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Sports in a Minute

Aug 26, 2014



JAN SEEGER/Staff photo. Lou Peters, 87, of Methuen, right, talks with George Leslie of Chelmsford, as the two running portion of the 2nd annual Bob Laprel 2-mile walk and 4-mile run.



Iron man Strout

Former Haverhill High runner Bob Strout of Salisbury is still going strong at the age of 58. He recently finished his third “adventure” as he calls it by running two races on the same day when he ran 5-milers at both Hampstead and Salisbury Beach.

Strout, who still owns the Haverhill High record for the half-mile (800 meters), has run over 60 races this year, has averaged 100 per year over the last six years and has competed in over 2,660 races since 1969. What’s more, he’s still a regular age-group placer if not winner.

Means business

New University of Texas football coach Charlie Strong, who had been head man at the University of Louisville, showed early that he means to instill renewed discipline into the program.

Strong opened camp by announcing the suspension of three potential starters and the dismissal of three other players from the program for rules infractions. He also prohibited players from throwing up the “Hook ‘em Horns” sign with their hands and made them walk the half-mile to practice instead of taking the bus as had been the practice.

90th for Peters

There is probably no better way to celebrate a 90th birthday for Methuen’s remarkable Lou Peters. Friends of Peters will celebrate the occasion on Nov. 1 at the Run for All Ages race in Wakefield. Peters, who still runs races on a regular basis, is a founder of both the Merrimack Valley Striders and the New England 65-Plus Running Club. Friends are encouraging as many people as possible to join him Nov. 1.

Did you know ...

University of South Carolina football coach Steve Spurrier, now in his 10th year at the school, is the first man to coach at least 10 years at two SEC school, having previously directing the program at the University of Florida.

Spurrier, 69, hopes to keep coaching three or more years.

Narrowest runner-up

In case you missed it, Marblehead's Shalane Flanagan was nipped in the women's race at the Beach to Beacon 10K in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, earlier in the month in one of the closest 10Ks in history.

Great Britain's Gemma Steel out-sprinted Flanagan to win by .31 seconds with both timed in 31:27. Flanagan was attempting to become the first American to win the race.

Impressive or crazy?

Ukraine native Sarvagata Ukrainskyi recently won his second Self-Transcendence 3,100 Mile Race in which competitors get 52 days to complete 5,649 laps of a .5488-mile loop around a track in Queens, N.Y.

That's the equivalent of more than two marathons per day for 52 days. His time was 798 hours and 58 minutes.

Big names to decide

There are some interesting names on the 13-member College Football Playoff Selection Committee, including Oliver Luck, Archie Manning, Tom Osborne, Pat Haden and former Notre Dame coach Tyrone Willingham. The most intriguing member, however, is former National Security adviser Condoleezza Rice, who is the only female. Some observers believe that most of the members are too old.

Conversation

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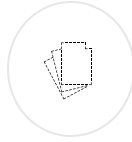
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