

Ultrarunning Magazine names Nick Clark one of the best ultrarunners of 2013

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Nick Clark was named by Ultrarunning Magazine as the No. 7 male runner of the year for 2013. / Dawn Madura/Coloradoan library

Clark's 2013 accomplishments

Fort Collins ultrarunner Nick Clark completed the Grand Slam of Ultrarunning in the summer of 2013, which consists of four of the oldest 100-mile races in the United States: Western States 100, Vermont 100, Leadville 100 and Wasatch Front 100. Clark beat the record for the fastest cumulative time, running the races in 70 hours, 21 minutes, but his competitor and friend, Ian Sharman, ran the four races faster, in 69 hours, 49 minutes.

His chase for the Grand Slam of ultrarunning title captivated the ultrarunning community last summer, and for his efforts, Fort Collins resident Nick Clark has been named one of the best ultrarunners of 2013.

Ultrarunning Magazine tabbed Clark as its No. 7 male runner of the year in its Top-10 male and female ultrarunner list, released earlier this month.

Clark won the Wasatch 100 in September to complete the so-called Grand Slam of ultrarunning, which consists of the oldest 100-mile races in the United States — Western States, Vermont 100, Leadville 100 and Wasatch 100. It was the second time he'd won the grueling Utah race, finishing in 20 hours, 24 minutes.

The race capped an impressive 10-week span where he and close friend and competitor, Ian Sharman, kept the tight-knit ultrarunning community glued to following race results as the two battled to set a new Grand Slam cumulative time record. Clark finished in the top six at each race, while Sharman placed in the top four in each, including a win at Leadville.

For 37 minutes after winning Wasatch, the record was Clark's. He'd beaten the 2010 record held by Neal Gorman, running the four 100-mile races in a time of 70 hours, 21 minutes, more than five minutes faster than Gorman.

But, Sharman placed second at Wasatch and set the new record at 69:49. Ultrarunning Magazine named Sharman as its No. 5 male runner of the year.

Clark also won the inaugural Horsetooth Marathon in May, and organized the Quad Rock 50 in Horsetooth Mountain Park and Lory State Park.

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