel 24 television showed a one hour tape delay review of the race. It was shown on Saturday night and repeated on Sunday morning. Entry fee for the race and the walk were the same as the previous year. In 1999, 2 runners broke the 29 minute barrier, a total of 10 runners finished under 30 minutes. A total of 280 runners broke the 40 minute barrier, 29 of them female. The accompanying untimed 4 mile walk drew an estimated 11 to 12,000 walkers.

Overall:

Male

1	Lazaru Nyakeraka	Kenya	28:40	\$5,000	
2	William Kiptum	Kenya	28:45	\$3,000	
3	Daniel Kihara	Kenya	29:06	\$1,500	
4	Julius Ondieki	Kenya	29:10	\$1,000	
5	John Kariuki	Kenya	29:21	\$800	
6	James Kariuki	Kenya	29:34	\$600	
7	Kibet Cherop	Kenya	29:39	\$500	
8	Jonathan Hume	Lakewood, CO	29:39	\$400	
9	John Kagwe	Kenya	29:47	\$300	
10	Ben Kimoundiu	Kenya	29:54	\$250	
11	Charles Mulinga	Zambia	30:02	\$200	
12	Simon Cherogony	Kenya	30:07	\$150	
13	Cleophas Bor	Kenya	30:08	\$100	
14	Jared Sagera	Kenya	30:15	\$75	
15	Jacob Kirwa	Kenya	30:27	\$50	

Female

1	Eunice Sagero	Kenya	33:18	\$5,000	
2	Tatyana Pozonyakova	Ukraine	33:49	\$3,000	
3	Chris McNamara		33:59	\$1,500	
4	Turena Johnson Lane	Miami, FL	34:18	\$1,000	
5	Marie Boyd	Albuquerque, NM	34:52	\$800	
6	Tina Jensen	Greenville, SC	34:55	\$600	
7	Patty Pitcher	Charlotte, NC	35:02	\$500	
8	Julia Kirtland	Harpwell, ME	35:34	\$400	
9	Patty Valadka	Houston, TX	35:52	\$300	
10	Gail Pennachio	Greenville, SC	36:01	\$250	
11	Janice Addison	Columbia, SC	36:33	\$200	
12	Lee Dipietro	Ruxton, MD	36:41	\$150	
13	Debra Wagner	Perrysburg, OH	36:49	\$100	
14	Farrell Burns	Charlotte, NC	37:01	\$75	
15	Patricia Bouvatte	Jackson, NC	37:02	\$50	

Masters:

Male

1	John Tuttle	Douglasville, GA	30:27	\$1,500	
2	David Geer	Clemson, SC	33:11	\$1,000	
3	Randy Pochel	Charleston, SC	33:22	\$750	
4	Paul Okenberg	Kiawah Island, SC	33:27	\$500	
5	Paul Dawson	Central, SC	34:33	\$250	

Female

1	Tatyana Pozdnyakova	Ukraine	33:49	\$1,500	
2	Patty Valadka	Houston, TX	35:52	\$1,000	
3	Lee Dipietro	Ruxton, MD	36:41	\$750	
4	Debra Wagner	Perrysburg, OH	36:49	\$500	
5	Terry Mahr	Oregon, OH	39:24	\$250	

Grand Masters:

Male

The Twenty Third COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN began at 8:00 A.M. on April 1st, 2000. It was unusually windy, and the wind was a tailwind strong enough to be felt pushing on the runners' backs as they climbed the first span of the bridge. The temperature was 61 degrees when the race began. There were 16,893 entrants, the second largest ever and there were a record 14,144 finishers. The Sunday Post Courier newspaper listed the names and times of 8,201 men (58%) and 5,943 women (42%) which was the highest percentage yet for female participation.

For the fourth year in a row the race was timed with the ChampionChip computer timing chip system. The race used a new USATF Certified Course #SC00003BS. The course began further back on Coleman Boulevard in Mt. Pleasant so the runners had 2 miles before they reached the first span of the new bridge. The course went across the Crosstown Overpass, down King Street and cut across at Calhoun to finish at the corner of Alexander near East Bay Street. Runners enjoyed the awards ceremony in the new Calhoun Park.

As it has been for a number of years, the race was dominated by Kenyans, but this year the domination was the most thorough ever. For the second year in a row Kenyan men took 13 of the top 15 spots, again including the first 7 places. Kenyan women placed first and second, and also took spots 4 through 8 and 11th. A Kenyan man was masters overall winner as well.

James Koskei ran a NEW COURSE RECORD 27:40. With Reuben Cheruiyot 27:50, Joseph Kimani 27:53 and Felix Limo 27:58 also in under 28 minutes. Selwyn Blake of Columbia, SC was first American in 29:46, running a personal best to take 21st place.

Catherine Ndereba became the second Kenyan woman in a row to win as she edged out fellow Kenyan Sally Barsosio by 13 seconds to win in 31:42. This was Barsosio's third runnerup finish. Colleen De Reuck, a South African now living in Boulder, CO was third in 32:09.

A Kenyan, Simon Kirori set a new MALE MASTERS COURSE RECORD 29:13 breaking the record which had stood for 8 years. Kirori was the overall Bridge Run winner in 1994. Second place master was David Chawane from South Africa in 30:03 while third went to John Tuttle of Douglasville, GA in 30:40. Marie Boyd of Albuquerque, NM was the female masters winner in 35:25. She was followed by Janice Addison of Columbia, SC in 35:41 and Lee Di Petro of Ruxton, MD in 36:12.

Grand Masters prize money went to: Bob Schlauf, Charleston, winner for the third time in a row, this year in 34:25. Norman Ferris of Columbia, SC took second in 34:51 followed by Ervin Reid of Campobello, SC in 35:19. Female Grand Masters winner was Terry Mahr of Oregon, OH for the second year in a row, this time in 38:49. Judith Hine from New Zealand was second in 39:16 while Susie Klutz of Winston Salem, NC was third in 45:07.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County local area finisher went to Mike Aiken of Charleston who finished 35th overall in 31:57. Kerry Robinson, now living in Megget was the female award winner finishing as 24th overall female in 38:00.

Television coverage was moved to cable television for the first time. There was a one hour tape delay broadcast the night of the race. Entry fee for the race remained \$15 early, \$20 late, for the walk \$10 early \$12 late.

In 2000, a record 4 runners broke the 28 minute barrier, another 8 runners broke the 29 minute barrier, setting a record 12 runners under 29 minutes and another record total 21 runners broke the 30 minute barrier. There were 297 runners under the 40 minute barrier, 37 of them female. There were runners from 48 states, with only North and South Dakota missing. A record 12,407 walkers were registered for the accompanying untimed 4 mile walk.

2000 Prize Money Winners:

Overall:

Male

1.	James Koskei	Kenya	27:40*	\$5,000
2.	Reuben Cheruiyot	Kenya	27:50	\$3,000
3.	Joseph Kimani	Kenya	27:54	\$1,500
4.	Felix Limo	Kenya	27:58	\$1,000

5.	Philip Kirui	Kenya	28:03	\$800
6.	Dominic Kirui	Kenya	28:20	\$600
7.	David Makori	Kenya	28:25	\$500
8.	Berhanu Adane	Ethiopia	28:27	\$400
9.	Deresse Deniboba	Ethiopia	28:32	\$300
10.	John Kagwe	Kenya	28:42	\$250
11.	John Kariuki	Kenya	28:54	\$200
12.	Matthew Birir	Kenya	28:56	\$150
13.	Simon Karori	Kenya	29:11	\$100
14.	James Kariuki	Kenya	29:13	\$75
15.	Peter Tanui	Kenya	29:26	\$50

*new course record earned an extra \$1,000

Female

1.	Catherine Ndereba	Kenya	31:41	\$5,000
2.	Sally Barsosio	Kenya	31:54	\$3,000
3.	Colleen De Reuck	South Africa	32:09	\$1,500
4.	Grace Momanyi	Kenya	32:37	\$1,000
5.	Jane Omoro	Kenya	32:50	\$800
6.	Pauline Konga	Kenya	32:59	\$600
7.	Teresa Wanjiku	Kenya	33:10	\$500
8.	Naomi Wangui	Kenya	33:47	\$400
9.	Michelle King	Canada	34:26	\$300
10.	Tina Jensen	Greenville, SC	34:29	\$250
11.	Miriam Wangari	Kenya	34:49	\$200
12.	Michelle Lafleur	Savannah, GA	35:08	\$150
13.	Marie Boyd	Albuquerque, NM	35:25	\$100
14.	Janeth Alder	Columbus, GA	35:38	\$75
15.	Janice Addison	Columbia, SC	35:41	\$50

MASTERS:

Male

1.	Simon Karori	Kenya	29:13	\$1,500
2.	David Chawane	South Africa	30:03	\$1,000
3.	John Tuttle	Douglasville, GA	30:40	\$750
4.	Christopher Fox	?	31:26	\$500
5.	Tom Mather	Mt Pleasant, SC	32:42	\$250

Female

1.	Marie Boyd	Albuquerque, NM	35:25	\$1,500
2.	Janice Addison	Columbia, SC	35:31	\$1,000
3.	Lee Di Petro	Ruxton, MD	36:12	\$750
4.	Kerry Robinson	Megget, SC	38:00	\$500
5.	Terry Mahr	Oregon, OH	38:49	\$250

GRANDMASTERS:

Male

1.	Bob Schlau	Charleston, SC	34:25*	\$750
2.	Norm Ferris	Columbia, SC	34:51	\$500
3.	Ervin Reid	Campobello, SC	35:19	\$250

*South Carolina state 50-54 age group record

The Twenty-Fourth COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN was held April 7, 2001 and began just after 8 A.M. The story was the heat. There had only been four Bridge Run's with a temperature higher than the 65 degrees in 2001, but what really created a problem for many runners was the added burden of high humidity and a tailwind for the first two miles of the race which caused a lot of overheating problems. It even affected the elite runners, as one of the invited Kenyan runners stopped and dropped out of the race going up the first span of the bridge, a total of 81 runners had to be treated for heat related problems.

There were 16,432 official race entrants, 13,993 of whom finished. This was the second largest number of finishers for the race, just off the previous year's record. The Charleston Sunday Post Courier newspaper listed the names and times of all the finishers: 7,932 males (56.7%) and 6,061 females (47.2%). This marked the first time over 6,000 females had finished any race in South Carolina, and was again the highest percentage of female finishers in any Bridge Run. Complete results were later mailed to all finishers as a supplement to the newspaper.

For the fifth year in a row the race was timed with the ChampionChip computer timing chip system. The race used the same USATF Certified course #SC00003BS used in the 2000 race, beginning on Coleman Boulevard and finishing at the corner of Alexander near East Bay Street. The awards ceremony was again held in Calhoun Park.

Unsurprisingly, the race was again dominated by Kenyans. Five Kenyans went over the bridge together, but only two stayed together for 6 miles. For the first time in race history, both defending champions repeated as overall race winners, though both were about a minute slower than the previous year due to race conditions. James Koskei won in 28:45, ahead of fellow Kenyans: Tom Nyariki whom he outkicked by 3 seconds and by 7 seconds over Matthew Birir. The top American finisher in the race finished 17th overall: Scott Dvorak of Charlotte, NC in 31:32.

Catherine Ndereba repeated as female champion, this time in 32:33. She was followed by two Kenyans: Sally Barsosio (who was with the winner for the first 5 miles) was second for the second year in a row, her fourth second place finish in this race, this year in 32:56, and Martha Nyambura Komu in 33:23.

Masters overall winner was Simon Karori of Kenya, 1994 overall Bridge Run winner and masters winner for the second year in a row, finishing seventh overall in 29:21, just 8 seconds off the masters record he had established a year earlier. Andrew Masai of Kenya was second masters in 29:44, while Selwyn Blake of Columbia, SC was third masters in 31:51.

Female masters winner was Viazova Elena of Russia in 34:48. Sabrina Robinson of Tempe, AZ was second in 35:11, followed by two time masters winner Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine in 35:53.

Grand masters prize money went to Gary Romesser of Indianapolis, IN in 33:18, with three time grand masters winner Bob Schlau of Charleston, second in 35:06, and Ervin Reid of Campobello, SC third in 35:13. Terry Mahr of Oregon, OH was female grand masters winner for the fourth year in a row, this time in 39:10. She was followed by Judith Hine of Marietta, GA in 40:53, and by 1982 overall female winner, Sallie Driggers of Hanahan, SC in 46:03.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County local area finisher went to Irving Batten of Summerville who ran 33:13 to finish 26th overall. The female division award went to Amy Clements of Charleston, 14th female, in 36:14.

Television coverage was again shown on cable television, again a one hour tape delay broadcast. Julian Smith remained race director. The race entry fee was raised to \$20 early, \$25 late, the walk to \$15 early, \$20 late. In the 2001 race, 3 runners broke the 28 minute barrier, another 8 broke the 30 minute barrier for a total of 11 runners finishing under 30 minutes. A total of 229 runners finished under the 40 minute barrier: 201 men and 28 women. There were runners from 49 states, only Hawaii had no representatives. Another 10,406 walkers were registered for the accompanying, untimed, 4 mile walk.

2001 Prize money winners:

Overall:

Male

1. James Koskei	Kenya	28:45	\$5,000
2. Tom Nyariki	Kenya	28:48	\$3,000
3. Matthew Birir	Kenya	28:52	\$1,500
4. John Kiriuki	Kenya	29:07	\$1,000
5. John Thuo Itati	Kenya	29:08	\$800
6. Leonard Mucheru	Kenya	29:09	\$600
7. Simon Kirori	Kenya	29:21	\$500
8. Amos Gitagama	Kenya	29:26	\$400
9. Kibet Cherop	Kenya	29:34	\$300
10 Andrew Masai	Kenya	29:44	\$250
11 Francis Kirwa	Kenya	29:58	\$200
12 Thomas Omwenga	Kenya	30:19	\$150
13 Jared Segera	Kenya	30:34	\$100
14 Silah Misoi	Kenya	30:54	\$75
15 Peter Tanui	Kenya	31:07	\$50

Female

1. Catherine Ndereba	Kenya	32:33	\$5,000
2. Sally Barsosio	Kenya	32:56	\$3,000
3. Martha Nyambura Komu	Kenya	33:23	\$1,500
4. Margaret Ngotho	Kenya	34:03	\$1,000
5. Tatiana Maslova	Russia	34:12	\$800
6. Ramilia Burangulova	Russia	34:17	\$600
7. Anna Brzezinska	Russia	34:18	\$500
8. Naomi Wangui	Kenya	34:27	\$400
9. Viazova Eleana	Russia	34:48	\$300
10. Olga Markova	Russia	35:03	\$250
11. Sabrina Robinson	Tempe, AZ	35:11	\$200
12. Gabrielle O'Rourke	New Zealand	35:37	\$150
13. Tatyana Pozdyakova	Ukraine	35:53	\$100
14. Amy Clements	Charleston, SC	36:14	\$75
15. Janice Addison	Columbia, SC	36:37	\$50

Masters:

Male

1. Simon Karori	Kenya	29:21	\$1,500
2. Andrew Masai	Kenya	29:44	\$1,000
3. Selwyn Blake	Columbia, SC	31:51	\$750
4. Gary Romesser	Indianapolis, IN	33:18	\$500
5. Larry Brock	Anderson, SC	33:24	\$250

Female

1. Viazova Elena	Russia	34:48	\$1,500
2. Sabrina Robinson	Tempe, AZ	35:11	\$1,000
3. Tatyana Pozdnyakova	Ukraine	35:53	\$750
4. Janice Addison	Columbia, SC	36:37	\$500
5. Lee Di Pietro	Ruxton, MD	37:00	\$250

Female

1. Amy Clements Charleston, SC 36:14 \$500

The Twenty-Fifth COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN was held April 6, 2002 and began at 8 A.M. The 25th anniversary running will be remembered by the then record 14,338 runners, 8,079 male and 6,259 female who crossed the finish line, for the near perfect sunny, crisp, 51 degree morning. The morning was made even better by the crossing wind which became a tailwind as runners turned up the second span of the bridge. All the finishers' names and times were listed in the Sunday Post Courier newspaper, and complete results were again later mailed to all finishers as a supplement to the newspaper. The 16,802 runners who had registered for the race was not a new record.

Each finisher was given a special silver anniversary Olympic style medal when they turned in their ChampionChip which had been used for timing the race for the sixth year in a row. The race used USATF certified course #SC00003BS, which begins on Coleman Boulevard and finishes at the corner of Alexander near Bay Street, for the third year in a row

The race itself looked to have the course record shattered as two Kenyans were on record pace when the unforeseen happened. The lead vehicle hesitated as it came to the turn off the bridge. The runners went past it and went down the wrong ramp. The third place runner took the right path and when the other two realized it, they had to stop and jump a rail to get back on the right road. John Itati of Kenya retook the lead and won in 28:06 with 1998 champion Tom Nyariki, also of Kenya, second in 28:11. Dejene Berhanu of Ethiopia was third in 28:14. Winner Itati was quoted by the Post Courier about his time: "I think it would have been under 28 minutes and that's what I wanted to run. I know I could have made it if we had not taken that wrong turn there."

Defending champion Catherine Ndereba of Kenya became the first person to ever win three Bridge Runs, as she made this her third win in a row, missing her own course record by just 12 seconds to win in 31:53. She was followed by two Ethiopians: Ejegayehu Dibaba in 32:07 and Merima Hashim in 32:58.

Masters winner Eddy Hellebuyck of Albuquerque, NM set a U.S. Masters men's record 29:23 to win as he was just 10 seconds off the course masters record. Gennady Temnikov of Russia was second masters in 29:29 followed by Andrew Masai of Kenya in 29:50.

Female masters winner was Lyubov Kremleva of Russia in 34:04. Two time masters winner Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine was second in 34:22 with U.S. Olympian Joan Nesbit-Mabe of Chapel Hill, NC third in 36:10.

Grand masters prize money went to Gary Romesser of Indianapolis, IN in 33:22 for the second year in a row. Three time grand masters winner Bob Schlau of Charleston was second for the second year in a row, this time in 35:42. New Grand master Danny West of Myrtle Beach, SC was third in 36:22.

Female grand masters winner was Debra Wagner of Ft Myers, FL in 37:14. Three time grandmasters winner Terry Mahr of Oregon, OH was second in 38:44 while Catherine Wides of Durham, NC was third in 40:54.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first Tri-County local area finishers went to Sean Dollman of Charleston, SC, 28th overall in 31:45. Dollman had retired from running in 1996 after running in the Olympics twice for Ireland. He moved to Charleston and started running again, and it paid off for him. Laurie Sturgell of Kiawah Island was the female winner, finishing 21st in a time of 36:41.

For the first time since full coverage began in 1985 there was no television special with live or tape delay for the Bridge Run. The cable network which had been producing the coverage decided a month or two before the race not to do it for the 25th anniversary race and apparently none of the other stations were made aware of this fact in time to pick up the option and produce a televised special. The race entry fee was again \$20 for early registration and \$25 for late entry. The walk fee was \$15 early and \$20 late.

A total of 286 runners broke the 40 minute barrier in the 2002 race. The breakout by sex: 249 men and 37 women. There were 14 runners under 30 minutes, 7 of them under the 29 minute barrier. There was a wheelchair exhibition in 2002, with the two wheelchair participants beginning at the 7k walk start 15 minutes before the run began. Dan Pilon won in a time of 18:48

with Eugene Wellon second in 23:18. The untimed 7 kilometer walk had 10,021 registrants.

The Bridge Run established a Hall of Fame to honor runners who had contributed to the race by their running or other actions. The initial six inductees were: Sallie Driggers, runner and local resident female Overall race winner (1982); Ed Ledford, runner, 4 time Masters winner; Cedric Jaggars, runner and race historian; Marcus Newberry, race founder; Bob Schlau, runner, Overall race runner-up in 1979, 2 time Marcus Newberry award winner for first local Tri-County finishers, 1 time Masters winner, 3 time Grand Masters winner; and Margaret Wright, runner, oldest female finisher of the inaugural race and at age 80 in 2002 when she set a state age group record.

2002 Prize Money Winners:

Overall

Male

1.	John Itati	Kenya	28:06	\$5,000
2.	Tom Nyariki	Kenya	28:11	\$3,000
3.	Dejene Berhanu	Ethiopia	28:14	\$1,500
4.	Benjamin Limo	Kenya	28:26	\$1,000
5.	Sammy Nyamongo	Kenya	028:38	\$800
6.	Kibet Cherop	Kenya	28:41	\$600
7.	John Kariuki	Kenya	28:53	\$500
8.	Karl Johan Rasmussen	Norway	29:04	\$400
9.	Sammy Chelimo Ng'eno	Kenya	29:14	\$300
10.	Eddy Hellebuyck	Albuquerque, NM	29:23	\$250
11.	Gennady Temnikov	Russia	29:29	\$200
12.	David Ndunga Njuguna	Kenya	29:44	\$150
13.	Andrew Masai	Kenya	29:50	\$100
14.	Andrey Kuznetsov	Russia	29:56	\$75
15.	Vincent Pemu	Kenya	30:06	\$50

Female

1.	Catherine Ndereba	Kenya	31:53	\$5,000
2.	Ejegayehu Dibaba	Ethiopia	32:07	\$3,000
3.	Merima Hashim	Ethiopia	32:58	\$1,500
4.	Dorota Gruca	Poland	33:00	\$1,000
5.	Amy Yoder Begley	Kendallville, IN	33:02	\$1,000
6.	Gladys Asiba	Kenya	33:19	\$800
7.	Atelelech Kitema	Ethiopia	33:30	\$600
8.	Bente Landoy	Norway	33:30	\$400
9.	Jeanne Hennessy	Mahopac, NY	33:59	\$300
10.	Lyubov Kremleva	Russia	34:04	\$250
11.	Martha Nyambura Komu	Kenya	34:06	\$200
12.	Tatyana Maslova	Russia	34:10	\$150
13.	Tatyana Pozdnyakova	Ukraine	34:22	\$100
14.	Beth Old	Douglasville, GA	34:33	\$75
15.	Monica Hostetler	Kendallville, IN	34:45	\$50

Masters Overall

Male

1.	Eddy Hellebuyck	Albuquerque, NM	29:23	\$1,500
2.	Gennady Temnikov	Russia	29:29	\$1,000
3.	Andrew Masai	Kenya	29:50	\$750

Male

1. Gary Romesser	Indianapolis, IN	33:22	\$750
2. Bob Schlau	Charleston, SC	35:42	\$500
3. Danny West	Myrtle Beach, SC	36:22	\$250

Female

1. Debra Wagner	Ft Myers, FL	37:14	\$750
2. Terry Mahr	Oregon, OH	38:44	\$500
3. Catherine Wides	Durham, NC	40:54	\$250

Dr. Marcus Newberry Award For First Local Area Finisher

Male

1. Sean Dollman	Charleston, SC	31:45	\$500
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Female

1. Laurie Sturgell	Kiawah Island, SC	36:41	\$500
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The Twenty-Sixth Cooper River Bridge Run began at 8:00 A.M on April 5th, 2003 It was a great morning for standing around – but not for running. With the temperature at 66 degrees with high humidity and bright sunshine at the start, fifth warmest in the race's history, it soared to near 80 before the then record 14,623 runners (8039 male and 6,584 female) crossed the finish line. There was a cooling headwind as runners crossed the 2 mile long bridge, but it was a tailwind, mostly blocked out by buildings for the last mile in downtown Charleston. As a result, over 200 runners required medical treatment for heat problems with 6 having to be hospitalized. All the runners were timed by ChampionChip computer timing chip, and all had their names and times printed in Charleston's Sunday Post Courier newspaper.

In addition to the runners, another 11,481 walkers registered for the untimed 7 kilometer walk. The walkers started at the foot of the bridge, just before the runners' two mile mark and provided a huge cheering section. The walk begins when the last runners pass them. Between the events, a then record 29,293 participants registered.

Two Kenyans ran virtually shoulder to shoulder through downtown Charleston. Tom Nyariki, 1998 champion had finished second last year and the year before and was determined not to let that happen again. At the six mile mark, he kicked to take a short lead over Linus Maiyo and held it to the finish where both were timed in 28:57. Defending champion John Itati, also of Kenya was third in 29:12, over a minute slower than his winning time from 2002.

Kenyans also swept the top three women's positions as first time Bridge Runner Edna Kiplagat won in 33:41. After the race she was asked about the big bridge and said "I knew there were bridges, but I didn't know they would be so big. The first hill was so very long and very steep. The second hill wasn't as long, but it was a challenge." Gladys Asiba 33:58 and Emily Samoei 34:01 were second and third.

Master's winner was Andrew Masai of Kenya in 30:49. Defending masters champion Eddy Hellebuyck of Albuquerque, NM, who has set a pending U.S. masters record 29:23 last year, had come back hoping to break the masters course record 29:05, but said after the race that the heat and having just set a 10 mile record the previous weekend, took a toll and he finished second in 31:06. Russian Lyubov Kremleva repeated as female masters winner in 33:58. Grand masters winner for the third year in a row was Gary Romesser of Indianapolis, IN in 33:36. Terry Mahr of Oregon, OH was female grand masters winner in 40:42.

The award for the first local finisher from the Tri-county area is named for race founder Dr. Marcus Newberry. Nicholas Iauco of the Isle of Palms won it as he was 17th overall in 32:24. Lizl Kotz of Charleston was the 22nd female finisher and first local in 41:22.

Eighty one year old Bridge Run Hall of Famer Margaret Wright of Folly Beach, who in 1978 was the oldest female finisher of the first Cooper River Bridge Run, was the oldest female finisher in the twenty sixth running as well. She also set a South Carolina state 10K age group 80-84 record which was ratified as 1:53:42.

For the second year in a row there were runners from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and a large number of foreign countries. After an absence, television coverage returned – as local Channel 5 showed a live 1 and a half hour broadcast. Race entry fee remained \$20 early and \$25 late with the walk fee \$15 early and \$20 for late entry. Julian Smith served as race director again.

The Bridge Run Hall of Fame established to honor runners who had contributed to the race by their running or other actions installed its second group. The inductees were: Keith Hamilton, race director of the inaugural race; Terry Hamlin, runner, and measurer of the inaugural course; Chuck Magera, runner and former finish line director; Dr. Brian Smith, runner and former race director, and Gary Wilson, volunteer and lead bicyclist for the inaugural race.

2003 Prize Money Winners:

Overall

Male

1. Tom Nyariki	\$5000	Kenya	28:57
2. Linus Maiyo	\$3000	Kenya	28:57
3. John Itati	\$1500	Kenya	29:12
4. Moses Mwangi	\$1000	Kenya	29:40
5. Patrick Nthiwa	\$800	Kenya	30:07
6. David Kipngetich	\$600	Kenya	30:08
7. Jared Seger	\$500	Kenya	30:26
8. David Ngigi Karanjia	\$400	Kenya	30:32
9. Andrzej Kryscin	\$300	Poland	30:36
10. Gabriel Muchiri	\$250	Kenya	30:41
11. Andrew Masai	\$200	Kenya	30:49
12. Eddy Hellebuyck	\$150	Albuquerque, NM	31:06
13. Gennady Temmnikov	\$100	Russia	31:12
14. Leszek Biegala	\$75	Poland	31:37
15. Eric Ashton	\$50	Columbia, SC	31:53

Female

1. Edna Kiplagat	\$5000	Kenya	33:41
2. Gladys Asiba	\$3000	Kenya	33:58
3. Emily Samoei	\$1500	Kenya	34:01
4. Lyubov Kremlyova	\$1000	Russia	34:07
5. Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$800	Ukraine	35:21
6. Agnes Ngunjiri	\$600	Kenya	36:18
7. Farrell Powers Burns	\$500	Charlotte, NC	37:01
8. Lee Dipietro	\$400	Ruxton, MD	37:17
9. Terri Bradley	\$300	Fayetteville, NC	38:32
10. Anne Wyman Cipolla	\$250	Columbia, SC	38:38
11. Velda Balmer	\$200	Mechanicsville, VA	38:43
12. Janice Reilly	\$150	Cary, NC	39:02
13. Sheila Johnson Wakeman	\$100	Cornelius, NC	39:09
14. Laura Jo Vroon	\$75	Wyoming, MI	39:12
15. Nancy Stewart	\$50	Atlanta, GA	39:30

Masters

Male

1. Andrew Masai	\$1500	Kenya	30:49
2. Eddy Hellebuyck	\$1000	Albuquerque, NM	31:06

Grandmasters

Male

1. Gary Romesser	\$750	Indianapolis, IN	33:36
2. Jerry Clark	\$500	Charlotte, NC	34:51
3. William Dixon	\$250	Brattleboro, VT	35:39

Female

1. Terry Mahr	\$750	Oregon, OH	40:42
2. Trish Vlastnik	\$500	Peachtree City, GA	41:57
3. Eddie Muldrow	\$250	Chapin, SC	45:03

Marcus Newberry First Local (Tri-Country) Finisher Award

Male

1. Nicholas Iauco	\$500	Isle of Palms, SC	32:24
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Female

1. Lizl Kotz	\$500	Charleston, SC	41:22
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The Twenty Seventh COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN began at 8 a.m. on April 3, 2004. It was a crisp, sunny, moderately windy morning with the temperature at 48 degrees when the race began.

There were a then record 15,229 listed in the results printed at the finish line after the last finisher had crossed the line. The Sunday Post-Courier newspaper printed 15,179 names and times: 8,269 male and 6910 female. The BridgeRun.Com internet site shows 15,184 finishers: 8,272 male and 6,912 female. Regardless of which number is used, it was a record number of finishers for the race. The race had the second largest number of entrants ever: 17,311. There were a then record 12,619 entrants for the untimed walk. This brought the total entrants to a then record 29,930. Counting entrants for the children's run pushed the number of registrants over the 30,000 mark for the first time.

Charleston's Sunday Post-Courier newspaper headline read "Kipkosgei wins largest Bridge Run in history". And indeed Luke Kipkosgei of Kenya, who was running the Bridge for the first time and had to battle fellow Kenyan Linus Maiyo virtually the entire race before finally outkicking him down the stretch did win in 28:13 to 28:14. Kiposgei noticed what all the other runners couldn't help but notice: construction of the new replacement bridge which towers over the two bridges it will replace. Kiposgei continued the Kenyan dominance of the race as he was one of 13 of 15 top finishers from Kenya, including the first 12 places. Ben Limo 28:27, Boniface Songok 28:45, John Itati 28:51, Yevgen Bozhko 28:59 all finished under the 29 minute mark.

Female winner Sallie Barsosio of Kenya had finished second in this race three times, and she made sure it did not happen to her again. Barsosio ran 32:28 to win with Russian Tatyana Chulakh just 8 seconds behind for second place. Jane Kiptoo of Kenya was third in 33:09.

Masters winner was Dennis Simonaitis of Kenya in 31:44. Selwyn Blake of Columbia, SC was second in 32:20 while Irv Batten of Summerville was third in 32:37. Chris Chattin of Columbia, MD was fourth in 33:43 while grand masters division winner Gary Romesser was fifth master in 33:45.

Female masters winner was Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine in 34:55 – she had also won this title in 1998 and 1999. Lyubov Kremleva of Russia, who had won this title the past two years, was second this year in 35:11. Janice Addison of Columbia, SC ran 37:17 to take third place masters money. Janice Reilly of Cary, NC was fourth in 38:10 while Laura Jo Vroon of Grand Rapids, MI was fifth, also timed in 38:10.

The male grandmasters division was again dominated by Gary Romesser of Indianapolis, IN as he won for the fourth year in a row, this time in 33:45. Richard "Dick" Berkle of Atlanta, GA was second in 35:15, while Steve Annan of Mt Pleasant, SC took home the third place prize money in 37:29.

The female grandmasters winner was also a familiar name: Terry Mahr of Oregon, OH ran 40:24 and won for the second year in a row, her fifth win in the last six years. Judith Hine of Marietta, GA was second in 43:35 and Toni Cruz of Charlotte, NC was third in 44:04.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first local tri-county finisher went

to two runners from Summerville. Irv Batten, male winner, finished 23rd overall in 32:37. Sarah Reed, was the 19th female finisher in 39:29.

A tragedy occurred during the race as 47 year old James Scott of Charleston who was running with his 20 year old daughter, had a heart attack and died going up the first span of the bridge. His was the first death of a participant during any Bridge Run.

For the second year in a row there was live television coverage as local Channel 5 showed a live 2 hour broadcast, which was rebroadcast later so the participants could see it. A total of 214 runners broke the 40 minute barrier in the 2004 race: 192 male and 22 female. A total of 8 runners finished under the 30 minute barrier with 7 of them being under 29 minutes. The entry fee schedule for both the run and the walk remained the same as the previous year.

The 2004 Hall of Fame inductees: Betty Bell, volunteer; Gil Bradham, volunteer; Mike Chodnicki, runner and volunteer and Emelyn Commins, volunteer.

2004 Prize Money Winners:

Males Overall

1.Luke Kipkosgel	\$5000	Kenya	28:13
2.Linus Maiyo	\$3000	Kenya	28:14
3.Ben Limo	\$1500	Kenya	28:27
4.Boniface Songok	\$1000	Kenya	28:45
5.John Itati	\$800	Kenya	28:51
6.Yevgen Bozhko	\$600	Kenya	28:52
7.Henry Kipchirchir	\$500	Kenya	28:59
8.Albert Okemwa	\$400	Kenya	29:52
9.Kip Muneria	\$300	Kenya	30:03
10.Patrick Nithwa	\$250	Kenya	30:04
11.Jared Segera	\$200	Kenya	30:06
12.Sammy Nyamongo	\$150	Kenya	30:30
13.Juan C Gutierrez	\$100	Columbia	30:46
14.Kennedy Ondimu	\$75	Kenya	30:59
15.Joe Gibson	\$50	Ashville, NC	31:29

Females Overall

1.Sallie Barsosio	\$5000	Kenya	32:28
2.Tatyana Chulakh	\$3000	Russia	32:36
3.Jane Kiptoo	\$1500	Kenya	33:09
4.Galina Alexandrova	\$1000	Russia	33:32
5.Gladys Asiba	\$800	Kenya	34:28
6.Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$600	Ukraine	34:55
7.Sonya Friend-Uhl	\$500	West Chester, PA	35:02
8.Lyubov Kremleva	\$400	Russia	35:11
9.Valerie Young	\$300	Marietta, GA	35:24
10.Ute Jamrozy	\$250	College Station, TX	36:29
11.Janice Addison	\$200	Columbia, S	37:17
12.Megan Weis	\$150	Columbia, SC	37:33
13.Anne-Wyman Cipolla	\$100	Columbia, SC	37:53
14.Janice Reilly	\$75	Cary, NC	38:10
15.Laura Jo Vroon	\$50	Grand Rapids, MI	38:10

Male Masters

1.Dennis Simonaitis	\$1500	Kenya	31:44
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Male Grandmasters

1. Gary Romesser	\$750	Indianapolis, IN	33:45
2. Richard Buerkle	\$500	Atlanta, GA	35:15
3. Steve Annan	\$250	Mt Pleasant, SC	37:29

Female Grandmasters

1. Terry Mahr	\$750	Oregon, OH	40:24
2. Judith Hine	\$500	Marietta, GA	43:35
3. Toni Cruz	\$250	Charlotte, NC	44:04

Marcus Newberry First Local (Tri-Country) Finisher Award

Male

1. Irv Batten	\$500	Summerville, SC	32:37
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Female

1. Sarah Reed	\$500	Summerville, SC	39:29
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The Post-Courier newspaper headlines trumpeted: '28th Annual Cooper River Bridge Run END OF AN ERA Pearman farewell attracts record number of runners.' And the headlines were correct. At 8:00 A.M. on April 2, 2005 the 28th Cooper River Bridge Run began and it went over the Silas Pearman bridge for the last time. In fact, both of the 'old' bridges the race has used during its' 28 year history were scheduled to be torn down later in the year. Replaced by a new, taller, \$620 million Arthur Ravenel single span suspension bridge.

There was a certain poetic symmetry between the first and the "last Bridge Run" as some people called it. The first Bridge Run used one lane of the Silas Pearman Bridge. The 'last', actually the 28th Bridge Run used all three lanes of the Pearman Bridge. The weather for the first race was generally regarded as terrible: record heat, 82 degrees, with bright sunshine. The weather for the 'last' race was generally regarded as terrible: record rain and high steady wind gusting to 40 miles per hour, making the 63 degree morning feel much colder than it actually was. It was the first time rain ever fell during any Bridge Run. The rain stopped 20 minutes after the race began and the sky was a cloudless blue by the time the last finishers crossed the finish line and there was bright sunshine. In the first race, only 73.6 percent of the registrants finished the race, the lowest percentage ever. In the 'last' race, only 74.9 percent of the entrants finished, the third lowest percentage in race history. But there the similarities end.

There were a then record 18,480 finishers listed in the results printed at the finish line after the last runner crossed the ChampionChip timing pad. The next day Sunday Post-Courier newspaper of Charleston printed the names and times of 10,187 male finishers and 8,256 female finishers but could not include the 37 entrants who had not shown their gender on their entry form. The race website BridgeRun.Com used the same file and showed 18,446 finishers, in a searchable format. Championchip timing was used and runners used special 'commemorative chips', which they were allowed to keep, and which were emblazoned with the same design printed on the race T-shirt.

There were a then record 24,663 entrants for the run and a record 17,200 entrants for the untimed walk. For the first time, race entrant numbers were capped, with the number set at 42,000. Perhaps due to the weather a record of another kind was set as 6,183 of the registered runners did not finish the race. A number of runners said that when they got up that morning and saw all the rain and wind, they decided to stay home. Observers estimate that about half of the registered walkers did not participate, also due to the weather.

The weather affected the race leaders as they had to contend with the ferocious headwind on the bridge without the cover runners farther back among crowds of other runners enjoyed. The lead pack stayed together until they hit an unexpected obstacle at the foot of the bridge: a street wide pool of water that looked like a small lake. Kenyan Linus Maiyo had been outkicked at the finish last year and did not want to lose a step so he splashed right through while some others tried to avoid it. The pack thinned out over the spans and Thomas Kiplitan, also of Kenya took the lead when the leaders reached the flats of downtown Charleston. When Kiplitan made the final turn onto Calhoun Street and could see the finish banner approximately half mile ahead, he

50 yard lead.

Maiyo was determined not to be the runner-up again. He made a powerful move and overtook Kiplitan at just about the six mile mark. Linus Maiyo won the race in 29:30 with Kiplitan finishing second in 29:40. Michael Aish of New Zealand was third in 29:46, with David Korir of Kenya and Ryan Kirkpatrick of Augusta, GA finishing at 29:49 and 29:50. They were the only runners to break the 30 minute barrier in the race. The winning time was the slowest since 1998. Maiyo seemed disappointed with his time, but not with his win. He was quoted in the Post-Courier as saying "We didn't run fast the way we were supposed to, and that was because of the weather." Kenyans took 6 of the top 8 spots, but did not have any other finishers in the top 15 as in previous years.

Kenyan women did not dominate the female division this year either. When Olga Romanova of Russia crossed the finish line to win in 34:04, she was not too upset with her time considering the weather. She called it "Miserable" and remarked that it was windy going up the hill and that made going after record time impossible. She said that the rain wasn't a problem but the wind was. "It slowed everyone down and that surprised me. It was tough, very tough." Another Russian took second place as Galina Alexandrova finished in 34:39. Breeda Willis of Ireland was third in 34:52, while Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine (a familiar name at the Bridge Run) was fourth in 35:34, and Donna Anderson of Pawleys Island, SC was fifth in 35:39. It was the slowest female winning time since 1994 and the first time a non-Kenyan female won the race since 1998.

Masters winner was Paul Aufdemberg of Redford, MI in 31:22. Last year's winner Dennis Simoaitis of Kenya was runner-up this year in 32:36, while last year's runner-up, Selwyn Blake of Columbia, SC finished third this year in 32:48. Tom Mather of Mt. Pleasant took home fourth place Masters money in 32:53. David Matherne of Cartersville, GA took home fifth place money for his 34:38.

Female Masters winner for the second year in a row, was the overall fourth place finisher Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine in 35:34. She was followed by Valentina Egorova of Russia in 36:12, Lee DiPietro of Ruxton, Md in 38:06, Maria Spinnier of Hagerstown, MD in 39:03 and Janice Reilly of Cary, NC in 39:10.

Male Grandmasters Gary Romesser of Indianapolis, IN seems to have a lock on this division as he won it for the fifth year in a row, this time in 36:02. Jerry Clark of Charlotte, NC was second in 37:25 while Wes Wessely of Clermont, GA took home the final Grandmasters money in 39:13.

The female Grandmasters had a new but familiar name as winner. Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine, who had recently turned 50, tripled up in prize money by winning this division in a the Grandmasters record 35:34. Debra Wagner of Perrysburg, OH was runnerup in 40:43 while Catherine Wides of Durham, NC was third in 43:58.

The Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first local tri-county finisher went to 47 year old Tom Mather, of Mt. Pleasant. He won the award for the ninth time, an unprecedented feat, by placing 18th overall in 32:53. Carre Joyce of Summerville took home the female award for her time of 37:22, 12th place female.

For the third year in a row live television coverage was broadcast on Channel 5. The broadcast was again 2 hours, and was re-broadcast Sunday evening so that participants could watch it. A total of 199 runners broke the 40 minute barrier: 174 male and 25 female. Only 5 runners broke the 30 minute barrier – a fact attributed to the strong headwind during the race. The entry fee was raised to \$25 early race registration, \$30 after March 12, and \$15 early entry for the walk, \$20 after March 26. Julian Smith continued as race director. Complete race results were mailed to all finishers.

The 2005 Hall of Fame inductees were: Tom Mather, runner, 9 time winner of the race's Marcus Newberry award for first local Tri-County finisher; Tom O'Rourke, volunteer; and Thomas Dewey Wise, former state senator who pushed through legislation allowing use of the bridge for the race.

The 2005 Prize Money Winners:

Males Overall

1.Linus Maiyo	\$5000	Kenya	29:30
2.Thomas Kiplitan	\$3000	Kenya	29:40
3.Michael Aish	\$1500	New Zealand	29:46
4.David Korir	\$1000	Kenya	29:49
5.Ryan Kirkpatrick	\$800	Augusta, GA	29:50
6.Patrick Nithwa	\$600	Kenya	30:17
7.Henry Kipchirchir	\$500	Kenya	30:30
8.Yevgen Bozhko	\$400	Kenya	30:59
9.Joe Gibson	\$300	Greenville, SC	31:13
10.Paul Aufdemberg	\$250	Redford, MI	31:32
11.Scott Wietecha	\$200	Columbia, SC	31:36
12.Eric Ashton	\$150	Columbia, SC	31:51
13.Devin Swan	\$100	Raleigh, NC	32:16
14.Malcolm Campbell	\$75	Great Britain	32:21
15.Daniel Hughes	\$50	Greenville, SC	32:26

Females Overall

1.Olga Romanova	\$5000	Russia	34:04
2.Galina Alexandrova	\$3000	Russia	34:39
3.Breeda Willis	\$1500	Ireland	34:52
4.Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$1000	Ukraine	35:34
5.Donna Anderson	\$800	Pawleys Island, SC	35:39
6.Denise Costescu	\$600	Wixom, MI	35:42
7.Teresa Wanjiku	\$500	Kenya	35:44
8.Ann McGranahan	\$400	Newport, VA	35:51
9.Valentina Egorova	\$300	Russia	36:12
10.Elena Orlova	\$250	Russia	36:35
11.Laura Rhodes	\$200	Raleigh, NC	37:11
12.Carrie Joyce	\$150	Charleston, SC	37:22
13.Genet Gebregiorgia	\$100	Ethiopia	38:01
14.Lee DiPietro	\$75	Ruxton, MD	38:06
15.Amanda Tate	\$50	Bristol, VA	38:14

Male Masters

1.Paul Aufdemberg	\$1500	Redford, MI	31:32
2.Dennis Simonaitis	\$1000	Draper, UT	32:36
3.Selwyn Blake	\$750	Columbia, SC	32:48
4.Tom Mather	\$500	Mt. Pleasant, SC	32:53
5.David Matherne	\$250	Cartersville, GA	34:38

Female Masters

1.Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$1500	Ukraine	35:34
2.Valentina Egorova	\$1000	Russia	36:12
3.Lee DiPietro	\$750	Ruxton, MD	38:06
4.Maria Spinnier	\$500	Hagerstown, MD	39:03
5.Janice Reilly	\$250	Cary, NC	39:10

Male Grandmasters

1.Gary Romesser	\$750	Indianapolis, IN	36:02
2.Jerry Clark	\$500	Charlotte, NC	37:25

the 29th Cooper River Bridge Run got underway. For 28 previous times the race had been run over one of two old bridges: the Silas Pearman bridge was used for the first 2 races and from 1995 through 2005, while the other years the race was run over the older 2 lane Grace Memorial bridge. Both of the older bridges were in the process of being torn down due to completion of the 'New' larger, higher 620 million dollar Arthur Ravenel Jr. bridge which the race would use for the first time in 2006. Runners could see the few remaining sections of the 'old bridges' as they approached and ran over the new one.

In the new era for the 'first Bridge Run' as some people were calling it, record numbers of runners and walkers signed up be to part of the historic run. In 2006, for the first time, the walkers started behind the runners, completed the entire course and were timed. This resulted in a record number of combined total entrants: 45,497.

The new USATF Certified Course #SC05039BS moved the starting line in Mt. Pleasant near Moultrie Middle School. Runners had a near flat first mile and then began climbing and went over the new Ravenel Bridge. Runners took the Meeting Street ramp and went towards downtown to John Street where a right hand turn took them onto King Street where they turned left. The next turn was at Wentworth Street where runners reached the six mile mark, then made another left to Meeting Street where the final left hand turn was made. The new finish line was just south of George Street.

The conditions for the race were not ideal for running as the 83% humidity made the 65 degree starting time temperature seem much warmer. There was also a steady 10 to 15 mile per hour quartering head wind which made crossing the new bridge more difficult than expected. There was also the difficulty factor of the steady 4% uphill grade of over a mile on the bridge. Course records had been predicted for first race on the new bridge, but none came about. In fact after the race many of the runners talked about their times being slower than expected due to all of the factors just mentioned.

Despite the conditions, there were a record number of finishers who crossed the finish line: 33,742 (15,461 male and 18,135 female and 82 who did not indicate their sex). This was the first time in race history that the number of female finishers was larger than the number of males. For the second year in a row, timing was done using a special commemorative ChampionChip computer timing chip displaying the same design as the race T-shirt. The runners were allowed to keep the chip and this meant they did not have to stop after crossing the finish line and remove the chip to turn in.

The race again belonged to the Kenyan men as they took the first 9 places and 10 out of the top 15 (prize money) finishers were Kenyan. A pack of runners ran together to the new Bridge, then the separation began. When the runners came off the Bridge it was a two man race between Sammy Kipketer and Abraham Chebii. Kipketer probably was well aware that Chebii held the road race 5K world record so he wanted to get away from him and not have the race settle in a sprint finish. Each time he would pull away, Chebii would pull back even with him. Apparently Kipketer mistook a race banner for the finish line and began his sprint before the final 2 turns in the race and before the 6 mile mark. When he slowed and Chebii caught him they turned the corner and came to the 6 mile mark. Chebii turned on his sprint and kicked away to win 28:16 to 28:35. Third place went to Julius Koskie in 28:52 and fourth place to Shadrack Kosgei in 29:01. Defending race champion Linus Maiyo finished fifth in 29:08.

Sally Barsosio returned Kenyan women to the winners' circle after a one year absence. She won in 33:35 edging Russians Tatiana Chulakh 33:40 and Lyubov Denisova in 33:52. Barsosio had won the race for the first time in 2004 after finishing second in four earlier attempts. She was quoted in the Post-Courier as saying "The course is very different, and it is still very difficult. The hill was hard and another hard thing was the wind. It was very windy today."

Master's winner was Albert Okema of Kenya in 31:20 while new Zealand's Sean Wade was second in 31:47 with Phillip Walkins of Coconut Creek, FL third in 32:42. Ukranian Tatynana Pozknyakova again defended her female masters title in 35:16, just edging Russian Lyubov Kremleva who ran 35:18. Sheila Wake-man of Cornelius, NC was third in 39:51.

Grand masters winner for the sixth year in a row was Gary Romesser of

Indianapolis, IN who ran 34:30, former Charlestonian Mike Hart now of Washington, DC was second in 37:18. For the second year in a row Tatyana Pozdnyakova of Ukraine doubled up by taking grand masters and masters prize money. This year she broke her own year old record to set a new female Grandmasters course record 35:16. Debra Wagner of Perrysburg, OH was runner up for the second year in a row, this time in 41:01. Dian Ford of Piedmont, SC was third in 41:14.

The award for the first local finisher from the Tri-County (Charleston) area is named for race founder Dr. Marcus Newberry. Mt. Pleasant resident Neil McDonagh was 16th overall to win it for his time of 31:38. Anne Wyman Cipolla of Charleston was the 19th female finisher and first local in 39:02. For the fourth year in a row live television coverage was broadcast on Channel 5. The 2 hour broadcast was re-shown on Sunday evening so the participants could watch it. In 2006 a total of 262 runners broke the 40 minute barrier: 234 male and 28 female. A total of 7 runners (all male) broke the 30 minute barrier with 3 of them under 29 minutes. The Post-Courier newspaper in Charleston published the names and times of the 12,180 male and 10,426 female competitors who crossed the finish line in 1:45:00 or faster in the next day Sunday edition. Complete results were later mailed to all finishers.

The race entry fee was \$25 for early race registration, and \$30 after March 11. This meant the entry fee for runners remained the same, but was an increase of \$10 in each category for walkers who were being timed and included in the official race results for the first time. Julian Smith was again the race director.

The 2006 Hall of Fame inductees included the mayors or former mayors of the cities who helped sponsor and support the race: Charleston Mayor Joe Riley, Mount Pleasant Mayor Harry Hallman and former Mount Pleasant Mayor Cheryl Woods-Flowers. Other inductees are: the only local overall winner of the Bridge Run (1981), Marc Embler; longtime endurance athletes and fitness advocates Cadwallader "Quaddy" and Lucy Jones; and former Bridge Run Chairman John Smyth, who was also the former director of the U.S. Olympic Training Centers.

2006 Prize Money Winners:

Males Overall

1. Abraham Chebii	\$5000	Kenya	28:16
2. Sammy Kipketer	\$3000	Kenya	28:35
3. Julius Koskei	\$1500	Kenya	28:52
4. Shadrack Kosgei	\$1000	Kenya	29:01
5. Linus Maiyo	\$800	Kenya	29:08
6. Nathan Kosgei	\$600	Kenya	29:08
7. Julius Kiptoo	\$500	Kenya	29:50
8. George Kirwa Misoi	\$400	Kenya	30:06
9. Stephen Koech	\$300	Kenya	30:12
10. Kyle King	\$250	Blowing Rock, NC	30:53
11. Malcolm Campbell	\$200	Marietta, GA	30:57
12. Eric Ashton	\$150	Columbia, SC	30:59
13. Michael Green	\$100	Atlanta, GA	31:09
14. Albert Okemwa	\$75	Kenya	31:20
15. Thomas Morgan	\$50	Blowing Rock, NC	31:26

Females Overall

1. Sally Barsosio	\$5000	Kenya	33:35
2. Tatiana Chulakh	\$3000	Russia	33:40
3. Lyubov Denisova	\$1500	Russia	33:52
4. Janet Cherobon	\$1000	Norcross, GA	34:16
5. Gladys Asiba	\$800	Kenya	34:25
6. Adriana Pirtea	\$600	Romania	34:27
7. Florence Jepkosgei	\$500	Kenya	35:02

12.	Donna Anderson	\$150	Pawleys Island, SC	35:59
13.	Michelle Lafleur	\$100	Savannah, GA	36:07
14.	Laura Rhoads	\$75	Raleigh, NC	36:11
15.	Tina Jullerat	\$50	Charlotte, NC	37:12

Male Masters

1.	Albert Okemwa	\$1500	Kenya	31:20
2.	Sean Wade	\$1000	New Zealand	31:47
3.	Phillip Walkins	\$750	Coconut Creek, FL	32:42
4.	Jamey Yon	\$500	Gainesville, GA	33:18
5.	Eric Morse	\$250	Berlin, VT	33:20

Female Masters

1.	Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$1500	Ukraine	35:16
2.	Lyubov Kremleva	\$1000	Russia	35:18
3.	Sheila Wakeman	\$750	Cornelius, NC	39:51
4.	Laura Vroon	\$500	Wyoming, MI	40:17
5.	Mary Williams	\$250	Conway, SC	40:57

Male Grandmasters

1.	Gary Romesser	\$750	Indianapolis, IN	34:30
2.	Mike Hart	\$500	Washington, DC	37:18
3.	Jim Wilhelm	\$250	Canton, OH	37:36

Female Grandmasters

1.	Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$750	Ukraine	35:16
2.	Debra Wagner	\$500	Perrysburg, OH	41:01
3.	Dian Ford	\$250	Piedmont, SC	41:14

Marcus Newberry First Local (Tri-Country) Finisher Award

Male

1.	Neil McDonagh	\$500	Mt Pleasant, SC	31:38
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Female

1.	Anne Wyman Cipolla	\$500	Charleston, SC	39:02
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At 8 A.M. on March 31, 2007 the 30th Cooper River Bridge Run got underway. For the second year in a row, the race was run over the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge, and for the second year in a row, both runners and walkers were timed. The number of participants who completed the race was second only to the 2006 race as 28,952 (14,420 female, 12,960 male and 472 who did not list their sex) crossed the finish line. After they had finished the race, participants were handed a special Olympic style golden medallion, emblazoned with the new bridge logo and '30th Annual Cooper River Bridge Run 2007'. The 37,161 entrants was also the second largest number in race history.

The race again used USATF Certified Course #SC05039BS with the starting line in Mt. Pleasant near Moultrie Middle School. Runners had a near flat first mile and then began climbing and went over the Ravenel Bridge. Runners took the Meeting Street ramp and went towards downtown to John Street where a right hand turn took them onto King Street where they turned left. The next turn was at Wentworth Street, shortly after which runners reached the six mile mark, then made another left to Meeting Street where the final left hand turn was made. The finish line was just south of George Street.

For the fourth year in a row everyone was timed using commemorative ChampionChip computer timing chips emblazed with the same design which appeared on the race T-shirt. Using this type chip meant the run-

downtown section together until 24 minutes into the race. Unlike recent years, the pack was not all Kenyan. Then the pace increased and the pack fell off one by one.

With about a quarter mile to go in the race, Richard Kiplagat of Kenya turned on a tremendous finishing kick and won in a Personal Best time of 28:35, with teammate Stephen Koech second in 28:42, just edging Ethiopian Woeku Beyi by 1 second. Fourth place went to Soloman Molla, also from Ethiopia in 28:47 who was just 1 second ahead of Patrick Nithwa of Kenya, as the top 5 all finished under 29 minutes.

The women's favorite this year was last year's second place finisher Tatiana Chulakh of Russia, but she fell off the pace after 2 miles and Redhima Kedir an Ethiopian who was running the race for the first time pulled away to win in 32:05, with fellow Ethiopian Amane Gobina second in 32:12. Chulakh was third in 33:14. Sylvia Mosqueda of Rosemead, CA was fourth in 33:40 to also top the Masters division. Fifth place went to Rose Kosgei of Kenya in 33:43.

Master's winner was New Zealand's Sean Wade moving up from second place last year to win in 31:12. Masters winner Mosqueda's time of 33:40 was a new female masters course record. Grand masters winner this year was Jerry Clark of Charlotte, NC in 34:04. Ukranian Tatyana Pozdnyakova again defended her female masters title in 35:16.

The award for the first local finisher from the Tri-county (Charleston) area is named for race founder Dr. Marcus Newberry. Neil McDonagh of Mt Pleasant won for the second year in a row. He was 18th overall in 32:06. Rives Poe of Charleston ran a Personal Best time 37:33 to place as the 25th female finisher and first local.

For the fifth year in a row live television coverage was broadcast on Channel 5. The 2 hour broadcast was re-shown on Saturday night so the participants could see it. In the 2007 race, a total of 278 runners broke the 40 minute barrier (16 more than in 2006): 246 male and 32 female. A total of 8 runners, all male, broke the 30 minute barrier (1 more than in 2006) and 5 of them (up from 3 the previous year) broke the 29 minute barrier. The next day Sunday Post Courier newspaper of Charleston published the names and times of the 10,943 males and 9,982 females who completed the race in less than 1 hour and 45 minutes. Complete results were later mailed, as a special insert in the newspaper, to all participants.

The race entry fee of \$25 for early race registration and \$30 after March 4 was the same as the previous year. Julian Smith was again the race director.

For the only second time, the race had a wheelchair division. This year the winner was Tyler Byers of Sterling, VA in 24:30.

For the sixth year in a row there were runners from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and a large number of foreign countries.

The 2007 Hall of Fame was made up of 3 inductees: Anne (Reed) Boone, well known local runner who was the third place overall female in the 1980 race. Richard Godsen, race volunteer who handled the finish line for the inaugural race and later wrote a computer program to help handle the growing number of race finishers. Jimmy Seignious, race volunteer, former Mt Pleasant Recreation Director and former member of the Bridge Run Executive Committee.

PRIZE MONEY WINNERS in the 2007 race:

MALES OVERALL

1.Richard Kiplagat	\$5000	Kenya	28:35
2.Stephen Koech	\$3000	Kenya	28:42
3.Woeku Beyi	\$1500	Ethiopia	28:43
4.Soloman Molla	\$1000	Ethiopia	28:47
5.Patrick Nithwa	\$800	Kenya	28:48
6.Jacob Chamar	\$600	Kenya	29:02
7.John Itati	\$500	Kenya	29:26
8.Haron Lagat	\$400	Kenya	29:30
9.Joseph Mutisya	\$300	Kenya	30:19

13. Sean Wade	\$100	New Zealand	31:12
14. Alan Black	\$75	Hillsboro, GA	31:26
15. OJ Striggles	\$50	Columbia, SC	31:27

FEMALES OVERALL

1. Rehima Kedir	\$5000	Ethiopia	32:05
2. Amane Gobena	\$3000	Ethiopia	32:12
3. Tatiana Chulakh	\$1500	Russia	33:14
4. Sylvia Mosqueda	\$1000	Rosemead, CA	33:30
5. Rose Kosgei	\$800	Kenya	33:43
6. Janet Cherobon	\$600	Kenya	33:45
7. Lyubova Denisova	\$500	Russia	33:55
8. Gladys Asiba	\$400	Kenya	34:01
9. Lyubov Kremleva	\$300	Russia	34:08
10. Denisa Costescu	\$250	Romania	34:53
11. Ramilia Burangulova	\$200	Russia	34:56
12. Atalelech Ketema	\$150	Ethiopia	35:09
13. Laura Swann	\$100	Raleigh, NC	35:22
14. Lydia Kurgat	\$75	Kenya	35:28
15. Firaya Sultanova Zhdanov	\$50	Russia	35:44

MALE MASTERS

1. Sean Wade	\$1500	New Zealand	31:12
2. Irv Batten	\$1000	Summerville, SC	32:53
3. Jamey Yon	\$750	Gainesville, GA	33:27
4. Jerry Clark	\$500	Charlotte, NC	34:04
5. Eric Vandervort	\$250	Clinton, TN	34:06

FEMALE MASTERS

1. Sylvia Mosqueda	\$1500	Rosemead, CA	33:30
2. Lyubov Kremleva	\$1000	Russia	34:08
3. Ramilia Burangulova	\$750	Russia	34:56
4. Firaya Sultanova Zhdanov	\$500	Russia	35:44
5. Donna Anderson	\$250	Pawleys Island, SC	35:50

MALE GRANDMASTERS

1. Jerry Clark	\$750	Charlotte, NC	34:04
2. Gary Romesser	\$500	Indianapolis, IN	34:41
3. Sam Swofford	\$250	St Matthews, SC	35:42

FEMALE GRANDMASTERS

1. Tatyana Pozdnyakova	\$750	Ukraine	36:48
2. Toni Cruz	\$500	Concord, NC	45:25
3. Catherine Lempesis	\$250	Irmo, SC	46:34

MARCUS NEWBERRY FIRST LOCAL (Tri-Country) FINISHER AWARD

MALE

1. Neil McDonagh	\$500	Mt Pleasant, SC	32:06
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took the Meeting Street ramp and went towards downtown to John Street where a right hand turn took them onto King Street where they turned left. The next turn was at Wentworth Street, shortly after which runners reached the six mile mark, then made another left to Meeting Street where the final left hand turn was made. The finish line was just south of George Street.

For the fifth year in a row everyone was timed using commemorative ChampionChip computer timing chips emblazoned with the same design which appeared on the race T-shirt. Use of this type chip means the runners do not have to stop and remove the chip after finishing the race, something experienced runners really appreciate.

The conditions for the race were oppressive, with a start time temperature of 66 degrees and a tailwind for most of the first 2 miles of the race. As runners took on the 4% uphill grade which goes uphill for a mile, they were greeted with a 15 mile per hour cross wind which pushed them from their left shoulder. When runners came off the bridge they turned into that stiff headwind.

Returning race champion Richard Kiplagat of Kenya was favored this year. He led a pack of 8 runners who stayed together over the entire bridge. When they got about half mile from the finish, the 6 Kenyans who were still together began racing for real and all of them finished under 29 minutes.

Robert Letting kicked to win in 28:46.8, with John Itati second in 28:49.3, Moses Kigen third in 28:49.8, defending champion Kiplagat was fourth in 28:50.2. Twelve of the fifteen male overall prize money winners were Kenyan. After the race Letting said "It was a tough run. Very tough."

A year after being shut out of the top two women's overall places, Kenyans took first and second place this year. Leah Malot was running the race for the first time and was pleased to win in 33:22.6. She was quoted in the newspaper as saying "The race was quite good. I enjoyed the bridge even though it was a bit windy". Last year's sixth place finisher moved up to second place as Janet Cherobon ran 33:36.8. Russian Lyudmila Biktasheva was third in 33:57.9.

Sean Wade of New Zealand repeated as Master's winner, this just .3 tenths of a second slower than last year in 31:12.3. Female Masters winner was Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova from Russia in 35:42.9. Grand masters winner for the second year in a row was Jerry Clark of Charlotte, NC who ran 34:47.8. Ukranian Tatyana Pozdnyakova was female grand masters winner for the fourth year in a row in 38:18.4.

The award for the first local finisher from the Tri-county (Charleston) area is named for race founder Dr. Marcus Newberry. Kurt Russell (not the movie star) of nearby Ladson won in 33:31.3, placing 33rd overall. Rives Poe of Mt Pleasant was female winner for the second year in a row and ran her best Bridge Run time of 37:15.9. She also placed as the 15th female finisher to double up on prize money.

For the fifth year in a row live race morning television coverage was broadcast on Channel 5. The 2 hour broadcast was re-shown on Saturday night so the participants could see it. In the 2008 race, a total of 200 runners broke the 40 minute barrier: 172 male and 28 female. A total of 9 runners, all male, broke the 30 minute barrier with 6 of them under the 29 minute barrier. Charleston's Post Courier newspaper, published the names and times of the top 10,000 male and top 10,000 female finishers in the next day Sunday edition. Complete results were mailed to all participants in June, as a special insert in the newspaper.

The race entry fee of \$25 for early race registration and \$30 after March 15 was the same as the in 2007. Julian Smith was again the race director.

For the third time, the race had a wheelchair division. This year the winner was defending champion Tyler Byers of Sterling, VA in 24:31.

For the seventh year in a row there were runners from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and a large number of foreign countries.

The 2008 Hall of Fame was made up of 5 inductees: Roy Hills, former Race Director, Bridge Run Committee Member. Margaret Konecky, composer of the Bridge Run theme music. Lee Newton, Bridge Run water station organizer and director. Bryce and Jenny Myers, Charleston Amateur Ham Radio Club members who have broadcast the splits for every Bridge Run.

2008 Prize Money Winners:

~~~~~ Male OVERALL WINNERS ~~~~~

| Place | Name                 | Prize  | City     | St | Finish  |
|-------|----------------------|--------|----------|----|---------|
| 1     | Robert Letting       | \$5000 | Kenya    |    | 28:46.8 |
| 2     | John Itati           | \$3000 | Kenya    |    | 28:49.3 |
| 3     | Moses Kigen          | \$1500 | Kenya    |    | 28:49.8 |
| 4     | Richard Kiplagat     | \$1000 | Kenya    |    | 28:50.2 |
| 5     | George Misoi         | \$800  | Kenya    |    | 28:57.1 |
| 6     | Linus Maiyo          | \$600  | Kenya    |    | 28:59.0 |
| 7     | Daniel Kipkoech      | \$500  | Kenya    |    | 29:09.9 |
| 8     | Philip Koech         | \$400  | Kenya    |    | 29:29.8 |
| 9     | Lamech Mosoti Mokono | \$300  | Kenya    |    | 29:39.3 |
| 10    | Wegayehu Girma       | \$250  | Ethiopia |    | 30:14.4 |
| 11    | Worku Beyi           | \$200  | Ethiopia |    | 30:16.9 |
| 12    | Joel Melly           | \$150  | Kenya    |    | 30:19.4 |
| 13    | Wesley Ochoro        | \$100  | Kenya    |    | 30:39.3 |
| 14    | Genna Tufa           | \$75   | Ethiopia |    | 30:44.1 |
| 15    | Francis Kiprop       | \$50   | Kenya    |    | 30:55.1 |

~~~~~ Female OVERALL WINNERS ~~~~~

| Place | Name | Prize | Country or State | St | Finish |
|-------|---------------------------|--------|------------------|----|---------|
| 1 | Leah Malot | \$5000 | Kenya | | 33:22.6 |
| 2 | Janet Cherobon | \$3000 | Kenya | | 33:36.8 |
| 3 | Lyudmila Biktasheva | \$1500 | Russia | | 33:57.9 |
| 4 | Irene Limika | \$1000 | Kenya | | 34:00.0 |
| 5 | Margaret Chirchir | \$800 | Kenya | | 34:23.2 |
| 6 | Caroline Chepkorir | \$600 | Kenya | | 34:35.2 |
| 7 | Firehiwot Tesfaye | \$500 | Ethiopia | | 35:18.1 |
| 8 | Caroline Kiptoo | \$400 | Kenya | | 35:23.6 |
| 9 | Eunice Orwaru | \$300 | Kenya | | 35:25.1 |
| 10 | Genet Gebregiorgis | \$250 | Ethiopia | | 35:39.3 |
| 11 | Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova | \$200 | Russia | | 35:42.9 |
| 12 | Laura Swann | \$150 | Raleigh | NC | 35:49.4 |
| 13 | Meskerem Legesse | \$100 | Ethiopia | | 36:22.3 |
| 14 | Maggie Chan-Roper | \$75 | Shaw AFB | SC | 36:27.7 |
| 15 | Rives Poe | \$50 | Mt Pleasant | SC | 37:15.9 |

~~~~~ Male MASTERS WINNERS ~~~~~

| Place | Name        | Prize  | Country or City | St | Finish  |
|-------|-------------|--------|-----------------|----|---------|
| 1     | Sean Wade   | \$1500 | New Zealand     |    | 31:12.3 |
| 2     | Eric Ashton | \$1000 | Columbia        | SC | 31:30.8 |

|                |                 |    |         |
|----------------|-----------------|----|---------|
| 4 Lori Hageman | \$500 Charlotte | NC | 38:35.9 |
| 5 Lisa Tolley  | \$250 Seneca    | SC | 38:57.1 |

~~~~~ Male GRAND MASTERS WINNERS ~~~~~

| Place Name | Prize City | St | Finish |
|-------------------|--------------------|----|---------|
| 1 Jerry Clark | \$750 Charlotte | NC | 34:47.8 |
| 2 David Bourgeois | \$500 Summerville | SC | 35:23.6 |
| 3 Danny West | \$250 Myrtle Beach | SC | 38:27.8 |

~~~~~ Female GRAND MASTERS WINNERS ~~~~~

| Place Name              | Prize Country or City | St | Finish  |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----|---------|
| 1 Tatyana Pozdnyakova   | \$750 Ukraine         |    | 38:18.4 |
| 2 Jane Elizabeth Harlan | \$500 Greenville      | SC | 46:02.7 |
| 3 Betty Floyd           | \$250 Marion          | SC | 46:48.5 |

-Marcus Newberry First Local Tri-County finisher-

| Place Name     | Prize City        | St | Finish  |
|----------------|-------------------|----|---------|
| Male           |                   |    |         |
| 1 Kurt Russell | \$500 Ladson      | SC | 33:31.3 |
| Female         |                   |    |         |
| 1 Rives Poe    | \$500 Mt Pleasant | SC | 37:15.9 |

Since its inaugural running, the Cooper River Bridge Run has been the largest race in the Carolinas. It is now one of the largest 10 kilometer races in the United States. The Cooper River Bridge Run . . .destined to become a legend.

# COOPER RIVER BRIDGE RUN 10K WINNERS LIST at a GLANCE

Note: records are underlined and highlighted in each category

2008 overall ROBERT LETTING 28:47 LEAH MALOT 33:23 29247 finishers  
 masters Sean Wade 31:13 Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova 35:43 37666 entrants  
 gr mst Jerry Clark 34:48 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 38:18  
 local Kurt Russell 33:32 Rives Poe 37:16

2007 overall RICHARD KIPLAGAT 28:35 REHIMA KADIR 32:05 28953 finishers  
 masters Sean Wade 31:12 Sylvia Mosqueda 33:30 37161 entrants  
 gr mst Jerry Clark 34:04 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 36:48  
 local Neil McDonagh 32:06 Rives Poe 37:33

2006 overall ABRAHAM CHEBII 28:16 SALLY BARSOSIO 33:35 33678 finishers  
 masters Albert Okemwa 31:20 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 35:16 45497 entrants  
 gr mst Gary Romesser 32:30 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 35:16  
 local Neil McDonagh 31:38 Anne Wyman Cipolla 39:02

2005 overall LINUS MAYO 29:30 OLGA ROMONOVA 34:04 18480 finishers  
 masters Paul Aufdemberg 31:32 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 35:34 24663 entrants  
 gr mst Gary Romesser 36:02 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 35:34  
 local Tom Mather 32:53 Carre Joyce 37:22

2004 overall LUKE KIPKOSGEI 28:13 SALLIE BARSOSIO 32:28 15184 finishers  
 masters Dennis Simonaitis 31:44 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 34:55 17311 entrants  
 gr mst Gary Romesser 33:45 Terry Mahr 40:24  
 local Irv Batten 32:37 Sarah Reed 39:29

2003 overall TOM NYARIKI 28:57 EDNA KIPLAGAT 33:41 14628 finishers  
 masters Andrew Masai 30:49 Lyubov Kremleva 33:58 17071 entrants  
 gr mst Gary Romesser 33:36 Terry Mahr 40:42  
 local Nicholas Iauco 32:24 Lizl Kotz 41:22

2002 overall JOHN ITATI 28:06 CATHERINE NDEREBA 31:53 14338 finishers  
 masters Eddy Hellebuyck 29:23 Lyubov Kremleva 34:04 16802 entrants  
 gr mst Gary Romesser 33:20 Debra Wagner 37:14  
 local Sean Dollman 31:45 Laurie Sturgell 36:41

2001 overall JAMES KOSKEI 28:45 CATHERINE NDEREBA 32:33 13993 finishers  
 masters Simon Karori 29:21 Viazova Elena 34:48 16432 entrants  
 gr mst Gary Romesser 33:18 Terry Mahr 39:10  
 local Irving Batten 33:13 Amy Clements 36:10

2000 overall JAMES KOSKEI 27:40 CATHERINE NDEREBA 31:41 14144 finishers  
 masters Simon Karori 29:13 Marie Boyd 35:25 16893 entrants  
 gr mst Bob Schlau 34:25 Terry Mahr 38:49  
 local Mike Aiken 31:57 Kerry Robinson 38:00

1999 overall LAZARUS NYAKERAKA 28:40 EUNICE SAGERO 33:18 12536 finishers  
 masters John Tuttle 30:27 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 33:49 15349 entrants  
 gr mst Bob Schlau 34:48 Terry Mahr 39:24  
 local Eric Ashton 30:32 Sue Tandy 38:44

1998 overall TOM NYARIKI 29:58 ELANA MEYER 32:46 12919 finishers  
 masters Keith Anderson 31:04 Tatyana Pozdnyakova 35:09 18007 entrants  
 gr mst Bob Schlau 37:37 Betty Ryberg 42:44  
 local Tom Mather 32:53 Clarice Marana 36:44

1997 overall PAUL KOECH 27:57 ELANA MEYER 31:19 12583 finishers  
 masters Antoni Niemczak 31:11 Maureen de St Croix 37:31 15216 entrants  
 local Tom Mather 31:42 Clarice Marana 36:33

local Tom Mather 32:11 Patti Previte Clark 38:58  
 1991 overall JEFF CANNADA 29:38 KIM BIRD 34:49 5503 finishers  
 masters John Campbell 30:33 Nancy Grayson 35:39 6527 entrants  
 local Mark Friedrich 32:18 Micky Kawohl (Reger) 35:48  
 1990 overall SAM OBWACHA 29:20 SHELLY STEELY 32:57 5866 finishers  
 masters Earl Owens 31:26 Judy Greer 37:45 7820 entrants  
 local Michael Brown 32:04 Alison Roxburgh 36:33  
 1989 overall ASHLEY JOHNSON 29:48 GRETE WAITZ 33:29 5885 finishers  
 masters Bob Schlau 32:20 Judy Greer 37:38 7510 entrants  
 local Tom Mather 32:02 Megan Othersen (Gorman) 36:06  
 1988 overall ASHLEY JOHNSON 29:56 CARLA BOROVIKA 34:38 5465 finishers  
 masters Mike Hurd 31:32 Gail Bailey 39:12 6904 entrants  
 local Bob Schlau 32:19 Benita Schlau 38:11  
 1987 overall PAUL CUMMINGS 30:19 MARY ELLEN McGOWAN 34:31 6976\*including  
 masters Richard Weeks 34:43 Gail Bailey 38:42 unregistered  
 local Tom Mather 32:04 Megan Othersen (Gorman) 37:19 6997 entr  
 1986 overall HANS KOELEMAN 29:29 LESLIE WELCH 33:37 5318 finishers  
 masters Tom Dooley 33:19 Gail Bailey 39:12 6684 entrants  
 local Bob Schlau 31:26 Benita Brooks (Schlau) 38:36  
 Note: Dr. Marcus Newberry award for first local area finisher originated 1986  
 1985 overall MIKE O'REILLY 29:28 CHRISTINA BOXER 34:08 4482 finishers  
 masters Don Coffman 32:27 Peggy Ledford 44:51 5440 entrants  
 1984 overall DAVID BRANCH 29:25 BRENDA WEBB 34:09 3784 finishers  
 masters Bill Voight 35:48 Cindy Dalrymple 36:57 4459 entrants  
 1983 overall DAVID BRANCH 29:28 MARY COPELAND 38:09 2585 entrants  
 masters Ed Ledford 36:43 Peggy Ledford 41:44 3115 entrants  
 1982 overall MARK DONAHUE 30:28 SALLIE DRIGGERS 37:21 1734 entrants  
 masters Ed Ledford 36:06 Peggy Ledford 44:49 2100 entrants  
 1981 overall MARC EMBLER 30:54 KIKI SWEIGART 35:10 1338 finishers  
 masters Ed Ledford 36:36 S. Foster 44:49 1650 entrants  
 1980 overall KIM BURKE (TIE)  
 STEVE LITTLETON 31:26 MICHELLE MOORE 41:29 1330 finishers  
 Masters Ed Ledford 37:08 Pat Rhode 49:53 1500 entrants  
 1979 overall AVERY GOODE 32:55 MARTY LONG 40:10 1015 finishers  
 masters Jones 38:35 Glassman 52:04 1350 entrants  
 1978 overall BENJI DURDEN 30:22 LISA LORRAIN 39:39 766 finishers  
 masters Bill Wooley 36:44 A. Lipowski 46:12 1040 entrants

-compiled by Cedric Jagers

BRIDGE RUN FACTS AND FIGURES compiled by Cedric Jagers

Complete official results have been compiled and mailed to all pre-registered Cooper River Bridge Run finishers every year except for 1987 when available results were published in the Low Country Runner, newsletter of the Charleston Running Club. For 1987 the numbers shown are the counts on the chronomix timers. Unfortunately this count included unofficial, unregistered 'bandit' runners (estimated at 10% or more, total including bandits indicated by \* below) which were never sorted out because of a breakdown in finish line procedures due to extreme wind and cold. The number of entrants in the first race is the more conservative of the estimates printed in the newspaper after the race. In 1995 complete results were mailed as part of an issue of Carolina Action Sports magazine. In 1996 complete results were mailed to all finishers in a special Bridge Run Results edition of the Low Country Runner. Complete results were compiled using the ChampionChip computer timing technology beginning 1997 and results have been mailed as a special insert section of the Post Courier newspaper since that year. The 2005 results are missing 37 runners who did not list their sex or age. The 2006 results included all walkers for the first time, but did not include 82 finishers who did not list their gender or age. In 2007 472 runners did not list their gender. The number and percentage of female participants has surpassed males since timing of walkers began in 2006

| year        | official finishers | number entered | race temp | % who finished | # of males | % of males |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|------------|
| # of female | % of female        | female         |           |                |            |            |
| 2008        | 29247              | 37666          | 66        | 77.6%          | 12828      | 43.9%      |
| 2007        | 28953              | 37161          | 58        | 77.9%          | 12960      | 45.3%      |
| 2006        | 33678              | 45663          | 65        | 74.0%          | 15461      | 46.0%      |
| 2005        | 18480              | 24663          | 63        | 74.9%          | 10187      | 55.1%      |
| 2004        | 15184              | 17311          | 48        | 87.7%          | 8299       | 54.5%      |
| 2003        | 14623              | 17071          | 66        | 85.6%          | 8039       | 54.9%      |
| 2002        | 14338              | 16779          | 51        | 85.4%          | 8079       | 56.3%      |
| 2001        | 13993              | 16432          | 65        | 85.1%          | 7932       | 56.7%      |
| 2000        | 14144              | 16893          | 61        | 83.7%          | 8201       | 58.0%      |
| 1999        | 12536              | 15349          | 45        | 81.6%          | 7524       | 60.0%      |
| 1998        | 12919              | 18007          | 64        | 71.7%          | 7916       | 61.3%      |
| 1997        | 12583              | 15216          | 68        | 82.6%          | 7839       | 62.3%      |
| 1996        | 11444              | 14030          | 50        | 81.5%          | 7362       | 64.3%      |
| 1995        | 10290              | 12406          | 59        | 82.9%          | 6841       | 66.5%      |
| 1994        | 7355               | 8670           | 60        | 84.8%          | 5063       | 68.8%      |
| 1993        | 6192               | 7544           | 50        | 82.1%          | 4405       | 71.1%      |
| 1992        | 6403               | 7602           | 48        | 84.2%          | 4675       | 73.1%      |
| 1991        | 5503               | 6527           | 64        | 84.3%          | 4172       | 75.8%      |
| 1990        | 5866               | 7820           | 50        | 75.0%          | 4432       | 75.5%      |
| 1989        | 5885               | 7510           | 55        | 78.3%          | 4433       | 75.3%      |
| 1988        | 5465               | 6904           | 65        | 79.1%          | 4105       | 75.1%      |
| 1987        | 6976*              | 6997           | 39        | Unknown        | 5588       | 80.1%      |
| 1986        | 5318               | 6684           | 72        | 79.5%          | 4116       | 77.4%      |
| 1985        | 4482               | 5440           | 70        | 82.3%          | 3483       | 77.7%      |
| 1984        | 3784               | 4459           | 50        | 84.8%          | 2977       | 78.4%      |
| 1983        | 2585               | 3115           | 50        | 82.9%          | 2052       | 79.4%      |
| 1982        | 1734               | 2100           | 45        | 82.5%          | 1348       | 77.7%      |
| 1981        | 1338               | 1650           | 60        | 81.8%          | 1046       | 78.2%      |
| 1980        | 1330               | 1500           | 59        | 88.6%          | 1063       | 79.9%      |
| 1979        | 1015               | 1350           | 60        | 75.1%          | 778        | 76.7%      |



BRIDGE RUN SPEED CHART under 60/50/40/30/29/28 minutes compiled by Cedric Jagers

How fast the winners were and how many Bridge Runners broke certain speed barriers? Is the speed trending upward or downward? After declining for years, the percentage of finishers under 60 minutes and 50 minutes increased, as did the actual number of finishers under 50 minutes and 40 minutes. The record in each category is shown by \* and is underlined and highlighted in each category.

| year | M winning time | F winning time | Total # finisher | # Under 60 min/% | # Under 50 min/% | # Under 40 min | # Under 30 min | # Under 29/28 min |
|------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2008 | 28:47          | 33:23          | 29247            | 5410/18%         | 1564/05%         | 200            | 9              | 6/0               |
| 2007 | 28:35          | 32:05          | 28953            | 6122/21%         | 2063/07%         | 278            | 8              | 5/0               |
| 2006 | 28:16          | 33:35          | 33678*           | 6767/20%         | 1884/06%         | 262            | 7              | 3/0               |
| 2005 | 29:30          | 34:04          | 18480            | 5775/31%         | 1889/10%         | 199            | 5              | 0/0               |
| 2004 | 28:13          | 32:28          | 15184            | 5366/35%         | 1653/11%         | 214            | 8              | 7/0               |
| 2003 | 28:57          | 33:41          | 14628            | 4526/31%         | 1383/09%         | 155            | 4              | 2/0               |
| 2002 | 28:06          | 31:53          | 14338            | 6007/42%         | 1955/14%         | 286            | 14             | 7/0               |
| 2001 | 28:45          | 32:33          | 13993            | 5375/38%         | 1604/11%         | 229            | 11             | 3/0               |
| 2000 | 27:40 *        | 31:41          | 14144            | 5856/41%         | 1860/13%         | 297            | 21 *           | 12*/4*            |
| 1999 | 28:40          | 33:18          | 12536            | 5860/47%         | 2008/16%         | 280            | 10             | 2/0               |
| 1998 | 29:58          | 32:46          | 12919            | 5959/46%         | 2036/16%         | 211            | 1              | 0/0               |
| 1997 | 27:57          | 31:19 *        | 12583            | 7111*/56%        | 2398/19%         | 330            | 13             | 7/1               |
| 1996 | 28:32          | 31:41          | 11444            | 7002/61%         | 2329/20%         | 357            | 6              | 3/0               |
| 1995 | 27:49          | 33:58          | 10290            | 6736/65%         | 2692*/26%        | 379            | 12             | 5/1               |
| 1994 | 28:35          | 34:01          | 7355             | 5044/68%         | 2005/27%         | 327            | 4              | 3/0               |
| 1993 | 28:31          | 33:53          | 6192             | 4566/74%         | 1995/32%         | 307            | 4              | 3/0               |
| 1992 | 28:24          | 32:34          | 6403             | 4915/77%         | 2157/34%         | 332            | 8              | 3/0               |
| 1991 | 29:38          | 34:49          | 5503             | 4386/78%         | 1963/36%         | 283            | 4              | 0/0               |
| 1990 | 29:20          | 32:57          | 5866             | 4744/81%         | 2264/39%         | 360            | 7              | 0/0               |
| 1989 | 29:48          | 33:29          | 5885             | 4631/79%         | 2150/37%         | 393*           | 4              | 0/0               |
| 1988 | 29:56          | 34:38          | 5465             | 3451/65%         | 1768/32%         | 284            | 1              | 0/0               |
| 1987 | 30:19          | 34:31          | 6976             | NA               | 2054/29%         | 322            | 0              | 0/0               |
| 1986 | 29:29          | 33:37          | 5318             | 3182/60%         | 1872/35%         | 268            | 5              | 0/0               |
| 1985 | 29:28          | 34:08          | 4482             | 3022/67%         | 1624/36%         | 299            | 6              | 0/0               |
| 1984 | 29:25          | 34:09          | 3784             | 2746/72%         | 1699/45%         | 339            | 4              | 0/0               |
| 1983 | 29:28          | 38:09          | 2585             | 2216/86%         | 1313/51%         | 234            | 2              | 0/0               |
| 1982 | 30:28          | 37:21          | 1734             | 1525/88%         | 1007/58%*        | 146            | 0              | 0/0               |
| 1981 | 30:54          | 35:10          | 1338             | 1211/90%*        | 764/57%          | 138            | 0              | 0/0               |
| 1980 | 31:26          | 41:29          | 1330             | 1185/89%         | 750/56%          | 115            | 0              | 0/0               |
| 1979 | 32:55          | 40:10          | 1015             | 821/81%          | 423/42%          | 47             | 0              | 0/0               |
| 1978 | 30:22          | 39:39          | 766              | 638/83%          | 425/55%          | 66             | 0              | 0/0               |

