Sun runners dash for diabetes bucks

The Spring Fever 5-K Sun Run was an appropriate title for the race on March 4 where sunny skies and warm temperatures greeted the 275 registered runners.

The five-kilometer race, sponsored by the OSU Communication Club, and organized by students in Communications 494-E raised about $750.00 for the Diabetes Foundation.

Two 2.5-kilometer loops made up the course which started at Baker Hall, wound around Lincoln Tower and ended on the South Oval.

The project was so successful because of the work of the students said Mary Beth Debus, communications instructor. She wanted the class to form an organization and devise a worthwhile project. The students brainstormed and came up with several ideas, but finally decided they would put all of their energy into planning a charity race.

Polly Ivan, a student of the class said, “The amount of work was unbelievable, but it was a great experience.”

“I have learned more about organizational communication in the past ten weeks than I have in all of my communications classes combined,” she said. The class worked closely together and had no idea how much detail work was involved in the project.

Jose Baron, a race organizer and communications student said, “We ran things pretty smoothly, considering this was only the first time that the race was run. Several people asked us at the end how many years we were running this and were surprised when we told them it was our first.”

Runners were at various skill levels. Some were serious runners who found out about the race through student-written radio advertisements and some were roped into it by their friends. Barry Klein, a graduate student in the college of Pharmacy, ran because Brian Maves, also a Pharmacy graduate student and a Columbus Marathon runner persuaded him. “I try to run a little when the weather warms up, but I wanted to participate to help the Diabetes Foundation,” Klein said.
Robert Moore, the first male to finish the race, ran the course in 15 minutes, 10 seconds.

Norman Ference waits for his mother Nancy to cross the finish line on South Oval.
Tom Debus, a race volunteer, rests after delivering stop watches to other volunteers along the course.

Polly Dean, a race organizer and Kris Brockman, a race volunteer, inspect the T-shirts that were given to the runners.