



PRESS RELEASE

Edward Cheserek to Headline 2019 Carlsbad 5000

34th running of 'World's Fastest 5K' will take place on Sunday, April 7, 2019

CARLSBAD, Calif. (March 25, 2019) — The most decorated runner in NCAA history and one of the hottest superstars in athletics, Edward Cheserek will make his Carlsbad 5000 debut at the 34th running of 'World's Fastest 5K' on Sunday, April 7, 2019.

"I'm excited to be part of Carlsbad 5000," said Cheserek, who ran the third-fastest indoor mile in history last year, finishing in 3:49.44. "It's an iconic event that I've always wanted to race."

At the age of 25, Cheserek has established himself as an international star in the running world that only shines brighter as his career progresses. In high school he attended Saint Benedict's Preparatory School in New Jersey, where he twice won the Foot Locker National High School Cross Country Championships. He was a 17-time collegiate national champion at the University of Oregon when he graduated in 2017.

"Carlsbad 5000 is one of the most historic races on the road running circuit. To attract a talent such as Edward Cheserek is testament to the event and its reputation," said Matthew Turnbull, longtime elite athlete recruiter for the event. "Ed is one of the most exciting athletes in the world and to have him racing in Carlsbad next week is a great statement, he has the personality and ability to go all the way. This race has nurtured many World and Olympic Champions, Ed certainly fits that mold and we're excited to see him here and to watch him perform on the global level chasing medals for years to come."

A race renowned for good times and fast finishes will be run for the first time under the leadership of local runners at Groundwork Endurance, including U.S. Olympian Meb Keflezighi. Meb raced the Carlsbad 5000 twice during his professional career. As a fresh college graduate in 2001 - the year of Sammy Kipketer's still standing 13:00 world best - Meb finished 7th overall with a time of 13:34. He returned to the scenic, oceanfront course in 2002 and ran the exact same time of 13:34 to finish in 4th overall.

"It's an honor have Ed at the starting line as we kickoff the next chapter of this great event's historic legacy," said Keflezighi, who's shares the same shoe sponsor as Cheserek. "There's a reason why he's known as the king, because he's done well every where he's raced whether indoors on the track or outdoors on the roads, he's a very versatile athlete. We are excited to have him take a crack at the recognized world record and I know it will be an amazing experience for him to enjoy."

Since 1986, thousands of runners and walkers have converged on the seaside village of Carlsbad in early Spring to enjoy the scenic course or to set world records at the Carlsbad 5000. The annual road race attracts amateur,

competitive, and professional runners from around the world. The men's event record and world 5K best is Kipketer's 13:00, which he ran in 2000 & 2001. The modern, IAAF recognized 5k World Record was set in Monaco this February by Switzerland's Julien Wanders with a time of 13:29.

With its spectacular course and world-class reputation, the Carlsbad 5000 features a weekend full of events with multiple age-group races throughout the morning leading up to the legendary pro women's and men's races. For more information or to register for the Carlsbad 5000, visit Carlsbad5000.com.

About the Carlsbad 5000

The 34th running of the race will take place on the weekend of April 6-7, 2019. The inaugural 1986 event helped establish the 5K as a standard road running distance, and today, the 5K is the most popular distance in the United States. Throughout its history, the Carlsbad 5000 has seen 16 World records and eight U.S. records, as well as numerous national and age group marks. The "Party by the Sea" gets started as soon as the first runners cross the finish line with participants 21 and older celebrating in the Pizza Port beer garden with two complimentary craft brews and runners of all ages rocking out to live music on the streets of the Carlsbad Village.

The popular Junior Carlsbad presented by YMCA of San Diego County, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, also features multiple races designed for children ages 12 and under on Saturday morning. Kids distances range from a one-miler to the always entertaining 50-yard Toddler Trot and 25-yard Diaper Dash.

Further information about the Carlsbad 5000, including registration details, can be found online at Carlsbad5000.com or on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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