

Fredericksburg, VA Runner Sets Record at Second-Largest Historic Half

U.S. Olympian Lauryn Williams Cheers 7,545 finishers completing three distance events

FREDERICKSBURG, VA (May 18, 2014) – It has been an epic day at the Marine Corps Historic Half in Fredericksburg, VA with two course records set and the second-most finishers (6,020) in the event’s seven-year history. Local runner and Historic Half record holder Tim Young crossed the finish in 1:05:09, breaking his own course record of 1:06:57. Erika Weidman, 23 of Alexandria, VA also broke the women’s Historic 10K course record by six seconds as she completed today’s event in 44:28. The Historic Half, Historic 10K and Semper Fred 5K started simultaneously at 7 a.m. with cheering spectators lining each course. Together, the three events garnered a total of 7,545 finishers.

U.S. Olympian Lauryn Williams motivated runners crossing the finish on Carl D. Silver Parkway in Fredericksburg’s Central Park. Williams is the first American woman to win medals in both the Summer and Winter Games. U.S. Marines armed with spectacular finisher medals flanked Williams and U.S. Congressman Rob Wittman (R-VA) who congratulated those completing the events.

“I was feeling great throughout the course and it is great to be back,” said Young draped in the Historic Half break tape. Young, 27, completed and won his third Historic Half, setting the initial record in 2009. Stephanie Fulmer, 24, of Arlington, VA finished first among Historic Half women completing the 13.1 mile course in 1:25:18. Fulmer was able to shave 20 seconds off her personal record for the half marathon distance.

Army Lt. Col. Keith Matiskella, 42, of Alexandria, VA finished second among top males completing the Historic Half in 1:12:21. Matiskella also took top honors as the first place Active Duty finisher and was presented an award by BAE Systems, a Historic Half sponsor. Placing third among the men was Jeremy Lynch, 33, of Springfield, VA running the course in 1:15:42. Lynch, a six-time Historic Half finisher was also the winner of the Marine Corps 17.75K on April 12.

Placing second among Historic Half women was Kate Dochelli, 26, of Richmond, VA who completed the event in 1:26:02. Just over two minutes behind was Denise Gallant, 17, of Woodbridge, VA as she finished in third place at 1:28:12.

In its second year, the Historic 10K hosted 772 finishers. Aaron Naraine, 15, of Fredericksburg, VA finished first place in 40:32, just nine seconds ahead of second place finisher Anthony Brooks, 17, of Stafford, VA. Finishing third among the 10K runners was U.S. Army Reservist Robert Woods, 47, of Stafford, VA. While Weidman broke the record for top female finishers, Christyn Gossett, 26, of Dumfries, VA finished second place in 48:40 and Lara Bussey, 41 of Gladwyne, PA completed the 10K in 48:55, finishing third.

Fourteen-year-old Philip Lambert, of Fredericksburg took top honors in the Semper Fred 5K, finishing in 19:32. Fellow Fredericksburg runner Sean Porthouse, 25, completed his second-place win just 10 seconds behind in 19:42. Tanner Jacobs, 15, of Stafford, finished the 5K in 19:45, placing third.

Historic Half Results continued

Springfield runner, Yuko Whitestone, 42, finished first place among Semper Fred 5K women in 22:26. Not far behind her was young Fredericksburg runner Greta Lambert, age 11, who took second place completing the 3.1 miles in 22:51. Miossi Haviland, 37, also of Fredericksburg, finished in 23:50 while capturing third.

Marine 2nd Lt. Kate Sullivan, 23, stationed at The Basic School at Marine Corps Base Quantico, also was presented Top Active Duty honors by BAE during the Historic Half Awards Ceremony held this morning, adjacent to the finish line.

The nearly-perfect day for running was complete during an emotionally-charged finish as Plainfield, N.J. runner David Mercado became the final finisher of the Marine Corps Historic Half. Surrounded by U.S. Marines cheering him in cadence Mercado admitted, “A year ago I weighed 440 pounds and couldn’t run a mile and now look at me today.”

All Historic Half event results are available at www.marinemarathon.com.

Annually held in Fredericksburg, VA, the Marine Corps Historic Half hosts 10,000 runners in half marathon, 10k and 5k distance events. Considered “the greatest half marathon in history,” the event boasts a course featuring landmarks dating back to our nation’s beginnings and the early homes of Presidents George Washington and James Monroe. Organized by the Marine Corps Marathon, the Historic Half is sponsored by GEICO, Dominion Virginia Power, Marine Federal Credit Union and Pohanka Nissan of Fredericksburg, Mary Washington Healthcare and the University of Mary Washington. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement implied. #RunWithTheMarines.

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