

Island runner Steve Osaduik leads the 27th Annual Royal Victoria Marathon's largest ever field to break 25 year old record

(Victoria, BC – Sunday October 8, 2006) – Rainy conditions and considerable pre-race pressure to break a 25 year old record did not get in the way of Steve Osaduik's single-minded resolve to run himself into Victoria's record books at Sunday's 27th Annual Royal Victoria Marathon.

The Nanaimo, BC resident crossed the finish line of the 42.2 kilometer race spent and elated with his best-ever marathon time of two hours and 16 minutes and 49 seconds – a seven minute personal best that also shattered Tom Howard's record (2:18:49) that has stood since 1981. Osaduik claimed title to the new record – a record that not even Olympic marathoners Jon Brown and Bruce Deacon have been able to break in previous years – and succeeded in meeting the 2:18 time standard for international qualification.

"This has been the race I've been gearing up for all year. I wanted the record. I felt great and received a lot of support out there," said the 27-year-old who pocketed \$5,000 for his victory by 12 minutes over Shawn Miller, of Juneau, Alaska, which included a \$4,000 incentive bonus.

Women's winner Suzanne Evans, of New Westminster, BC, defended the title she won for the first time in 2005 with a three-minute personal best and a comfortable 19 minute margin over second place Erin Perkin, of Tigard, Oregon.

Over 9,000 runners – the largest field ever in the 27 year history of the race -- filled the streets of Victoria to participate in Victoria's largest destination sporting event. Almost 75% of the field comes from outside Victoria, with many drawn to the event because of spectacular scenery on the course which starts beside the BC Legislative Buildings and winds through Beacon Hill Park, then along Dallas Road, through the Municipality of Oak Bay, out along Beach Drive and then back to finish harbour side downtown. A choice of five races including a Marathon (42.2 kilometers), Half Marathon (21.1 kilometers), 8K Road Race, and Thrifty Foods Kids Run and Kids Marathon offered something for everyone.

For complete results, race day photos, and more info on the Royal Victoria Marathon see the official website at www.royalvictoriamarathon.com. Mark Oct 7, 2007 on the calendar for next year's event.

For more info contact
Lisa Lynam, Media Liaison
(250) 744-5911, llynam@ironmanlive.com

TOP TEN RESULTS

Results 2006 Royal Victoria Marathon

| Place | Name | Hometown | Time |
|-------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 1 | Steve Osaduik | Nanaimo, BC | 2:16:49 |
| 2 | Shawn Miller | Juneau, AK | 2:28:51 |
| 3 | Adam Campbell | Victoria, BC | 2:29:11 |
| 4 | Jason Loutitt | Banff, AB | 2:30:20 |
| 5 | Graeme Wilson | Vancouver, BC | 2:33:09 |
| 6 | Mark Cryderman | Campbell River, BC | 2:37:11 |
| 7 | Sean Chester | Coquitlam, BC | 2:42:25 |
| 8 | Matt Zuchetto | Nine Mile Falls | 2:42:50 |
| 9 | Eddie Smith | Vancouver, BC | 2:44:48 |
| 10 | Murray McCutcheon | Vancouver, BC | 2:44:51 |
| 1 | Suzanne Evans | New Westminster, BC | 2:47:05 |
| 2 | Erin Perkin | Tigard, OR | 3:06:48 |
| 3 | Catherine Irons | Qualicum Beach, BC | 3:07:33 |
| 4 | Katherine Moore | Vancouver, BC | 3:07:51 |
| 5 | Kate Bradshaw | Seattle, WA | 3:11:24 |
| 6 | Sheila Dorman | Nanaimo, BC | 3:12:35 |
| 7 | Lisa Kalio | Whistler, BC | 3:13:31 |
| 8 | Kathy Rung | Campbell River, BC | 3:14:31 |
| 9 | Tania Crane Hanna | Vancouver, BC | 3:14:51 |
| 10 | Karen Warrendorf | Bragg Creek, AB | 3:14:51 |

Results 2006 Royal Victoria Half Marathon

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| 1 | Nik Southwell | Victoria, BC | 1:07:25 |
| 2 | Jim Finlayson | Victoria, BC | 1:08:38 |
| 3 | Ian Fraser | Port Townsend, WA | 1:09:03 |
| 4 | Nick Hastie | Victoria, BC | 1:10:55 |
| 5 | Norman Tinkham | Maple Ridge, BC | 1:12:23 |
| 6 | Matthew Norminton | Edmonton, AB | 1:12:32 |
| 7 | Joe Dudman | Portland, OR | 1:12:48 |
| 8 | Don Kin | Calgary, AB | 1:12:57 |
| 9 | Jim Savage | Bainbridge Island, WA | 1:13:28 |
| 10 | Paul Krochak | Vancouver, BC | 1:13:59 |
| 1 | Cheryl Murphy | Victoria, BC | 1:17:02 |
| 2 | Judith Leroy | Victoria, BC | 1:17:52 |
| 3 | Lindsay McLaren | Calgary, AB | 1:18:19 |
| 4 | Christine Knight | Dacono, CO | 1:21:14 |
| 5 | Nancy Baxendale | Shawnigan Lake, BC | 1:23:03 |
| 6 | Rita Ivanauskas | Vancouver, BC | 1:24:06 |
| 7 | Jen MacLean | Victoria, BC | 1:25:00 |
| 8 | Natalie Ball | Vancouver, BC | 1:26:16 |
| 9 | Jessica Kirkwood | Victoria, BC | 1:27:35 |
| 10 | Katie Frauts | Calgary, AB | 1:27:47 |

Results 2006 Royal Victoria 8K Road Race

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|----|-------------------|---------------------|-------|
| 1 | David Jackson | Victoria, BC | 24:23 |
| 2 | Eric Kiauka | Victoria, BC | 25:25 |
| 3 | Eric Findlay | Victoria, BC | 25:39 |
| 4 | Paul O'Callaghan | Victoria, BC | 25:39 |
| 5 | Cameron Levins | Black Creek, BC | 25:50 |
| 6 | Ian Hallam | Victoria, BC | 25:51 |
| 7 | Craig Odermatt | Victoria, BC | 25:55 |
| 8 | David Matte | Nanaimo, BC | 26:32 |
| 9 | Todd Healy | Victoria, BC | 26:44 |
| 10 | Jeffrey Philips | Victoria, BC | 26:49 |
| | | | |
| 1 | Kirsty Smith | Victoria, BC | 27:34 |
| 2 | Marilyn Arsenault | Victoria, BC | 28:41 |
| 3 | Nancy Fedoruk | Victoria, BC | 30:03 |
| 4 | Joan McGrath | New Westminster, BC | 30:16 |
| 5 | Natalie Closs | Vancouver | 31:25 |
| 6 | Gwyneth Woodson | Victoria, BC | 33:24 |
| 7 | Hannah Perry | Calgary, AB | 33:34 |
| 8 | Sarah Riddel | Victoria, BC | 33:38 |
| 9 | Becky Schumacher | Victoria, BC | 34:11 |
| 10 | Ceri Merrett | Lantzville, BC | 34:17 |