

Town Center Classic to showcase runners

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Still a few weeks away from 2003, Boca Raton already has positioned itself for a super sports year as plans have been finalized for the inaugural Town Center Classic.

The brainchild of the organizer of the Boston Marathon, this 5K run/walk benefitting the Junior League of Boca Raton will be held on Feb. 22.

Runners of all skill levels will race down the streets of Boca Raton following a divisional format including an open 5K run/walk, a couples competition (husband/wife, boyfriend/girlfriend, father/daughter, mother/son) and a "Kid K" race for children under 12.

The open 5K and couples competition will begin at 8:30 a.m. and

the children's race will get underway at 9:30 a.m.

Entry fee is \$20 per person until Feb. 8 and \$25 from the 8th up until race day. Entry for children is \$5.

After the race, an award ceremony will be held at the finish line for the top three male and female finishers in each age group.

"This event is a chance for us to give back to the community as well as provide an opportunity for serious competition for 5K runners," said Gretchen Semancik, marketing director for



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Town Center at Boca Raton.

The race will be co-produced by Dave McGillivray, whose credits include overseeing the Boston Marathon, and the Peoples Beach to Beacon 10K, as well as recently being named co-director of the 2004 U.S. Women's Olympic Marathon Trials.

"We've got a terrific course laid out for this race that will please all of our competitors," McGillivray said. "I'm pleased to be working with the Town Center at Boca Raton to provide a top quality race for competitors and the community."

Among the festivities will be a health fair at 10 a.m.

The Junior League of Boca Raton is an organization of women com-

mitted to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.