

Full house for 10th T/C triathlon

Noone, Hughes set course records for men, women

by Mike Jacquart

Enterprise staff

OCONOMOWOC — Ideal weather conditions helped make Saturday's 10th-annual Town and Country YMCA Triathlon a big success.

Five hundred forty-eight — 550 is the maximum — entrants signed up for the combination quarter-mile swim, 15-mile bicycle ride and three-mile run. Four hundred forty-four people completed the event, described by organizer Tim Lammers as challenging but not "too tough."

Saturday morning's cloud cover and less than sweltering temperatures were to the liking of numerous participants. The weather helped first-time participant Mickey Noone of Oshkosh break the men's course record with a time of :59.10, narrowly eclipsing Jim Cichy's 1990 time of :59.12.

"The weather was ideal," Noone said. Noone, who said he found out about the event through a sporting publication, picked an ideal time to post his best triathlon showing this year.

Noone, who races with his friend, Pat Muench, in the 25-29 age divi-

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Tim Lammers
Town/Country YMCA event
director

sion, added, "We've been racing every other week. It fit right into our schedule."

Kara Hughes of Evanston, Ill., broke her own women's course record with a time of 1:06.02, bettering her 1991 time of 1:08.58. Hughes was not available for comment.

Participants had different expectations going into the event, but all interviewed seemed pleased about the results.

Dave Gates of Dousman was pleased he was able to improve on his time over last year. Jim Reiher of Mequon was using the triathlon to help recover from knee surgery.

"This was as good test," Reiher said. "There's not much wave in the water, the bike portion is very flat,

and on the run, there's only one hill. So it's a very workable course."

Mike Teofilo of Oconomowoc and Danielle Leonard of Delafield were both pleased they were able to finish the swim.

"I'm not a good swimmer," said Teofilo, who finished ninth in the age 35-39 division with a time of 1:07.46. "When I come out of the water, I'm happy," he smiled.

"I hate the swim," said Leonard. "I think a lot of people do."

"(But) that's what makes it challenging," Noone said, who added he'll definitely seek to defend his overall title next year.

Lammers and Noone said volunteers are the key to the event's success.

"The racing part's easy, putting it on is the hard part," Noone said.

"It's gotten better each year," said Leonard, a 10-time participant.

Reflecting back on 10 years of the event, Lammers said, the triathlon has grown from 200 to 300 athletes to over 500.

"More people are into fitness and more people are holding triathlons. It's turned into quite a success story."



Sue Hershberg, Enterprise Staff

Jon Thomsen of Milwaukee changes his footwear from biking to running during the Town/Country YMCA's 10th annual Triathlon Saturday.