

Locals enjoy fast times in Houston

By Bill Shaw
The Facts

Published February 2, 2009

‘In this mechanized society of ours, marathoners want to assert their independence and affirm their individuality more than ever,’ said Eric Segal, author of “Love Story.” “Some are Lancelots, some are Don Quixotes. All are noble.”

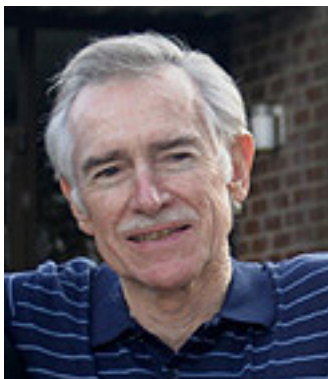
This week I salute specifically some of those noble Lancelots: particularly the senior citizens of southern Brazoria County, who finished the 2009 Chevron Houston Marathon. In the thundering herd of 5,345 official finishers of 3,477 males and 1,868 females — 42 marathoners, 29 men and 13 women — hail from the greater Brazosport area. In that elite group, 31 runners, 74 percent, are 50 and older.

Susan Lorms, 61, of Lake Jackson finished the 26.2 miles in 4:38:40, and won second place in the female ages 60-64 competition. Lenord Burns, 62, of Angleton finished in 3:21:52 and won second place in the male ages 60-64 competition. Dorothy Babbington, 50, of Lake Jackson finished in 4:05:44 to notch third place locally among female marathoners.

The top male area finisher, Kevin Regis, 49, is not far from receiving his AARP invitation. Regis finished 92nd overall

in the pack and seventh in his 45-49 age division in 2:58:02.

Darren Miller, 28, of Rosharon was the second-fastest area marathoner in 3:08:55, 194th overall and 26th in his 25-29 age division. Gregory Jones, 33, of Richwood has bragging rights as the third-fastest area male marathoner; he finished in 3:19:32, 320th overall and 51st in his 30-34 age division.



The top area female marathoner, Melissa Hurta, 45, of Jones Creek finished in 3:26:57, 443rd overall and ninth in her age group.

Abigail Artley, 33, of Lake Jackson finished in 3:33:46, 606th overall and 16th in her 30-34 age division as the third-fastest area female marathoner.

Senior citizens in the Aramco Half Marathon also posted impressive times. Judy Richards, 65, of Angleton finished the 13.1-mile contest in 2:26:34 to win fourth place in her 65-69 division. LaVern Lippman, 73, of Lake Jackson finished in 3:11:00 to earn fourth place in the 70-74 age division. Richards outran 53 of the 94 area half-marathoners, some a third her age. Lippman outran 16 of the other 94 runners in the area a third her age. Way to go, ladies!

Dan Williams, 64, of Clute finished the half-marathon in 1:49:09, 836th overall and fourth in his 65-59 age group. Orville Kremmer, 74, finished

in 1:58:49, 1633rd overall and second in his 76-79 age division. Orville was 17th out of 94 area runners and Orville outdistanced runners a fourth his age. Keep on trucking, Orville.

Stewart Crouch, 47, of Angleton, Troy Latiolais, 25, of Freeport and Michael Tarabay, 32, of Lake Jackson were the top area finishers in the half-marathon — Crouch in 1:28:10, 178th overall and 11th in his 45-59 age group; Latiolais in 1:32:18, 252nd overall and 49th in his 25-29 age group; and Tarabay in 1:39:28, 412th overall and 39th in his 30-34 age division.

Liz Hertenberger, 40, of Rosharon, Jenny Heinlein, 31, of Clute and Kristina Johnston, 44, of Lake Jackson were the top three area female finishers in the 13.1-mile distance — Hertenberger in 1:44:26, 580th overall and 24th in her age division; Heinlein in 1:48:17, 778th overall and 38th in her age division; and Johnston in 1:53:57, 1185th overall and 45th in her age bracket.

Eighteen area runners finished the EP 5K (3.1 miles). Josh Raymond, 15, of Lake Jackson finished 23rd overall in 18:13 to win second in his age group; Kayla Contardi, 13, of Lake Jackson finished 191st overall and fifth in her age group in 23:28.

For a full list of area runners in the 2009 Chevron Marathon, the Aramco Half Marathon and the EP 5K, see www.barrahome.net.

Bill Shaw's running column appears every other Monday in The Facts.