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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

High School Students Complete 26.2 with Donna Half Marathon

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (March 6, 2012) — After months of training, nearly 100 local high school students crossed the finish line at the 26.2 with Donna Half Marathon held on February 12. Through Marathon High, the non-profit program under the Galloway Training Program, students worked with coaches and trained together throughout the fall, challenging them to complete the race. Every student who started the race finished the race, giving the group a 100 percent completion rate on race day!

“All the students involved with Marathon High should be incredibly proud of their accomplishment,” said Donna Deegan, founder and event chairman of 26.2 with Donna. “Congratulations to everyone for their hard work and finishing strong.”

Marathon High is a free, school-based, non-competitive program that gives students in grades 9-12 an opportunity to become involved in athletics no matter ability or background. Marathon High is open to every public school throughout Northeast Florida, and organizers are already talking with other city high schools about expanding.

Four high schools participated in the first season program—Sandalwood, Lee, Yulee and The Bolles School. Throughout the season some students experienced weight loss, improved academic performance, increased self-respect and self-esteem, and lowered social barriers. Student comments include:

“Marathon High helped me reach goals that I didn’t think I could. Marathon High gave me confidence.”

Additionally:

“The amount of accomplishment was awesome. Everyone is like a family member to me.”

For more information, or to start a Marathon High team at your high school, contact the founder and director, Deborah Dunham at MarathonHighFL@aol.com or 904-624-0027. The next season begins in October and schools should apply by May 1, 2012.

About Marathon High: The long-distance running program is about so much more than exercise. While it is filled with training regimens, nutritional advice, stretching and injury prevention, Marathon High is about changing lives, inspiring dreams, and making a difference. It’s about helping teens become the person they were meant to be. It’s about shifting the way young people think about themselves and their place in the world, challenging them to make the “impossible” possible, all while doing something most people never do: run a half marathon.

www.breastcancermarathon.com/run/marathon_high/.

About 26.2 with Donna: The 5th Annual 26.2 with Donna "Celebrate the Finish" set record numbers — more than 10,000 registered participants during race weekend and over \$500,000 in funds raised by individual runners and counting. Fundraising efforts continue through March 31, 2012 at donate.breastcancermarathon.com. The 26.2 with Donna mission is to passionately produce world class events to raise funds for groundbreaking breast cancer research and empower those living with breast cancer. Seventy percent of all race proceeds go to the Mayo Clinic for bench top breast cancer research. Thirty percent of all race proceeds go to The Donna Foundation to help breast cancer patients with critical financial needs. Join us —February 17, 2013! Together, we will finish it. www.breastcancermarathon.com

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