Meyer, Benoit top field at '83 Boston Marathon

othey shared the spotlight: an Benoit, a Bowdoin Colge senior and Bill Rodgers, questionably the world's long-distance

Both have won the Boston Marathon once since then, Rodgers' in 1980 and Benoit's econd triumph Monday, when she completed a 16onth comeback from double chilles' surgery by shattering he world record by an incre-dible two minutes, 47 seconds. Her winning time of 2:22.42 as more than 12 minutes fasthan her winning time in

Benoit's triumph oversha-lowed the inspired effort by nen's winner Greg Meyer, who lived up to his press otices and won comfortably n 2:09.00, just 47 seconds off e world record.

This was his second Boston appearance. He finished 11th in 1981 after leading halfway. On the day Meyer solidiied his reputation as one of the world's finest on the roads nd Benoit re-established herlf as a force in women's racng, Rodgers ran his fifth-best

in long-distance luminaries, an effort which relegated him to the ranks of the also-rans and elicited talk of retirement.

"This is possibly my last marathon," the 35-year-old Rodgers said after finishing a demoralizing 10th in 2:11.58. He had been bothered all weekend by a head cold. "I thought under 2:12 would be world-class time and

that's what you try for. It's frustrating. There's a big gap between me and the world's

best marathoners," he said.
To add irony, Meyer, who
came east from Michigan five
years ago at Rodgers' behest, trains with him and worked in his running store. He even used Rodgers' victory strategy, staying with the leaders over the first half of the race and making his move on the grueling hills of Newton.

'It will probably take three or four more (Boston) wins to get as much respect as Billy, said Meyer, 27, who has won four of the seven marathons he has entered. "Boston is special. I got to the top of Heartbreak Hill - it sounds silly, I know - but I felt like I wanted to cry.'

the women's race, as those in the know had predicted she would, from the start. Since her surgery on Dec. 28, 1981, she has bettered Grete Waitz's woman's mark at the Fal-mouth Road Race and also set American records in the marathon, the half-marathon,

10 miles and 10 kilometers. Allison Roe, who had shared the previous world best with Waitz, was in the field but due to Achilles problems of her own had not run a serious marathon since setting the record at New York in 1981. Waitz had equaled it Sunday in London. The other women were not even a

"Deep down, I wanted 2:23 but of course, I did much better," said Benoit, 26, the Boston University women's track coach. "I thought I could break the record, the conditions were right.'

The following were the top 25 men's finishers Monday in the 87th running of the Boston Marathon:

1. Gregory Meyer, Wellesley, Mass., 2.09:00 2. Ron Tabb, Eugene, Ore., 2.09.31

3. Benji Durden, Stone Mountain, Ga., 2.09.57 4. Ed Mendoza, Flagstaff, Ariz.,

5. Christopher Bunyan, Carbondale, Ill., 2.10:54 6. David Edge, Lancaster, Ontario,

Michael Layman, Spokane, Wash.,

8. Daniel Schlesinger, Cambridge, Mass., 2.11:36 9. Jeff Wells, Eugene, Ore., 2.11:42 10. Bill Rodgers, Sherborn, Mass., 2.11:58

11. David Hinz, Canton, Mich., 2.12:05

12. John Lodwick, Eugene, Ore., 2.12:49 13. Duncan MacDonald, Menlo Park, Calif., 2.12:49

14. Budd Coates, Emmaus, Pa., 2.13:02 15. Dave Gorden, Eugene, Ore.,

16. Harold Schulz, San Anselmo, Calif., 2.13:37 17. Dennis Rinde, Orangevale, Calif., 2.13:48

18. Ric Fayre, Ashland, Ore., 2.13:49 19. Gal Vega, West New York, N.Y., 20. Kevin McCarey, San Diego, Calif., 2.14:09

21. Tom Fleming, Bloomfield, N.J., 2.14:14 22. Carlton Law, Boone, N.C., 2.14:21 23. Dean Matthews, Atlanta, Ga., 2.14:46

Poshihiro Shibutani, Japan, 25. David Patterson, Norristown, Pa.,

Detroit GM says defense too generous, fires coach

United Press International PONTIAC — Jack McCloskey is looking for a new coach to get the Detroit Pistons back in the playoffs — presumably one who

knows how to teach defense.

McCloskey fired Scotty
Robertson, Monday, and cited
the Pistons' lack of defensive

Although some saw the firing as an effort by McCloskey to take the heat off himself, the dumping of the popular Robertson undoubtedly will focus attention on the general manager if his choice of the 17th Piston coach since 1957 does not produce a playoff team.

"Basically I feel we need to improve defensively," McCloskey said as his main reason for ending Robertson's three-year tenure as coach of the Pistons, during which time Detroit compiled a 97-149 record and did not make the playoffs.

The Pistons posted 21, 39 and 37-victory seasons for Robertson and finally shed their status as the league doormat.

However, it wasn't enough. McCloskey said, "I would like a coach with NBA experience" and added, his list of candidates included one or two coaches currently under contract to other

Robertson reported to work Monday and was told in a five-minute meeting with McClos-key, "We're going to make a

"He gave me two reasons," Robertson said. "He didn't think! the team was progressing as well as it should and he didn't think our defense was as good as it

"I agreed with him on both points but where we had our difthe set of circumstances I was their shots.

operating under."

season. It was just not a matter of their shots. points allowed. It was percenpoints allowed. It was percentage of shots. Teams just made doomed Robertson was losing too high a percentage of shots starting forwards Kelly Tri-

"We did not improve our team defense in any phase of the game," McCloskey said.

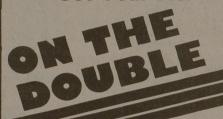
Detroit allowed an average of 113.1 points per game while scoring 112.7 this season and the Pistons' bench seemed unopponents made 49.5 percent of able to counter those losses.

Last year, the Pistons scored "It was a matter of principles," McCloskey said, "and a matter of our coming along all nents to score on 50.8 percent of

pucka and Kent Benson for much of December and January

because of injuries. Guard John Long also saw his season scoring average cut in half due to various ailments and

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Express stops leading passer

. defense foils Bandits

United Press International AMPA, Fla. — A hard-

ball-hawking geles Express defense took ction to the leading passer the United States Football ague on a rainy Monday night dame away with an 18-13 ry over the Tampa Bay

Bandits' quarterback John wes went into the game leadthe league in passes attemp-passes completed and yards

But the Express held him to 7 completions in 27 mpts for 81 yards, interpted four of his passes and used him to fumble the ball

The fourth-quarter fumble, caused by Reaves' broken wrist when he was was hit, was recovered by defensive end Dennis Edwards at the Bandits' 18 with Los Angeles leading, 9-6, set up the winning touchdown. John Barnett picked up three yards, and after a holding penalty, quarterback Mike Rae hit tight end Ricky Ellis for 18 yards, Barnett ran for one and then on the next play went up the middle for the final yard and the score. It was the first touchdown the Express has scored on the ground

Vince Abbott had three field goals in the first half for Los Angeles from 24, 35 and 36

Tampa took the kickoff after Barnett's touchdown and reserve quarterback Jimmy Jordan moved the Bandits 73 yards to score their own touchdown, a 23-yard pass to wide receiver Danny Buggs, cutting the Express lead to three points. Tampa had two more chances but was unable to move into field

The last time the Bandits got the ball, only 27 seconds re-mained and the ball was on their own 18. Jordan rolled out but was run out of bounds at the Tampa 5 for a loss of 13 and on the next play was sacked by Edwards for a safety and the final two points for Los Angeles.

yon a play that put him out yards, and Zenon Andrusyshyn Tampa lost its top runner ear-action indefinitely with a had two in the first half for Tam-ly in the game when Greg Boone

took over, carrying 21 times for 107 yards.

The victory gives Los Angeles a 4-3 record and a tie with De-nver for the Pacific Division

846-3768

lampson's big shoes fill woman's den in Virginia

BLUE Mrs. James Farinholt has Sampson's sneakers she

Mrs. Farinholt picked up the versity of Virginia basketball America's size-17 sneakers st week at a benefit auction — RINERS d they're currently adorning den of her Richmond home.

"We keep stumbling over min the middle of the floor,"

ELS 3

ninth days

0

GRAND

Times-Dispatch.

"They're such a super thing newspaper reported. to have in the den. People will come in and look at them and I'll say, 'That son of mine keeps eating and eating.

Actually, Mrs. Farinholt's sons are 4 and 6. But they're excited about the sneakers, too. The older child took them to school for show-and-tell.

she was quoted as saying in to-day's editions of the Richmond given to a St. Catherine's School auction by Dr. Charles Caravati Jr., a Richmond doctor, the

> Mrs. Farinholt described the scene at last Friday's auction as one where a cheering section developed and "kept raising my arm for me.

> Her husband wasn't angered, and the den ended up with a sports curiosity.

"My house is open for Garden Week," she said, "maybe I can Sampson wore the shoes in put a flower arrangement in two Virginia games. They were them."

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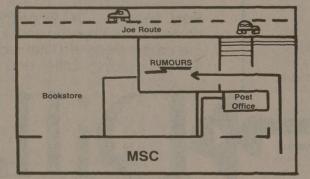
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