



Over the past four years I've followed with great interest the work of my friends Nick Tsiotos and Andy Dabilis as they researched and wrote the definitive biography of marathoner Stylianos Kyriakides. Their book, entitled, "Running with Pheidippides" documents the inspiring tale of a runner who achieved one of the most improbable victories in the history of distance running. His triumph at Boston in 1946, on the 50th anniversary of America's oldest marathon, not only established the international credentials of the race, but also focused world attention on war ravaged Greece.

Kyriakides' triumph was achieved through the support and sacrifice of his family and employers in Athens. Before returning to Greece, following his victory, Kyriakides traveled throughout America raising both money and awareness for his nation and returned home to a hero's parade viewed by a million cheering Athenians. His triumph evoked the glory of ancient Greece while helping save the modern war-torn nation. He was, and remains, forever a national hero and one of international sport's true humanitarians.

In 1946 Boston was blessed with many noteworthy sports achievements; including the first Red Sox pennant since 1918 and the founding of the Boston Celtics. However, the most significant victory of them all was achieved, most appropriately on Patriots Day and Holy Saturday, by a Patriot in the truest sense of the word.

Richard A. Johnson, Curator

KYRIAKIDES...

Running for the Human Race



Opening April 17, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

American College of Greece

Library, Upper Level

6 Gravias Street, Aghia Paraskevi

The exhibit will remain open until Friday, April 26

(9-5 p.m. except weekends)

