

SIDELINES

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Marathoner works for improvement

For the first time in the 90-year history of last week's Boston Marathon, the race's winners were awarded prizes.

Australian runner Robert de Castella won \$30,000 and a new Mercedes-Benz for finishing first in the race.

It's hard to imagine runners wouldn't have the prizes on their minds when they enter the race. But when Eugene runner Art Boileau looks you in the eye and tells you money isn't what makes him run, you believe him.

Boileau, a former runner at the University, won \$20,000 by finishing second to de Castella. He achieved a personal best when he crossed the finish line in 2:11:15, 3:24 behind de Castella.

"The money isn't it. What motivates me is just to run fast and run in big races," says 28-year-old Boileau.

"After halfway, everyone was dying, so I just took off. But I thought I could have run it a little faster. It was only personal best by 15 seconds. Timewise, it wasn't a big breakthrough," Boileau says.

"I had run almost that fast in '83, but at Boston things are a little bit different. I had run

fast in Japan over 30 kilometers, and in Helsinki, Finland, in a marathon just about as fast. But it's got to be in North America for the media to just go crazy."

His pacing, however, kept him where he wanted to be in the marathon, Boileau says.

"I'm really conservative with my pacing. That's a lot of it. A lot of the guys just ran out of gas, but I was running with (Orlando Pizzolato). He won the last two New York marathons."

**Story by Mary Lichtenwalner
Photo by Michael Wilhelm**

Boileau says. "Last time he won it, he was about 25th at 10 miles, then he just mowed people down."

Boileau says he was basically alone from halfway on. His halfway split time was 1:04:35, which was about what he wanted to run, he says.

Doing better than other runners who had trained on the course made him feel good, although he says the infamous Heartbreak Hill was almost a

letdown.

"Heartbreak Hill's not that bad; it's a real gradual incline. But it's nothing steep at all compared to other hills. I drove over it a couple days before, it's kind of a long drive though. It took me about an hour to drive it — it's kind of scary," Boileau says.

Coming in second in the Boston Marathon was not something he really anticipated, although he says he had dreamed of doing that well. But Boileau says when he got to Boston, he knew where he stood.

"It was a pretty competitive field, but when I went there I thought I could finish in the top five," he says. "De Castella is probably the best marathoner in the world."

Boileau has a good background himself. As a Canadian citizen, he represented Canada in the 1984 Olympic Games. He also placed 11th in the World Championships in 1983.

Boileau attended Lincoln High School in Portland, where he was ranked sixth in the state. He then followed in his family's footsteps, hitting the books at the University.

Continued on Page 4B