

Foustok and Blazek extend unbeaten runs

BY RICHARD SLATER

RIYADH — The Riyadh Road Runners (RRR) returned to Ranco Farm Friday for the second time in a month to complete the second race in its 10-mile series.

Just as in last month's race, Laura Blazek and Mo Foustok proved unbeatable in the middle distance race, both winning by convincing margins and in doing so extending their unbeaten runs.

The male event was a one horse race from the outset, with Foustok taking the lead within the first 500m and extending it throughout the race. He romped

home in 59:26, a full two kilometers clear of his nearest challenger.

With his closest rival Hamad Ozaybi absent due to the Saudi National Championships taking place on the same day, Foustok wasn't forced to dig so deep for this victory, maintaining a steady pace.

After the race he commented to club chairman Richard Slater that: "I've got the bug back, I'm training hard and enjoying it a lot," which bodes well for some fast times later this season.

Behind him, Russ McArthur and Saudi national Abdulwahed Al-Murshidi battled for second place over the course of the first

lap, with McArthur appearing the more at ease of the pair as they began the second lap.

McArthur pulled away from Al-Murshidi over the course of the second lap, and Thomas Brackmann came through the field to grab third place in the final kilometer, eventually beating Al-Murshidi by 6 seconds and in doing so claiming his first ever podium place at a Road Runners event.

In the ladies' event, the race followed what has become a common pattern, with Laura Blazek striding away from all her rivals at the outset and sealing victory by a considerable margin.

A mark of Blazek's ability is that she finished 5th overall (of 164 competitors), a fantastic achievement in what was a strong male field. Behind her, Claudine Roghi ran superbly to secure a personal best time of 1:13:48, with Clare Scott pushing hard over the final kilometers to finish a mere two minutes behind.

The next race is the annual half marathon event, which will be the longest and toughest event of the season to date.

Riyadh Road Runners thanked Carrefour Tala Mall for its generous sponsorship of the club this season.



Mo Foustok with Richard Slater, club chairman, after the race in Riyadh.

Male race: 1. Mo Foustok (KSA) 59:26, 2. Russ McArthur (GB) 1:07:45, 3. Thomas Brackmann (GER) 1:08:37.

Female race: 1. Laura Blazek (USA) 1:11:20, 2. Claudine Roghi (NZ/FRA) 1:13:38, 3. Clare Scott (GB) 1:15:59.



New England Patriots' wide receiver Danny Amendola (No. 80) runs past Buffalo Bills' strong safety Duke Williams (No. 27) during the second half at Gillette Stadium Monday. — Reuters

Another milestone for LeBron

LOS ANGELES — LeBron James joined Oscar Robertson's elite company while Kevin Love scored a season-high 34 points in the Cleveland Cavaliers' 117-103 win over the Orlando Magic Monday.

James joined Robertson as the only players in NBA history to rank in the top 25 in both scoring and assists.

James' assist on Love's three-pointer with five minutes left in the second quarter gave him 6,387, moving him ahead of Norm Nixon and into 25th place.

James is 19th on the all-time scoring list with 25,274 and should pass Reggie Miller (25,279) for 18th Wednesday at Toronto.

Robertson ranks 11th all-time in scoring (26,710) and sixth in assists (9,887).

Forward Andrew Nicholson scored 18 points off the bench and center Nikola Vucevic had 12 points and five rebounds for the Magic, who rallied from an early 12-point deficit to take a 42-34 lead in the second quarter before Love got hot.

Hornets 127, Kings 122 (OT): Guard Kemba Walker scored a season-high 39 points, including 21 in the fourth quarter as the Charlotte Hornets rallied from a 22-point third period defi-

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scoring Sacramento 31-14 in the fourth quarter and 15-10 in the extra five minutes.

Guard Nicolas Batum added 18 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists for the Hornets, who also got 14 points from guard Jeremy Lin, which included eight in overtime, and 12 points from forward Cody Zeller.

Forward DeMarcus Cousins led the Kings with 30 points and 11 rebounds, but he did not play in overtime after suffering a back injury late in the fourth quarter.

Heat 95, Knicks 78: The Miami Heat snapped the New York Knicks' four-game winning streak with a 95-78 victory.

Miami was led by guard Dwyane Wade and forward Chris Bosh, who scored 16 points each.

enth double-double of the season with 20 points and 13 rebounds to lead the Milwaukee Bucks to a 109-88 rout of the Detroit Pistons.

Six other Milwaukee players scored in double figures.

Shooting guard Kentavious Caldwell-Pope led Detroit with 17 points while center Andre Drummond scored 15 points, all in the first half.

Timberwolves 100, 76ers 95: Forward Andrew Wiggins scored 32 points as Minnesota rallied for a 100-95 victory over Philadelphia, giving the Timberwolves their first home win of the season.

Spurs 98, Suns 84: Forward Kawhi Leonard had 24 points and 13 rebounds as the San Antonio Spurs used a season-high 18 steals to roll past the Phoenix Suns.

Patriots beat Bills, improve to 10-0