

Lifeguard scores first by running around Nantucket

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SPECIAL WRITER

NANTUCKET — When Jim Storey trotted onto Jetties Beach shortly before 5 p.m. yesterday behind an emergency fire truck, he became the first person in local memory to run the perimeter of the Island.

Storey admits the chance to be the only one to run around Nantucket was a big reason he attempted the 40-mile trip. "Being first — that kind of excited me," he said.

Still, he said there were other, more important reasons for his run.

His sprint around the Island was his way of remembering his father,

who died a year ago this week. "I did this as a memorial to him."

And by completing the trip, Storey raised \$2,000 for the Handicapped Children's Clinic at Bridgewater State College, "and the checks are still coming in," he said.

Storey, a 24-year-old Hyannis resident, said the idea for the feat "was in the back of my mind for a long time. I just wanted to see how my training went."

Storey, who has run several marathons, including the Boston Marathon, is no stranger to endurance runs. Still, even the towering heights near the end of the Boston race didn't pose as much of a problem to a run-

ner as the soft and shifting sands Storey knew he would have to run on in his Nantucket venture.

Luckily for Storey, he was able to do most of his training for this race on the job. Storey, who works as a Nantucket lifeguard, said his supervisor encourages his lifeguards to work out. "I had all the time I wanted to train," he said. "It worked out great."

Now confident he could complete the race, Storey began lining up sponsors for what he says is a cause very close to his heart.

And so it was with strong legs and strong support that Storey began his trek around the Island.

Shortly before 6 a.m., he began running down Jetties Beach toward Brant Point. He then swam across the harbor to the village of Coatie just before the Steamship Authority ferry Eagle made its first trip to Hyannis.

By 5:15 p.m. he reached Dionis Beach, the Heartbreak Hill of this run. Just three miles from his destination, he found his legs tightening up and his energy lagging.

Storey shook off those problems however, and arrived back at Jetties less than 12 hours after he left.

As he relaxed with friends last night, Storey said he came through the adventure relatively unscathed.

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