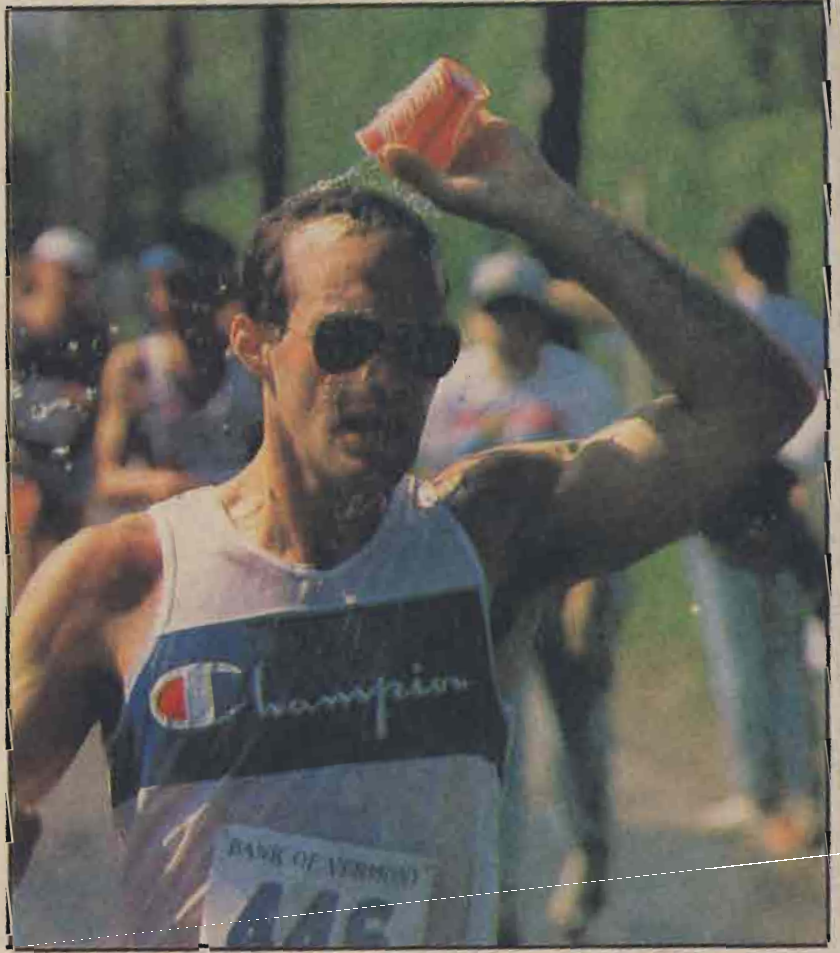


Vermont City Marathon





ADAM RIESNER, Free Press

Thomas Simpson of St. Albans hits the 14-mile mark of the marathon with a splash of water.



KAREN PIKE, Free Press

One of 800 relay runners shows how distance running can be a lonely sport, even when 1,500 competitors are entered. He is running on the Northern Connector.

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ADAM RIESNER, Free Press

oulder to shoulder (from left), Rodney Ellsworth of Keene, N.H., Oleg Kotlyarevski of the Soviet Union, and Felix Pinto of Jamaica, N.Y., battle for the lead in the 1000-meter race. Ellsworth finished fifth and Kotlyarevski sixth.

ants finish first



KAREN PIKE, Free Press

Shirley Silsby of Cotuit, Mass., wins the women's division in 2:51:24.

Men's winner sets City Marathon mark

By Kevin Iole

Men's winner sets City Marathon mark

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Free Press Staff Writer

Felix Pinto and Shirley Silsby slipped into Vermont in the quiet of the night Saturday, unknown and unheralded. Less than 24 hours later, each was widely acclaimed after winning the second annual Bank of Vermont/Vermont City Marathon.

Pinto, from Bogota, Colombia, and now living in Jamaica, N.Y., set a course record by finishing in 2 hours, 27 minutes, 9 seconds. Joe Kreutz of Shelburne won last year's race in 2:29:11. Pinto won the \$1,000 first prize and earned a \$500 bonus for eclipsing Kreutz's mark.

Silsby, whose family and friends in Cotuit, Mass., did not know she was racing Sunday, finished in 2:51:24. Leah Sikora-Fowler set the women's record of 2:48:22 in 1989.

"This is a present for my country," Pinto said

Vermont City Marathon

Medical staff keeps busy on race day; women's favorite disappointed with finish; complete marathon results, 7C
Full color picture page, 6C

Fla., materialized, but it was for third and fourth instead of for first and second.

Lisa Schmidt of Proctorsville finished second among the women in 2:53:38. Ciavarella was third in 2:58:11, Terry Hersh of Laconia, N.H., was fourth in 2:58:23, and Sperry was fifth in 3:04:55.

Silsby, a veteran of more than 20 marathons, did not enter the race until late Saturday and was unaware of the expectations that were dogging Sperry. She said, however, that she understood

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