

January 1-2 Highlights

By Charles Clines

* **Andrew Cook** 34, of Highland Village completed a marathon sweep at the **New Year's Double** in Allen over New Year's Eve and Day. He won the Eve race with a 2:39:52 and came back the next day to nail the 26.2-mile award with a 2:52:01. Also his wife **Melissa** was third overall and female winner in the New Year's Day half marathon by clocking in with a 1:25:21. As regular competitors know, both Andrew and Melissa were outstanding collegians and have been among the best runners in the Metroplex for several years.

* The **DRC Frigid 5K & 10K** event was highlighted by some heated duels. In the 5K, **Jose Lopez**, 30, of Rockwall held off **Matthew Smith**, 30, of Dallas to win by four seconds with a 17:45. Another nine seconds behind Smith was **Geo Espinoza**, 15, of East Hampton, NY. Guess he left the warm temps of the northeast to enjoy the cooler weather. Taking the female 5K award was **Jennifer Fundaro**, 40, of Dallas with a 20:16, five seconds in front of **Brihani Webb**, 27, of Pittsburgh, Penn. In the 10K, **Ebenether Wondaferew**, 21, of Plano beat fellow resident **Kenneth Stice**, 44, of Dallas by 30 seconds, notching a 34:24. Wondaferew ran for Lake Highlands where he was a 2009 all state selection and is now running for Texas Tech. The masters runner-up and third place were separated by only six seconds as **Mario Delgado**, 45, finished at 40:06 and **Cecillo Escamilla**, 58, coming in at 40:12. **Neill Smith**, 44, of Dallas easily won the masters award with a 37:43.

* **Logan Sherman**, of Dallas and winner of the Dallas Marathon in December, rang in the new year with a blast by zipping to a 14:22 to win the **2016 Commitment Day 5K** in Garland. Coming in second with a 15:00 was **Brandon Womack**.

* **Laura Nelson**, 50, followed her **New Year's Eve 5K** overall female victory in Fort Worth with a masters victory at **The Heroes Race** in Fort Worth on New Year's Day. She notched a 22:09.747 on the 1st and had a 21:31.695 for the overall female title on the 31st.