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columnist

A recent sporting event of interest was the Capitol of Texas 10-K run in Austin. This popular race originated in 1978 and an estimated 15,000 runners and walkers competed under perfect skies on April Fool's Day this year.

Preceding the event, nationally ranked triathletes, Claire Rolfe Harp and Ray Henderson, exchanged wedding vows at a 7 a.m. ceremony at The Inn at Pearl Street Bed and Breakfast.

Mother of the bride, Mary Sterling Harp of April Sound termed it a "Sports Wedding" and guests were invited to come in casual attire to attend the wedding celebration.

The bride and groom dressed in creative running attire for the occasion. The bride designed an all white racing outfit complete with a hand-made visor and long tulle wedding veil. She chose to run the race course in her veil, which created much excitement along the route and among the news media.

They were twice interviewed by local television stations and received many congratulations while running hand in hand.

At 11 a.m. guests again gathered at the Bed and Breakfast for the reception and health bar and brunch honoring the happy couple. Favorite beverages of the day were imported champagne and Harp beer representing the bride's partial Irish heritage.

The outdoor deck was a festival of white lights and pearlized balloon bouquets, ferns and spring flowers. A gifted harpist provided the nuptial music and entertained during the "breakfast bar."

Each guest was presented with a cast metal image of Claire and Ray, fashioned on a white neck ribbon, designed by the couple to reward their friends and family for being "winners all" for managing to arrive in the dark on new daylight savings time to witness their celebration of marriage.

The Hendersons reside in Ft. Worth where they are both in professional sales and also conduct triathlon instruction for the Ft. Worth community.

