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LAYMAN, SLEKIS CAPTURE INAUGURAL TEXAS10 COLLEGE STATION AMIDST FRIGID CONDITIONS

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (February 4, 2014) – Runners in Sunday’s inaugural Texas10 College Station not only endured upper 30 degrees temperatures and sustained winds of 15 miles per hour, but also – at times -- light rain, sleet and occasional gusts of up to 25 miles per hour.

None of that, though, seemed to bother former UT-San Antonio track standout **Chris Layman** of The Woodlands and current University of North Texas men’s and women’s head cross country coach **Stephanie Slekis** of Denton as they made their frigid two-lap journey around the Texas A&M University campus.

Layman, 30, and Slekis, 25, led wire-to-wire to kick off the 2014 Texas 10 Series – Texas’ largest multi-city race series – with winning times of 56 minutes and 39 seconds and 1:01:15, respectively.

The duo each earned \$150 for wins of exactly six and just over seven minutes, respectively, and grabbed an additional \$75 for reaching the five-mile split first.

In his first race for Spring’s Volte Endurance Training, the Texas 10 Series’ 2013 Ten-Gallon Club Cup champion, Layman easily outdistanced College Station’s **Connor Brock**, 21, the 2012 West Texas Crossroads Marathon winner, and Fidelity Investments The Woodlands Marathon elite athlete coordinator **Chris Strait**, 40, of The Woodlands, who led all men at the last Texas 10 Series event in Conroe last December.

Brock and Strait finished in 1:02:37 and 1:03:56, respectively.

Sleakis handled the women’s field in similar fashion as Layman’s wife, **Hope**, 29, who also runs for Volte and was a UTSA standout herself, and second-year Texas A&M Exercise Physiology doctoral student **Heather Vellers**, 28, followed in 1:08:17 and 1:09:57, respectively.

College Station High School sophomore **Hunter Gorman**, 16, and The Woodlands sports psychologist **Adrienne Langelier**, 31, a 2007 Texas A&M graduate, won the companion 5-mile race in 32:55 and 35:09, respectively.

Sunday’s age group winners in the marquee 10-mile event earned a free entry to the 2015 Texas10 College Station and 13 points in the Series’ Armadillo Cup competition, which awards the top three runners in 26 different age groups – 13 male and female – up to \$14,300 in age group prize money at the end of the Series.

Twenty-three (23) Armadillo Cup money winners from 2013 returned to finish the 10-miler on Sunday.



All running clubs and training groups – for finishing all three races, including the 5-miler and the Lil Texas Kid’s Race -- can also earn points in the Ten-Gallon Club Cup competition.

Runners from five organizations – College Station Running Club, Cypress Running Club, Volte Endurance Training, The Woodlands Running Club and the Seven Hills Running Club -- dominated pre-registration and turned out Sunday in an effort to take home \$3,100 for their groups this year.

Concurrent with the launch of the inaugural Texas 10 Charity Challenge, Texas10 College Station-designated beneficiary **Down Syndrome Association of Brazos Valley** (www.dsabv.org) not only raised \$2,100 for their organization, but also received a \$1,000 donation from Texas 10 Race Management, LLC .

Seven Hills Running Club vice president **Steve Bickford**, of Huntsville, led the race in an invocation followed by Brazos Christian School junior **Julie Schulte**’s singing of the National Anthem.

Participants were supported on the course and at the finish line by the Aggie Belles, Brazos Valley Juniors, Delta Zeta sorority, Down Syndrome Association of Brazos Valley, Phi Delta Theta fraternity and the Texas A&M Triathlon team.

The Texas 10 Series heads next to Boerne – the Series’ westernmost point on the schedule in 2014 – on Sunday, March 30th.

Online registration for all future events, results from past events and details of the Armadillo and Ten-Gallon Club Cup competitions is available at www.texas10series.com.

About Texas 10 Race Management, LLC

Founded in 2012 and located in The Woodlands, Texas 10 Race Management, LLC, combines the talents and expertise of some of the best event producers in the nation. Texas 10 Race Management, LLC aims to provide local running communities with a new premier running event and series. Our mission is to promote the advancement of running while supporting the community with positive economic impact, healthy initiatives and educational benefits.

About Bryan-College Station

A community rich in tradition and history, Bryan-College Station is set deep in the heart of Central Texas. A region so diverse you can stroll the scenic campus of Texas A&M University, mingle with real cowboys at a thrilling rodeo, and take in a live symphony performance all in one day. One of the friendliest places you’ll ever visit, Bryan-College Station affords the modern amenities of a big city, yet combined with a warm small-town charm.

Whether a business conference to parents’ weekend or a class reunion at Texas A&M University brings you to Bryan-College Station, a Texas-sized "Howdy" awaits. Locally grown organic dishes, gourmet dining, or BBQ cooked by the same family since the 1930s: they’re all to be savored at fabulous restaurants unique to our area in addition to being able to take advantage of the finest accommodations.

Bryan and College Station’s annual events and overnight accommodations can be found at www.visitaggieland.com or by calling 800-777-8292. “Follow” them on Twitter at www.twitter.com/VisitAggieland.



