

Keflezighi 4-peats at 27th Gate River Classic 15K...Edges de Reuck for Equalizer Bonus.

Meb Keflezighi, after a fierce battle with Abdi Abdirahman, won his fourth consecutive Gate River Run to capture the USATF 15K Men's national championship. His time of 43:18 beat Abdirahman by 2 seconds. The gate course had been slightly modified for 2004 but remained a fast, scenic venue.

Three time Olympian Collen de Reuck of Boulder, Colorado won the women's national title decisively with an almost wire to wire victory. She and runner-up Sylvia Mosqueda of Los Angeles ran side by side until the 4K before de Reuck broke free and continued to build the lead. The final winning margin was 54 seconds.

In a new twist at Gate, the elite women were given a 5:18 head start to compete for the inaugural " EQUALIZER BONUS" of \$5,000. That substantial specialty check would be presented to the first champion to cross the finish line. de Reuck held the Bonus lead until just past the 8 mile mark before being overtaken by the men's 15K leaders. The final margin of victory was 45 seconds with battle being won on the very tough Hart Bridge.

In the men's event, the battle between San Diego's Keflezighi and Abdirahman, who resides and trains in Tucson, was joined from the start. Eventual third place finisher, Chris Graff, the 2003 10 mile national champion, stayed close for the first 5 miles until the top two began to lengthen their advantage. They ran together through mile 8, then traded the lead until Keflezighi took control with 200 meters to go.

GATE RIVER RUN 15K USATF CHAMPIONSHIP

WOMEN

1. Colleen de Reuck, 37	Boulder, CO	49:02	\$10,000
2. Sylvia Mosqueda, 37	Los Angeles, CA	50:08	\$4,000
3. Tatyana Pozdnyakova, 49	Ukraine	50:15	\$1,000 - masters (won LA Marathon 7 days earlier!)
4. Sara Wells, 24	Burnsville, MN	50:51	\$3,000
5. Ramilia Burangulova, 42	Russia	50:57	\$500 - masters
6. Nicole Hunt, 33	Deer Lodge, MT	51:15	(5K split - 16:46; 10K split - 33:59) \$2,000
7. Deeja Youngquist, 26	Albuquerque, NM	51:26	\$1,000
8. Firaya Zhdanova, 42	Russia	51:59	\$300 - masters
9. Turena Johnson-Lane, 28	Statesboro, GA	52:44	\$900
10. Kim Pawelek, 29	Jacksonville, FL	52:54	\$800
11. Debbi Kilpatrick-Morris, 40	Strongville, OH	53:17	\$700
12. Christina Wells, 28	Woodbridge, VA	53:40	\$600
13. Jill Gaitenby-Boaz, 37	Los Osos, CA	53:47	\$500
14. Sonja Friend-Uhl, 33	Boca Raton, FL	53:47	
15. Monica Hostetler, 27	LaGrange, IN	54:23	
16. Jennifer Derego, 23	Arroyo Grande, CA	54:26	
17. Johanna Olson, 24	Bloomington, MN	54:32	
18. Rima Dubovik, 40	Ukraine	55:07	
19. Zika Palmer, 28	Blowing Rock, NC	55:35	
23. Jeanne Hennessy, 24	Mahopac, NY	56:48	



MEN

1. Meb Keflezighi, 28	San Diego, CA	43:18	\$10,000 + \$5,000 Equalizer Bonus
2. Abdi Abdirahman, 25	Tucson, AZ	43:20	\$4,000
3. Chris Graff, 28	Palo Alto, CA	44:00	\$3,000
4. Mike Donnelly, 29	Portland, OR	44:08	\$2,000
5. Matt Thull, 29	Wauwatosa, WI	44:25	\$1,000
6. Nick Rogers, 28	Eugene, OR	44:35	\$900
7. Henry Dennis, 29	Cincinnati, OH	44:52	\$800
8. Matt Downin, 27	Hampsted, NH	45:28	\$700
9. Peter Julian, 32	Boulder, CO	45:50	\$600
10. Joep Tigchelaar, 23	Parts Unknown	46:08	
11. Fasil Bizuneh, 22	Marina, CA	46:30	\$500
12. Phillimon Hanneck, 32	Eugene, OR	46:32	
13. Teddy Mitchell, 32	Albuquerque, NM	46:51	
14. Karl Savage, 24	Blowing Rock, NC	47:20	
15. Jeff Campbell, 32	Brevard, NC	47:23	
16. Jason Hubbard, 29	Alamosa, CO	47:25	
21. Dennis Simonaitis, 41	Draper, UT	48:39	\$1000- masters
37. John Metzgar, 41	Orange Park, FL	51:15	\$500 - masters
51. Jamie Black, 40	Toronto, Ontario	52:38	\$300 - masters