



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Thousands Take to Streets of Venice for 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
13.1 Marathon® and Karhu 5K**

*Christopher Toroitich breaks 13.1 Marathon® record in 1:05:11*

**Los Angeles, CA January 16, 2011** - The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual 13.1 Marathon® - Los Angeles took place this morning, Sunday, January 16, 2011, beginning at 7:13am. Beginning along the scenic Venice Beach Boardwalk and ending at the historic Windward Circle, 13.1® - Los Angeles offered racers a Tinseltown themed race complete with fire dancers, Tokyo drummers, and live bands.

Racers were cheered on at the start and finish lines by Hollywood impersonators and Iconic Venice Beach personalities like Harry Perry, the roller skating and guitar playing Kamakosmic Krusader who also ran the half marathon.

The 13.1 Marathon® and Karhu 5K greeted finishers with medals and post- race replenishment which featured gourmet food trucks [The Sweets Truck](#), [Streets of Thailand](#), [Get Shaved](#), [Dogtown Dogs](#).

First place finisher, Christopher Toroitich, an elite athlete who hails from Kenya conquered the course in one hour, five minutes, and eight seconds. When asked why he decided to run the 13.1 Marathon® Toroitich said "I am excited to run the 13.1 Marathon because it is one of the finest half marathon courses in the world. It is flat, fast, and L.A. is a great place to be especially in January."

Toroitich was the winner of the 2009 Las Vegas Marathon, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 2008 Los Angeles Marathon and has consistently placed at the top of the field in competitions in which he has entered.

The first place female, Megan Nedlo finished in one hour, twenty minutes, and thirty seconds a new personal record.

Because Karhu mean's 'bear' in Finnish, the Karhu 5K challenged racers to "Beat the Bear". Any runner who "beat the Karhu bear" during the 5K and crossed the finish line before the bear, was presented with a ticket good for a free pair of Karhu running shoes of their choice from the Top to Top specialty run store. Nine racers finished ahead of the Karhu Bear who completed the 5K in eighteen minutes and forty-seven seconds.

The official benefiting charity, Team World Vision raced to raise funds for clean water projects in Kenya and Malawi. Racer Jeff Verry pushed his 72 lb 'gadget' equipped with 20 liters of water – the amount that is needed each day for basic sanitation and consumption according to the United Nations Human Development Report. For more information on Team World Vision please visit [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org)

For more information on 13.1 Marathon® - Los Angeles please visit [www.131losangeles.com](http://www.131losangeles.com).

## **About US Road Sports**

US Road Sports & Entertainment Group is a health and wellness company dedicated to the production of world-class endurance events. The mission of US Road Sports is to offer an unparalleled participant sports experience that showcases host communities and endures as a deeply valued local asset through events that are a part of the city's culture, identity and brand. For each participant, US Road Sports strives to offer events that allow participants of all skill levels the opportunity to improve their physical and mental health and accomplish life-altering goals while having fun. US Road Sports provides sponsors and municipalities highly effective exposure to help maximize their presence and message in the community.

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