

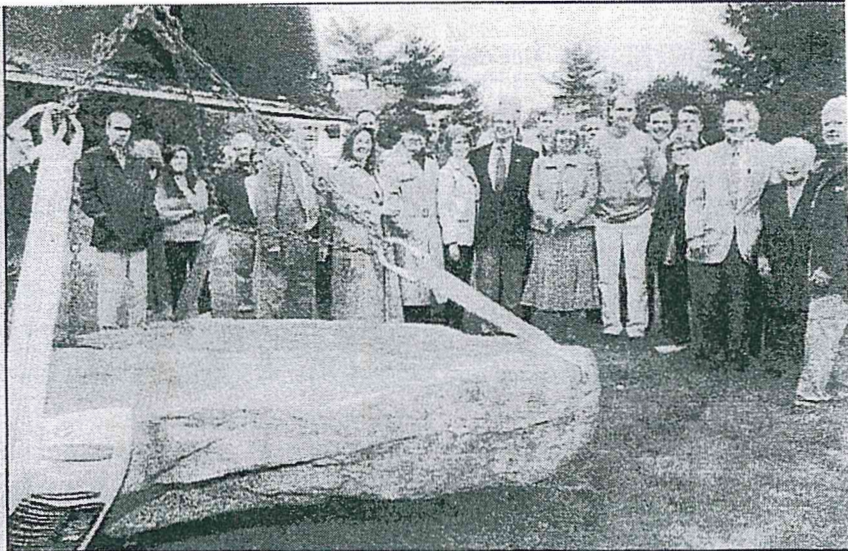
# Marathon statue gets very solid foundation

Two-ton slab put in place  
new Hopkinton piece

By Cathy Flynn  
DAILY NEWS STAFF

HOPKINTON — Local officials, business and members of the Hopkinton Athletic Association gathered at Weston Nurseries yesterday to dedicate the future of a statue of famed Greek marathon runner Stylianos Kyriakides.

The statue, called "Spirit of the Marathon," will show Kyriakides with his runner's gear, Spiridon Louis, winner of the 1896 Olympic Marathon. It will be the exact duplicate of a statue in Marathon, Greece. Statues were created by Tewksbury sculptor Mico Kauffman and commissioned by Balance, the Boston-based athletic equipment company.



DAILY NEWS PHOTO BY ED HOPPMANN

**At a ceremony yesterday at Weston Nurseries in Hopkinton, a heavy granite slab is put in place for what will be a Boston Marathon statue.**

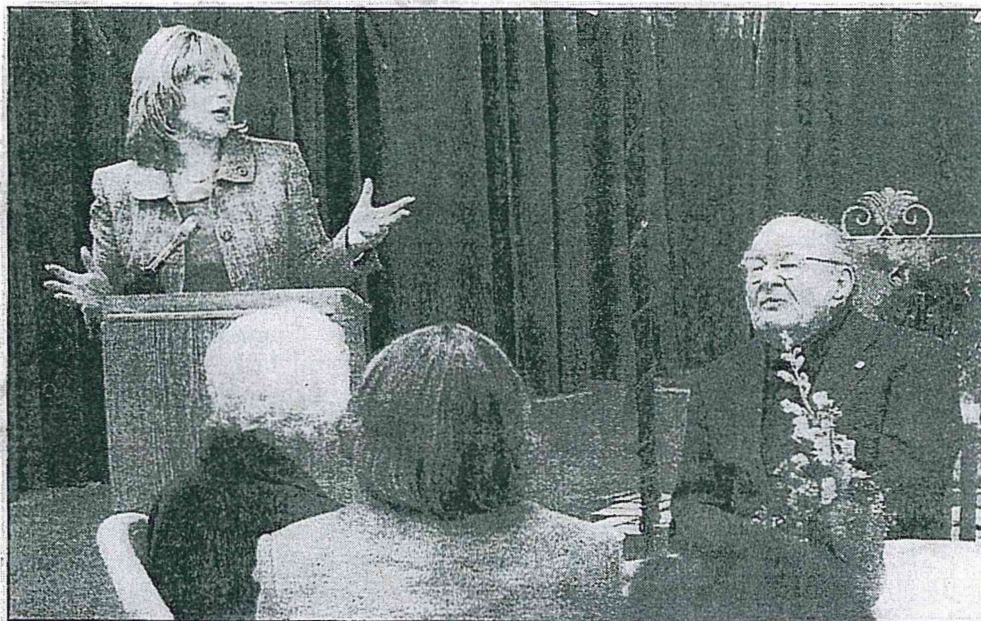
As spectators watched, a crane lowered a two-ton slab of native Hopkinton granite onto the grass in a corner of the Weston Nurseries property, a few yards from "Lucky Rock," the Boston Marathon starting point in 1946.

Many in attendance yesterday predicted the statue, which will be installed and unveiled before the next Boston Marathon in April, would become a destination for run-

ners and visitors from around the world.

"Both elite athletes and everyday runners will have interest in this statue and the story behind it," said Fred Treseler, who helps manage elite Marathon runners from around the world for race sponsor John Hancock. "As magnificent as the statue will be, the story that it represents is timeless."

Winner of the 50th Boston Marathon,



DAILY NEWS PHOTO BY ED HOPPMANN

**State Sen. Karen Spilka speaks yesterday at a ceremony where a Boston Marathon statue will be placed. Sculptor Mico Kauffman is at right.**