

take part in the inaugural run of the event.

Cool running in F-M

Flurries fall as 1,500 take part in races

By Sherri Richards

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Gloves and hats were as common as running shoes at the inaugural FM Half Marathon on Saturday.

The temperature on the Fargo Civic Center sign read 29 degrees at 8 a.m. Runners huddled in the entry of the Civic Center. Those outside jogged in place and jumped up and down to keep warm.

By 8:30 a.m., the temperature reading had dropped to 27 and flurries fell as the runners lined Fourth Street waiting for the starting siren.

Kenny Hamilton of Rutland, N.D., was one of the few

competitors wearing shorts. "I get cold now," he said before the race, "but I get really, really hot quickly. I'm dressing for the long haul."

"But we're doing the shortest race," joked his wife, Tanya.

More than 1,900 runners had registered for the 13.1-mile half marathon, the 10-kilometer and 5-kilometer races, though not all took part. According to results at www.pickleevents.com, 599 individuals finished the half marathon, 413 finished the 10k and 473 finished the 5k, for a total of 1,485.

There was far less fanfare and far fewer spectators than for the Fargo Marathon, held each May. But runners seemed happy to

Online

▶ Race results are available at www.onlineraceresults.com.

Inside

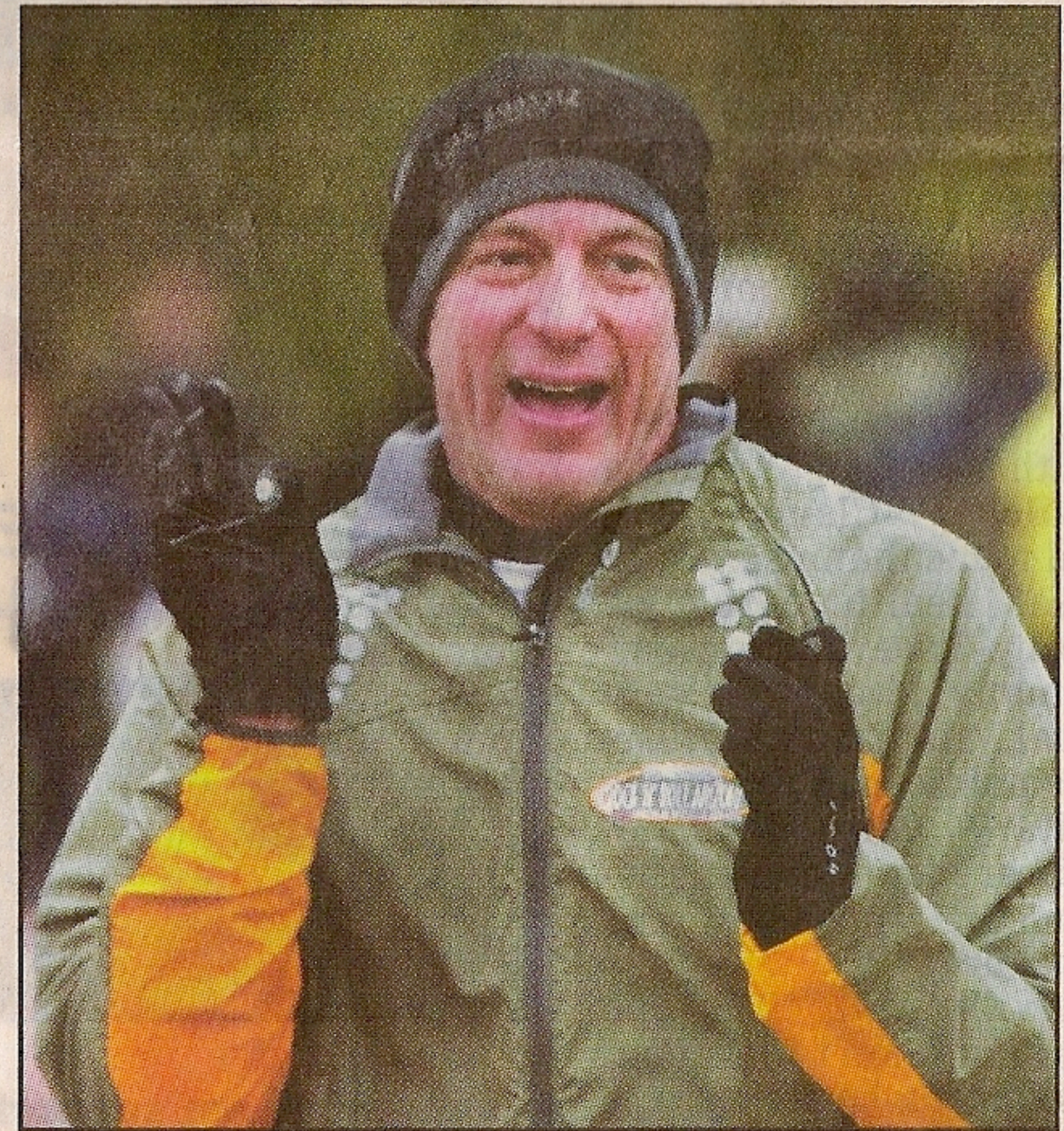
▶ Check out results for division winners on **Page D9**.

have a large-scale race in the fall.

"It's kind of nice to take advantage of the training you did over the summer," said Beth Nelson of Lisbon, N.D. She's run the relay race in the Fargo Marathon, but this was her first half marathon.

"I didn't think it would be quite so chilly this morning, otherwise we're ready," she said.

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FM Half Marathon runner Joel Kuhl of Fargo claps his hands as he crosses the finish line during the Saturday event that started and finished at the Fargo Civic Center.