

Darcy Ready

Athlete

After a very successful high school running career, Darcy took a year off to work and tried for a US scholarship but did not quite get one. After that year, he entered U of MB in Science, then Phys Ed and finally Education. Although Darcy didn't make the top 5 for Cross-country in his freshman year, he went on to be a key member of a very high-quality team that included Rob Guy, Bob Cook, Bruce McKay, and Claude Berube. Later, Henry Klassen, Darren Klassen and Chris Weber joined this exceptional team, all coached by Alphonse Bernard. They came within a few points of winning the Canadian University championship. As part of the training in those years, team members participated in the Puma Series in the spring and in the bigger autumn races just before the cross-country season started. Darcy was the last national 5km indoor champion at university when he represented the University of Manitoba in his final school year in 1988. Only the 3000m has been used since.

He came second twice in the Manitoba Marathon, and was in the leading group in other races before developing cramps in his calves. Darcy won the Manitoba Half Marathon multiple times with his first in 1989 and last one in 2010 - a span of 21 years.

One of his favourite races was the Thompson Calm Air 10 km, which he won entry into by winning major races in Winnipeg. Darcy's favorite running memory was when he ran every step beside each of his four children Richelle (20), Shandra(17), Tarina(15), and Owen(14) as they won the 2012 Manitoba Marathon Mixed Relay.

Darcy also represented Manitoba at the National Timex Series in Ottawa on numerous occasions.

As well as Darcy did in his prime years, he was even more successful as a Masters competitor, coming 2nd in the nationals in Ottawa. Darcy also took second in the Masters category in the National Capital 10 km race in 2004. Darcy also won the 45-49 age category at the Disney World Half Marathon in 2012 as well as finishing 23 overall.

Darcy's best 5 km was a 14:24; 10 km was 29:27; 20 km was 62 minutes in winning the Bird's Hill race, which he won 3 times; best Half Marathon was 1:08 and best Marathon was 2:25:58, finishing 4th behind Peter Maher.

Darcy's long and successful running career ended with a painful hip condition in 2018, at age 55. He certainly retired as one of our greats.