



RECORD BREAKING DAY AT THE OKLAHOMA CITY MEMORIAL MARATHON

It was a record breaking day at the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon as nearly 24,000 runners took to the streets to *Change the Course of OKC*.

Stephanie Andre of Bixby, Oklahoma stepped onto the Start Line with one thing in mind, "My goal was to get the course record." Andre's time of 2:45:07 shaved six seconds off the previous record set in 2012 by three time Memorial Marathon winner, Camille Herron. This is also the women's state record. "It means a lot to me winning this race. The best way to honor those impacted by the bombing is to live your life to the fullest." True to the Oklahoma Standard, Camille Herron was the first person hugged by Andre at the Finish Line.

Dr. David Rhodes, an orthopedic surgeon at INTEGRIS and dad to six kids, broke the Marathon tape with a 2:39:06. This was his fourth marathon. "I never ever thought I'd win a marathon. In this town, this state, there are so many better runners than I am. For whatever reason I got to win today. I'm in shock", Dr. Rhodes said. "It's humbling to win a marathon like this to honor so many people."

The largest race, the Half Marathon, fielded 9,441 runners. Aaron Sherf of Norman, Oklahoma took first place with 1:10:21. Sherf won second place in the 2018 Marathon.

Ashley Carreon's win today with a 1:20:38, now makes her a three time Half Marathon winner. Carreon won the Half in 2015 and 2016 and was also on the winning women's relay team, OK Runner, in 2017.

Red Coyote Racing, with team members Stuart Lisle, Jon Morris, Luis Chaves, John Gignac and Jeff Beck, said they just had to run the Relay when Governor Kevin Stitt threw down the gauntlet and asked "Can you beat me?" Red Coyote Racing won the Relay with a 2:27:57.

This is the first time a Governor has run the Memorial Marathon. *Team Stitt*, the Governor's Relay team, ran in with a 4:15:58 and came in 190th place out of the 700 registered Relay teams. The winners in each of the 15 Relay divisions will be invited to a special awards dinner at the Governor's Mansion in early May.

Chris Ebert won the 5K with a 17:04. Sara Moore was the women's 5K winner with a 20:00.

Wheelchair Division Winners:

Marathon

Hand Crank – Steven Scalzo 1:39:57

Push Rim – Tadd Parrett 4:23:25

Standard – Ben Carden 5:23:35

Half Marathon

Hand Crank – Carlos Dominguez 2:18:50

Standard – Steven Marrs 3:30:30

“We are so proud of the passion and determination of every runner who crossed the new Finish Line and changed the course of OKC,” said Kari Watkins, Race Director. Approximately 50 percent of the course changed this year to keep pace with the ever changing downtown Oklahoma City.

Next year, the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon will finish in the new Scissortail Park. Thanks to the 24,000 runners and more than 3,000 volunteers, this is truly a RUNtoREMEMBER. Registration is open for the 20th Memorial Marathon in 2020. Sign up at okcMarathon.com

For complete race results: <https://okcmarathon.com/the-run-to-remember/>

For images of winners:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zjilrinnfynztw0/AADcbpzHfzf5IacjIcuiFIHa?dl=0>

Media contact:

Mary Ann Eckstein

405-235-3083

405-888-6908 mobile