



# *FW Race For The Cure*

*(See Boston notes below)*

FORT WORTH -- A perfect Saturday (April 15) morning greeted the some 18,000-plus registrants for the Komen Tarrant County Race For The Cure in downtown Fort Worth.

With temperatures in the mid 50s, thousands participated in the mile fun walk and 5K run/walk. The Fort Worth streets were full of those wearing pink survivor shirts, and of women and men wearing names of either survivors of cancer and/or past friends and relatives who were victims of the disease. Many were wearing colorful pink Western hats donated by Baylor All Saints Medical Center at Fort Worth.

After a parade of mounted horses made their way up Houston Street, the 5K's horn sounded at 8 a.m. and the huge gathering took off on the 3.1-mile course that wound through and around downtown and back into the Sundance Square area as the sun began clearing through the morning overcast. Cindy Dietrick, 26, a former TCU runner who has recently returned to racing, won the women's division in 17:49.10. Another former TCU runner, Hebert Mwangi, won the men's title in 16:45.75. Each received round-trip airline tickets and running shoes.

## *Walking for family causes*

Catherine Parsons was among the thousands of women and men who participated in Saturday's Fort Worth Race For The Cure, and she, as many, had more than one reason to be there. She and her family recently moved to Fort Worth from the Atlanta area and she was walking for her grandmother, Myrtle Conner, her mother-in-law, Dorothy Parsons., and herself Catherine said her grandmother and mother-in-law were diagnosed with cancer 13 years ago and are survivors. Six months ago, Catherine said she was diagnosed with cancer and currently is going through radiation. In 1999, Catherine said she participated in the Avon three-day event, and plans to participate in the Dallas-Fort Worth three-day event this year. Her husband, Scott, and daughter, Jessica, also were entered in the event.

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## Top Texan in Boston was Big D Half Marathon winner

Keith Pierce, a coach at Krum High School who lives in Denton, was the fastest Texan at Monday's (April 17) Boston Marathon. Pierce, who won the Big D Texas Half Marathon in Dallas on April 2, finished in 2:27:17 to place 36th overall.

Craig Ottman of Fort Worth was the next Texan with a 2:42:55, good for 189th place. The fastest Texas woman was Melisa Christian of Dallas, who was timed in 2:46:30 to finish 19th among the women and 286th overall.

## World Record Set *(A report from Elite Racing)*

CARLSBAD, Calif. -- Olympic gold medalist Meseret Defar of Ethiopia made her fourth appearance count when she set the women's 5,000-meter world record at Elite Racing's Carlsbad 5000 on April 9. Her winning time of 14:46 over the 3.1-mile course beat the old mark of 14:51, held by Britain's Paula Radcliffe and matched by Ethiopian Tirunesh Dibaba.

Ethiopian Abreham Cherkos, 18 years old, won the men's race in 13:15 in his first appearance in the United States. Defar was the gold medalist in the 5,000-meters at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. Her effort at Carlsbad marked the 16<sup>th</sup> world record broken over the 21-year history of the race. "I did not go to the World Cross Country Championships last month because I wanted to break the world record here in Carlsbad," the 23-year-old said. Two-time men's champion Sammy Kipketer, recent winner at the Minyard Invitational 8K in Dallas in March, took the early lead, but Cheboiywo took over after the first mile and won in 13:15.

## *Record at Boston*

Robert Cheruiyot of Kenya set a Boston Marathon course record Monday morning (April 17) by one second with a 2:17:14. Rita Jeptoo, also a Kenyan, won the women's event in 2:23:38. USA runners had one of their best years, placing third, fourth and fifth. They were Meb Keflezighi, Brian Sell and Alan Culpepper. Cheruiyot won \$100,000 for first and another \$25,000 for the course record.