

Rachel Booth Delivers Record-Setting Performance Again at Disney's Princess Half Marathon

Louisiana runner breaks her own event record to become first woman to win an unprecedented four runDisney titles; race weekend total of 36,000 participants is event's largest ever in five-year history

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. - (Feb. 24 2013)– Rachel Booth etched her name in the *runDisney* record books – again – by winning Disney's Princess Half Marathon on Sunday for the second straight time, beating her own race record from a year ago.

Perhaps even more significant, Booth stands alone as the only woman to win four *runDisney* races – two Princess Half Marathons (2012 and 2013) and two Disneyland Half Marathons (2010 and 2011).

This latest win, a 13.1-mile journey through Epcot and Magic Kingdom on an unseasonably warm February morning at Walt Disney World Resort, was fairly routine. Booth charged to the front of the pack of 26,000 runners at the start and was never seriously threatened, even though she could hear the cheers for second-place finisher Mia Elbon and third-place finisher Megan Jaswell behind her.

Booth of Mandeville, La., crossed the finish line in 1:17:38 – 33 seconds faster than her then-record time of 1:18:11 a year ago. Elbon of Nashville, TN, came in at 1:18:04 and Jaswell of Johnston, RI, ran a 1:26:47.

"It never gets old, for sure," said Booth, who was greeted at the finish line by her husband and two small children. "As I got to Mile 7 and 8 and through Mile 10, I got to see some people (cheering) and that definitely gave me extra incentive."

In all, more than 36,000 runners – mostly women – competed in various events during the weekend, the largest weekend total in the race's five-year history. The weekend included the Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse Royal Family 5K, Kids' Races and Disney's Fit for a Princess Expo in addition to Disney's Princess Half Marathon. The Expo featured the latest running apparel and equipment, plus a speaker series involving running experts such as *runDisney*'s official training consultant Jeff Galloway.

Disney's Princess Half Marathon Weekend is one of seven annual *runDisney* events and the second women-focused event. The other is the Tinker Bell Half Marathon Weekend, which takes place in January at Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, CA. Both events are designed to celebrate and promote women's empowerment, women's health and an active lifestyle. And both are among the nation's largest race weekends geared towards women.