Students train for San Antonio Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon

Tuttle trains, sponsors Food Bank with students for half and full marathon this Sunday

By Maddie Rau

Anyone registered for the upcoming 2010 Rock ‘n’ Roll San Antonio Marathon, half marathon or 2-person half marathon relay are aware that the race is quickly approaching. It will take place this Sunday, beginning at 7:15 a.m.

Both the marathon and half marathon courses will start at the same location, which is a new starting line this year. This downtown start is on the corner of Alamo and Market street, and by Sunday afternoon more than 30,000 runners will have put their first foot forward in the third annual Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon in San Antonio.

Many Trinity students are planning to run the half marathon and some are going for the full 26 miles. Interim vice president for student affairs and dean of students David Tuttle has organized the Dean of Students Half-Marathon Challenge this year, similar to last year’s. Tuttle’s group has been training since early September, and contains about 50 students, alumni and parents who train together on a regular basis.

Tuttle said that he arranges one or two runs every week and donate either $13 or 13 canned goods representing the 13 miles in the half marathon towards a food drive located in Coates University Center.

Tuttle himself has participated in the Rock ‘n’ Roll half marathon since it came to town, and he has run six marathons in three different cities: Austin, Houston and San Antonio.

He said that he will be hosting a pasta dinner for runners in his group two nights before the race, and the group will go together to pick up their race packets at the Expo.

“We want to be together and make a splash for Trinity and the community. We have created a supportive environment for both experienced runners and people who have never run 13 miles before,” Tuttle said. “With the training we have been doing, we are physically prepared, and the people cheering on runners as well as the refreshments will carry us through each mile.”

Tuttle also said that many students who trained with him previously for the half marathon have now become motivated to run the full marathon. The atmosphere of group runs is largely about meeting and interacting with students and alumni, even chatting during 10 mile runs.

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David Tuttle
Interim vice president for student affairs and dean of students

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“Toward the end of last year, Long was running 3 to 5 miles a day. When she saw Tuttle’s e-mail encouraging students who could run at least 5 miles to sign up for the race, she joined. “I love a challenge, so I signed up and kept running over the summer. Now I’m hooked!” Long said.

Long said that before her sophomore year, she had never been a runner. She plans to continue running marathons later on in the year, including the Austin marathon in February.

Senior communication and art history major Emily Gray is also participating in the race this weekend. She will be running the half marathon and has been training since June. She ran her first half marathon last year.

“It’s always been something that I wanted to do. A half marathon isn’t really that difficult. You can take lots of breaks and pace yourself.”

Emily Gray
Senior

“Students participating in the International ASB may also enroll in INTL2103, meeting Wednesdays at 7 pm.

Questions?
Contact Edwin Blanton.
Coordinator for Community Service & Engagement

Students at last year’s Rock’n’Roll marathon display their medals.

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Applied for San Antonio Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon

Photos courtesy of David Tuttle

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