



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Zach Schneider  
Marketing & Public Relations Director  
(218) 727-0947  
zach@grandmasmarathon.com

## **UNBREAKABLE NO MORE... DEWALL RUNS INTO HISTORY BOOKS AT 2025 PARK POINT 5-MILER**

*Steve Hoag's Event Record of 24:15 Had Stood Since 1975*

**(DULUTH, MINN.)** --- Lars Dewall wasn't new to the Park Point 5-Miler, and he knew what kind of history he was chasing – Steve Hoag's men's event record of 24:15 had stood in this race since 1975, almost since the very beginning.

So as Dewall entered the finishing stretch on Thursday evening, part of him was surprised to hear someone yell out that he had a shot at breaking the record.

"I figured it was close as I was coming in," he said. "I tried to turn it up as much as I could, and I'm honored to take down a record that had lasted so long in this race."

Dewall finished in 24:12, breaking Hoag's 50-year-old record by three seconds and earning a win in what he says is his fifth or sixth time running at Park Point. The 24-year-old ran collegiately for St. Scholastica, just recently graduating, and now plans to move west to California – he did say he'd like to return in 2026 to defend his title, if possible.

"Honestly at this point, it just feels like tradition," Dewall said. "It almost feels like a hometown race for me, especially having gone to school up here. It's fun being around my friends and everyone who comes here to race and enjoy a summer night."

John Curley was the men's runner-up, finishing in 24:35 and 23 seconds behind the record-setting run of Dewall.

Shae Hostager, meanwhile, almost didn't make it to this year's race but is sure glad she did after finishing in 29:09 to win the women's race in her first-ever appearance at the Park Point 5-Miler.

"My car broke down today, so I had to walk halfway and then take the bus to get here," she said. "I wasn't sure it was going to be worth it, but it definitely was."

The 23-year-old Hostager transferred to Minnesota Duluth and ran for that program this past year, and she will again next year. She beat out defending champion Chelsey Youngberg, who was the runner-up in 30:05.

Eli Blascyk, who was the Grandma's Marathon champion just three weeks ago, was the event's first-ever non-binary winner with a time of 31:24.

In the 2-Mile Walk division, 19-year-old Matthew Ring won the men's race with a time of 23:04 and 61-year-old Lori Mickelson won the women's race with a time of 23:17.

There were 608 total finishers in the Park Point 5-Miler & 2-Mile Walk, marking the second-largest field for the event since 2017.

For any questions or interview requests, please contact Marketing & Public Relations Director Zach Schneider via phone at (218) 343-9874 or via email at [zach@grandmasmarathon.com](mailto:zach@grandmasmarathon.com).

###

#### **YOUNG ATHLETES FOUNDATION**

The mission of the Young Athletes Foundation (YAF) is to assist in the promotion, development, and growth of youth athletics and activities that encourage physical fitness, mental, and emotional well-being.

Since its inception in 1990, the YAF has contributed more than \$1.8 million of community support through our grant program, running shoe program, and both the Eleanor Rynda and Steve & Carolyn Mather scholarships. The organization also hosts several kids' events throughout the year including our Wednesday Night & Saturday Morning at the Races series.

The YAF's mission is helped and funded by various road races throughout the year --- KP Challenge, Saint Fennessy 4K, Fitger's 5K, Park Point 5-Miler, Minnesota Mile, and Superior Nightmare 5K.



