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Aussie Johnson wins 5km run in New York

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June 1, 2008 - 3:33PM

Australian Benita Johnson dedicated her third victory in the 5km Freihofer's Run for Women road race in New York to her late father.

Johnson called her family in Australia shortly after winning the race in 15 minutes and 46 seconds to learn that her father had died from a terminal illness.

"This race was for my Dad," she said before learning that he had passed away before she could fly home.

"But I can use things in my life as motivation to go forward and to have strength."

Across town, Sarah Jamieson and Lisa Corrigan celebrated their recent selection in the Australian Olympic team by going 1-2 in the women's 1,500m at the Reebok grand prix in New York.

Jamieson won in four minutes 06.93 seconds and Corrigan was second in 4:07.57.

Commonwealth champion John Steffensen made his return to competition by finishing seventh in the 400m in 46.99 in a race won by American Xavier Carter (44.70).

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