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Hillary Bor Sets American Record, Takes Home \$50,000 Bonus From 50th Annual Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile

Ethiopian Tsegay Kidanu and Ugandan Sarah Chelangat win open races, Hillary Bor and fellow American Sara Hall are both second overall and win USATF 10 Mile National Championships.

April 2, 2023, Washington, DC: With the sun shining and temperatures in the mid-40s, runners in today's Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile (CUCB) faced stiff headwinds at times, but not stiff enough to keep top American **Hillary Bor** from breaking the 40-year-old American Record of 46:13, set by **Greg Meyer** here in the 1983 Cherry Blossom 10 Mile, as Meyer, one of nine past winners in town to celebrate the 50th anniversary, looked on at the finish line. Bor's time of 46:11 earned him a



Eventual winner Tsegay Kidanu sizes up #13 Hillary Bor (2nd overall, 1st U.S. and American Record), #17 Abbabiya Simbassa (3rd overall, 2nd U.S.), and #3 Charles Langat (4th overall) at the 5 Mile mark of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile.

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\$50,000 bonus from CUCB organizers and the title of 2023 USATF 10 Mile National Champion.

When asked about seeing his record broken, Greg Meyer had this to say: “It was exciting to see the record fall on the 40th anniversary of my setting it and the 50th anniversary of the race. That capped a perfect race weekend. Hillary ran a spectacular race in tough conditions. I had dinner with him last night and he is such a nice person. I see great things to come in the future for him.”

Bor finished second overall in a very close race with **Tsegay Kidanu** from Ethiopia, whose winning time was 46:08. The two ran together throughout the race, leaving an ever-dwindling pack of men in their wake, creating a gap to third place of almost a minute by the time they crossed the finish line.

In the women’s race — which started 12 minutes prior to the men’s start to avoid men pacing women and to ensure “women’s only” status for any records set — Ugandan **Sarah Chelangat** pulled away from her competitors midway through the race to win handily in a time of 52:04. American **Sara Hall** was second in 52:37 and, like Bor, earned the title of 2023 USATF 10 Mile National Champion. There were no records set in the women’s race.

In addition to the USATF 10 Mile Championships, CUCB organizers celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the *Runners Rite of Spring*® by hosting two other championships: the Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) National 10 Mile Championships, and the Professional Road Running Organization (PRRO) Championship.

Open to both international and American runners, Chelangat and Kidanu earned titles of RRCA National Champion

Chelangat and Kidanu were also crowned 2023 PRRO Circuit Champions and earned \$2500 each for these titles. No athlete claimed the \$10,000 PRRO Super Bonus, which is awarded to the winners of the 2022-2023 circuit events who also win the championship. Defending CUCB champion Susanna Sullivan was the only eligible athlete. Sullivan finished seventh overall and earned \$1500 as an eligible athlete finishing in places 2-10 at the PRRO Championship. With the 2022-2023 Super Bonus unclaimed, it will increase to \$15,000 for the 2023-2024 PRRO championship at the Lilac Bloomsday Run 12K on May 5, 2024. The PRRO Circuit is comprised of the Boilermaker 15K in Utica, NY; the Lilac Bloomsday Run 12K in Spokane, WA; and the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile.

RRCA prize money totaling \$6,000 was awarded to the top three male and female RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Abbabiya Simbassa and Sara Hall each earned \$1500 as the winners of this subset of elite athletes.

Here's a compilation of times, prize money, and bonuses earned by the elite runners today, organized in order of top-10 overall, followed by the top Americans who also earned prize money:

Top men:

- **Tsegay Kidanu** 46:08, Ethiopia — **\$8,000** for the overall victory.
- **Hillary Bor** 46:11, Colorado Springs, CO — \$4,000 for second place overall, \$5,000 for first American, \$50,000 American Record Bonus. Total earnings: **\$59,000**.
- **Abbabiya Simbassa** 47:09, Flagstaff, AZ — \$2,000 for third place overall, \$2,500 for placing second among Americans, and \$1,500 for placing first among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Total earnings: **\$6,000**.
- **Charles Langat** 47:25, Kenya — **\$1,500** for placing fourth overall.
- **Jacob Thomson** 47:27, Flagstaff, AZ — \$1,000 for fifth place overall and \$1,500 for third place among Americans. Total earnings: **\$2,500**.
- **Matthew McClintock** 47:30, Flagstaff, AZ — \$900 for sixth place overall, \$1,000 for placing fourth among Americans, and \$1,000 for placing second among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Total earnings: **\$2,900**.
- **John Dressel** 47:32, Chapel Hill, NC — \$800 for seventh place overall and \$800 for being fifth American. Total earnings: **\$1,600**.
- **Shadrack Kimining** 47:46, Kenya — **\$700** for eighth place overall.
- **Emmanuel Bor** 48:14, Sierra Vista, AZ — \$600 for ninth place overall and \$600 for placing sixth among Americans. Total earnings: **\$1,200**.
- **Colin Bennie** 48:18, San Francisco, CA — \$500 for 10th place overall, \$400 for placing seventh among Americans, and \$500 for placing third among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Total earnings: **\$1,400**.
- **Joel Reichow** 48:53, White Bear Lake, MN — **\$300** for being eighth American.
- **Cody Baele** 48:56, Des Moines, IA — **\$200** for being ninth American.
- **Zach Herriott** 48:57, Washington, DC — **\$200** for placing 10th among American men.

Top women:

- **Sarah Chelangat** 52:04, Uganda — **\$8,000** for the overall victory.
- **Sara Hall** 52:37, Flagstaff, AZ — \$4,000 for second place overall, \$5,000 for first American woman, and \$1,500 for placing first among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Total earnings: **\$10,500**.
- **Nell Rojas** 52:38, Boulder, CO — \$2,000 for third place overall and \$2,500 for placing second among American women. Total earnings: **\$4,500**.

- **Emma Grace Hurley** 52:41, Roswell, GA — \$1,500 for fourth place overall and \$1,500 for placing third among American women. Total earnings: **\$3,000**.
- **Molly Grabill** 52:42, Louisville, CO — \$1,000 for fifth place overall and \$1,000 for fourth place among American women. Total earnings: **\$2,000**.
- **Amber Zimmerman** 53:05, Philadelphia, PA — \$900 for sixth place overall and \$800 for placing fifth among American women. Total earnings. **\$1,700**.
- **Susanna Sullivan** 53:25, Reston, VA — \$800 for seventh place overall, \$600 for placing sixth among American women, \$1,000 for placing second among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni, and \$1,500 for the PRRO Event Champion's Bonus. Total earnings: **\$3,900**.
- **Carrie Verdon** 53:35, Boulder, CO — \$700 for eighth place overall and \$400 for seventh place among American women. Total earnings: **\$1,100**.
- **Weynshet Weldetsadik** 53:47, Ethiopia — **\$600** for placing ninth overall.
- **Jessa Hanson** 53:47, Flagstaff, AZ — \$500 for 10th place overall and \$300 for placing eighth among American women. Total earnings: **\$800**.
- **Jeralyn Poe** 54:41, Flagstaff, AZ — \$200 for placing ninth among American women and \$500 for placing third among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Total earnings: **\$700**.
- **Breanna Sieracki** 55:52, Burnsville, MN — **\$200** for tenth place among American women.

Non-binary:

1. **Jacob Caswell** 56:48, New York, NY
2. **Justin Solle** 1:05:52, New York, NY
3. **Emilio Leguizamo** 1:06:24, Washington, DC

For a full listing of the 10 Mile Awards, [click here](#).

In the reimagined Credit Union Cherry Blossom 5K presented by REI, which was held on Saturday, Lucite awards were given to the top five men and women, and the top three non-binary runners.

Men:

1. **Johan Fagerberg** 15:03, Baltimore, MD
2. **Mark Leininger** 15:03, Baltimore, MD
3. **Ethan Gonzales** 15:32, Baltimore, MD
4. **Tim Hughes** (16:21) Washington, DC
5. **Laszlo Wolfe** 16:50, Washington, DC

Women:

1. **Casey Greenwalt** 18:13, Washington, DC
2. **Rachael Gallup** 18:14, Kalamazoo, MI
3. **Marisa Deichert** 18:45, State College, PA
4. **Michelle Navarro** 19:01, Red Bank, NJ
5. **Natasha Fedkina** 19:39, Arlington, VA

Non-binary:

1. **Caity Hines** 24:22, Washington, DC
2. **Carolyn Lawrence** 26:06, Washington, DC
3. **Aprupa Alahari** 26:28, Washington, DC

For a full listing of the 5K Awards, [click here](#).

CUCB organizers invited a number of past champions to join in the celebration of the race's 50th Anniversary. **Kathrine Switzer**, who won the very first Cherry Blossom 10 Mile, and two-time victor (1975 and '76) **Carl Hatfield** were unable to participate in either race this weekend. Four-time winner **Bill Rodgers** (1978, '79, '80 and '81) completed his 23rd Cherry Blossom 10 Mile today in 1:36:30; 1998 women's champion **Colleen De Reuck** completed the race for the fifth time in 1:07:01. Three-time 10 Mile champion (1985, '89 and '90) **Lisa Rainsberger** (formerly Lisa Weidenbach) ran 26:34 in yesterday's 5K; twice 10 Mile champion (1982 and '83) **Eleanor Simonsick** ran 27:25 in the 5K; **Greg Meyer**, who recently had hip replacement surgery, walked the 5K in 38:47, before watching his 40-year-old American Record fall today to Hillary Bor.

Other notable runners in the 10 Mile today included: **Ben Beach** (2:01:25), the only person to have competed in and completed every Cherry Blossom 10 Mile; 91-year-old **George Yannakakis** (3:11:28), who has now run the race 30 times; U.S. Senator from Arizona **Krysten Sinema** (1:23:46); and U.S. Secretary of the Interior **Deb Haaland** (1:57:21).

In a final nod to the 50th anniversary, race organizers will award coffee mugs with the inscription *I would have won this race in 1973* to every man and woman who ran faster today than champions **Sam Bair** and **Kathrine Switzer** ran that day. Thirty-one men beat Bair's time of 51:22, and 319 women bested Switzer's time of 1:11:19.

The credit union-sponsored Capitol Hill Competition had 77 teams this year, with over 658 Capitol Hill staffers participating. The unofficial winner of the Congressional Cup award to the fastest team in head-to-head competition between Senate and House teams was **Last Best Place** from Senator Jon

Tester's office. 139 members of Congress serve as Honorary Race Chairs (109 Representatives and 30 Senators).

Throughout the National Cherry Blossom Festival (March 20 – April 16), of which CUCB is an official partner event, runners are able to participate in the Credit Union Cherry Blossom Virtual Run. Registration closes on April 9, and the last day to run is April 16th, although runners have until April 30 to submit times and photos. More information about the Virtual Run can be found [here](#).

For the past 21 years, Credit Union Miracle Day has been the title sponsor of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile and 5K, adding the Kids Run to its portfolio when the ½-mile event debuted in 2016. REI Co-op came on board this year to become presenting sponsor of the 5K and Kids Run. Wegmans has been the presenting sponsor of the Health and Fitness expo for two years.

Over the 21 years of Credit Union Miracle Day title sponsorship, the partnership with CUCB organizers and charitable runners has generated over \$10.6 million for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. This year's fundraising effort totaled \$450,000, which included \$86,000 from direct donations by runners and \$115,000 by Charity Race Entrants.

About the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile:

The Credit Union Cherry Blossom races, organized by Cherry Blossom, Inc., a 501c(3) chapter of the Road Runners Club of America, are known as "The Runner's Rite of Spring®" in the Nation's Capital. The staging area for 10 Mile is on the Washington Monument Grounds, and the course passes in sight of all of the major Washington, DC Memorials. The reimaged Saturday 5K stages on Freedom Plaza and traverses the route of Presidential Inaugurations down Pennsylvania Avenue before crossing the National Mall in the shadow of the Capitol Building and returning by the same route. The Kids Run is staged on the grounds of the National Building Museum. All events serve as a fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, a consortium of 170 premier children's hospitals across North America. About one-third of the funds raised support Washington, DC's own Children's National Medical Center ("Children's Hospital"). The event also funds the Road Runners Club of America's "Roads Scholar" program designed to support up-and-coming U.S. distance running talent.

Credit Union Miracle Day, Inc., a consortium of credit unions and credit union partners, is the title sponsor of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile, 5K, Kids Run and Virtual Run. Current presenting sponsors include ASICS, REI Co-op and Wegmans; supporting sponsors include CACI, Co-op Solutions, CUNA Mutual Group, Gatorade Endurance, Guayaki, MedStar Health, Outside+, PSCU, Potomac River Running, Suburban Solutions, The MO Apartments and UPS.

The 10 Mile is a proud member of the PRRO Circuit (PRRO.org), a series of America's Classic Road Races prize money road races with circuit stops in Washington, DC; Spokane, WA; and Utica, NY. The 2023 10 Mile served as the 2022-2023 PRRO Championship.

In addition to being sanctioned by USA Track & Field and the Road Runners Club of America, the Credit Union Cherry Blossom races have earned Gold Level Inspire Certification from the Council for Responsible Sport in recognition of its legacy of commitment to sustainability and thoughtful resource management.

To learn more, visit www.cherryblossom.org and follow the event on social media @CUCB and #CUCB2023.

About Credit Union Miracle Day:

Credit Union Miracle Day is a partnership of over 100 credit unions, CUSOs and partner organizations united to sponsor the Credit Union Cherry Blossom races, promoting awareness of the credit union difference and benefitting Children's Miracle Network Hospitals nationwide.

Thanks to credit union title sponsorship since 2002, the Credit Union Cherry Blossom Run has raised over \$10.6 million for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, including \$450,000 this year.

About America's Credit Unions:

Credit unions are financial cooperatives that provide consumers choices for financial services such as checking accounts, investments and loans of all kinds, including mortgages. Funds are federally insured, but unlike banks, there are no stockholders at credit unions. Earnings are returned to member-owners in the form of lower loan rates, higher savings rates, and low or no-fee products and services. The credit union philosophy of placing members' needs first is why more than 131 million Americans do their banking at a credit union.

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Please do not reply to this email; this address is not monitored. Please address all inquiries to Keith Peters at kpeters@cherryblossom.org.

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