

# Old Dominion 100 Mile Endurance Run

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## Old Dominion 100 Mile Endurance Run

Woodstock, Va. May 31, 1997  
Hilly, rocky trails and dirt roads

1. Dan Barger,31,CA	17:04:01
2. Ian Torrence,24,NV	17:31:16
3. Robert Youngren,22,MN	17:49:18
4. Joe Hildebrand,40,IL	17:51:38
5. Andy Peterson,40	17:55:23
6. Derrick Carr,36	17:58:26
7. Janice Anderson,31,GA	18:25:48!
8. Lisa Smith,36,NJ	19:07:52
9. Martha Swatt,34,WY	20:16:08
10. Scott Eppelman,30,TX	20:32:55
11. Neil Hewitt,36,TX	20:46:22
12. Randy Albrecht,41,KS	20:56:13
13. Rick Schneider,41,MD	21:02:24
14. Gary Reilly,41,MD	21:02:25
15. Mike Robertson,46	21:27:39
16. Thomas Gamblin,34,NC	21:27:40
17. Jerry Jones,40,IA	21:43:07
18. Joe Schroeder,42,GA	21:53:11
19. King Jordan,53,DC	22:10:22
20. David Palen,42,ENG	22:10:49
21. Jason Hodde,27,IN	22:19:01
22. Russell Halpurn,VT	22:22:13
23. Gary Baughman,43,MI	22:33:40
24. Miles Krier,45,FL	22:33:41
25. John Celinski,37,NJ	22:49:58
26. Marty Sudol,46,NJ	22:49:59
27. Edward Foley,48,NJ	22:56:01
28. Bjorn Grass,36,GER	23:05:15
29. Tom Sprouse,55	23:06:06
30. Nelson Stritehoff,45,MD	23:08:33
31. Tom Green,46,MD	23:08:34
32. Mike Price,42,UT	23:09:47
33. Wendell Robison,45,WY	23:13:07
34. Ian Hutcheson,41,CAN	23:17:54
35. David King,50,NC	23:19:32
36. Ken Werner,26,PA	23:22:14
37. Frank Probst,54	23:28:08
38. Chris Batteate,45,CA	23:29:55
39. Robert Baska,38,VT	23:32:58
40. Edward Boggess,39,CO	23:39:12
41. Bobby Lee,51,NC	24:57:20
42. Richard Hogan,52,MA	25:08:27
43. Benjamin Clark,39,MD	25:47:50
44. Chris Trimmer,25	25:51:37
45. Bill Koppenheffer,43,PA	26:35:43
46. Aaron Goldman,65,NM	26:36:31
47. Michael Short,38,GA	27:00:44
48. Jim Wight,60,CT	27:02:03
49. Andrea Stewart,33,SC	27:04:20
50. Ephraim Romesberg,66,CA	27:06:55
51. David Saine,48,CA	27:23:30
52. David Hughes,51,IN	27:40:43
53. John DeWalt,PA	27:40:44
54. Rich Sitter,58,PA	27:51:44
55. Jim Dill,55	28:20:00
86 starters	

As the runners lined up at the Shenandoah County fairgrounds for the start of the 19th Old Dominion 100 Mile Endurance Run the weather was cool, the forecast ideal. The field, in addition to being the largest since 1991, was one of the strongest ever. Pre-race favorites included

Jim Garcia, Rob Youngren, Andy Peterson, Steve Schiller, Mike Robertson, Ian Torrence, Dan Barger, Janice Anderson, and Ed Foley.

Pre-race expectations were more than fulfilled. The weather cooperated, as it never became unbearably hot. The rain that threatened all day never materialized.

Predictably, the leaders went out hard, and the fast early pace took its toll. Garcia was out at 56 miles, leaving Robert Youngren and Dan Barger to do battle. At Little Fort, the 65-mile marker, Barger took the lead. Running strongly, he pulled away at 82 miles and even had a chance to sit down and discuss "Ride and Ties" with Dixie Englehaupt and Rosie Rollins.

Most of the early leaders slowed significantly, and many reported extremely painful final quarters. In the end, it was Californian Dan Barger in 17:04 (a PR by one and a half hours), followed by Ian Torrence in 17:31 (a PR of four hours) and Robert Youngren in 17:49.

1997 was the "year of the woman" at Old Dominion, with Janice Anderson, Lisa Smith, and Martha Swatt taking seventh, eighth, and ninth places. What was particularly impressive about these performances was that they all shattered Vicki Johnson's course record, which had stood since 1989,



Janice Anderson setting a new course record.

the oldest women's record in the sport. Anderson was simply superb as she glided through the mountains with an apparent effortlessness that was the source of envy on the part of all who saw her. Lisa Smith's excellent performance was a great come-back from last year, when she became lost in Duncan Hollow and was plagued by other problems late in the race. Martha Swatt from Wyoming also had a fine day. On the down side, race founder and former winner Pat Botts had to be taken to the hospital after her electrolyte levels got seriously out of whack. This was a severe disappointment, especially given Pat's extraordinary performances in a number of other ultras this year.

This year also saw the awarding of the third and fourth 1,000-mile buckles: to ultra legend and first "Grandslammer" Tom Green, and long-time OD veteran Wendell Robison (Martha Swatt is his protégé). Both these fine runners have turned in many memorable performances on the OD trail; it is an honor to have them associated with the race. It was also a good year for the seniors, as three over-60 runners finished: Ephraim Romesberg, Aaron Goldman, and Jim Wight.

The race organization continued its efforts to produce a smooth race. Race Directors Wynne and Ray Waldron, ably assisted by Matt Botts and a team of over 100 volunteers, delivered a flawlessly marked course, and a nearly perfect set of aid stations. Of many distinctive aid stations that I might mention, the one staffed by Roy Marshall's power lifters at Mudhole Gap seemed to be especially popular. Post race comments from runners were unanimously favorable.

The course was patrolled by local volunteers from the National Guard, who were at intersections along the route. Although the later sections of the Duncan Hollow trail looked like the scene of a Brontosaurus battle (due to the bulldozing of a new trail by the Forest Service), most survivors allowed that it was not as bad as was originally feared.

The consensus among runners was that this was one of the best OD's ever. The beautiful setting, the tough course, the legendary briefing and post-race ceremonies all added up to an event that everyone wanted to savor. There were 40 sub-24 hour performances, and 54 finishers under 28 hours. This produced a 46.5 percent buckle rate and a 62.5 percent finish rate, one of the best ever.

Old Dominion is still most definitely "the" classic 100 miler in the East. Everyone associated with the race is extremely excited about next year's 20th edition. After Western States, OD is the second oldest trail 100 in the country. Race management extends a warm invitation to all those who would like to join the celebration, especially participants in previous races. Come, compete, suffer, enjoy.

Rick Hogan