



Jacqui Aubert, 25, of Crystal Lake, was the top female finisher in Sunday's Peapod Half Madness Half Marathon in Batavia. (Wendy Kemp - For The Kane County Chronicle)



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## **BATAVIA HALF MADNESS**

**Runners competed in the Peapod Half Madness Half Marathon in Batavia.**

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BATAVIA – More than 1,000 runners, from novice to experienced, ran through the streets of Batavia on Sunday morning at the fourth annual Peapod Half Madness Half Marathon.

The 13.1-mile race started and ended in Frederick Beach Park in downtown Batavia.

Jeff Jonaitis, 31, a physical education teacher from Tinley Park, was the top male finisher in a time of 1 hour, 9 minutes and 1 second. The top female finisher was Jacqui Aubert, 25, of Crystal Lake, who finished in 1:22.46.

"I do this race every year as a workout," said Aubert, who has run in eight full marathons. "I like the course. It keeps me motivated.

South Elgin resident Tom Sutter was running in his first half-marathon to honor the memory of his son, Cal, who died five years ago from leukemia at age 13. Tom was part of a large group of runners that ran as part of a charity, Cal's Angels, the Sutter started in honor of his son. The organization raises money to help young cancer patients.

"Someone pointed out that the race was the fifth anniversary [of Cal's death] ... and that Cal would be proud if I did it," said Sutter, 44. He finished the race in 2:33.0. Sutter's wife, Stacey, said the runners raised \$25,000 by competing in the race.

St. Charles resident Barb Osborne ran in it the first time. She trained for it by attending a "boot camp" for a group of runners raising money for Cal's Angels. The group met three days a week at 5 a.m. She finished the race in 2:09.4.

"She's trying to do under 2:11," said her husband, Joel, who was standing along the route during the race. "I think she's going to shock herself and do under 2:10."

The race was a family outing for the Silvernagels of Batavia. Kathy Silvernagel and her father both ran in the race. Kathy's husband, Adam, watched with their three children and cheered them on.

Compete race results are available at the race's website, <http://www.halfmadness.com>.