



Hundreds of walkers, runners, and supporters showed up Saturday, July 24, 2010 at 7:30a.m. for the **Run2Purgatory 5k Fun Run** and to participate in the festivities surrounding the opening of the **Wonder World Drive Extension** at Hunter Road.

The SMRC supported this event by bringing the race clock, mile markers, and the finish chute.

This event reminds me of the 10 Miler I ran a few years ago in Austin. The 10 Miler was also held on an extension that had just been built.

This was a unique event for runners because most likely it will be the only time a running event will be held on this extension. Stop the press! David Alexander shared with me that representatives of the Parks and Recreation Department expressed that they would like to have the

Run2Purgatory event again and perhaps host a 10K!

I'll put my two cents in right now. This event would offer a better course if we were to start at the R.R. 12 and Wonder World extension. Then you would start at the highest elevation and work your way down, "after" some rolling hills.

Hey, as far as I see it, the City of San Marcos has taken "another step" towards being involved with a local running event, and this opens the door for potential collaboration in the future. I have some unique running events planned for this city in 2011, and I am going to need collaboration from the City of San Marcos, Texas State University and the SMRC.



### **Wills Bridge**

Approximately 3/10 of the first mile was an incline on the Wills Bridge. But once you made it to the top, well, a picture says a thousand words.

### **Running with Fisher**

I saw and ran with David Fisher at this event. A couple of years ago Fisher occasionally ran with the SMRC and ran well at San Marcos High School. He said he was just getting back to running

and that he was using this run to gauge his running fitness. He is two weeks into training for a fall triathlon in Austin.

I was using this running event for a speed workout, and so that means at least David and I would be racing. Factoring in the hills, I told him that I would be aiming for a 6:30 pace.

### **The Turnaround Point**

Fisher and another runner and I led the pack until the turnaround point. After the turning point, the other runner immediately began to distance himself from us. Then another runner caught up to us and passed us. I don't know where he came from. Then Fisher dropped his pace and fell behind. I stayed with the new runner until we got to the bridge. He was gasping for air since the turnaround, and I decided to significantly pick up the pace at the bridge. I finished 2nd with a time of 19:40 for a 6:20 pace.

### **Girls Just Want to Have Fun**

Let us not forget that eight SMRC female runners are in California to run the San Francisco Marathon and Half Marathon. I called Laura Mason Friday morning to say "bon voyage," and she was at the airport with the girls and said they were already having a blast! I can't wait to hear about their adventures together. And I don't want to hear any "what happens in San Francisco stays in San Francisco" crap either.



Silvia Clark is the only SMRC member running the full marathon. She is pulling a Britt, and is running a marathon on her birthday weekend. As with most runners, she was concerned that she was not prepared well enough and has had difficulty training in this Texas heat. I kept reminding her that running will be easier come race day, because it will be much cooler in San Francisco. Today I saw that she posted on Facebook that the expected start-time temperature for tomorrow would be in the mid 50s.

### **What's Next?**

Looking ahead at the race calendar, I think I will run the **Gruene 10K** in September. I keep hearing about this race. Then the San Marcos Runners Club's annual fundraising event, the **Country Roads 10K & Kids Run** is scheduled for the following week.

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SMRC member