

Area runners hit it big in Waco

Dallas-Fort Worth area runners enjoyed success at the Miracle Match Waco Marathon on Sunday (Jan. 31). Debbie Arzola-James of Allen, a two-time winner of the xSIGHTment 5K in Colleyville among her other area victories, came home with the biggest prize as she won the women's title with a 3:09:38.6. Although Kiplimo Chemirmir of Flower Mound, winner of the Fort Worth Marathon last November, couldn't maintain the pace to catch men's winner James Cheruiyot, he did finish second with a PR of 2:37:36.5. Cheruiyot finished in 2:34:28.9. Other area runners who did well included Maria Martinez of Fort Worth, winner of the Fiesta Marathon in McAllen in December, who won the 30-34 women's age division with a 3:54:48.7. She, Eva Contreras of Fort Worth and Kim Gray of Arlington ran together most of the race. Contreras finished second in the 35-39 division with a 3:54:48.3 and Gray came in third with a 3:57:41.5. Martinez and Gray had run the Lake Benbrook Half Marathon the day before. Also, Chris Crawford of Dallas won the 45-49 men's division with a 3:09:21.9; Dave Emerson of Coppell took the 50-54 men's title with a 3:09:33.6 and John Ross of Fort Worth won the 60-64 division with a 3:59:51.