



GLOBE PHOTO/CHRISTINA CATURANO

Mico Kaufman with miniature of the 12-foot statue he created.

Marathon statue crosses finish line

By Caroline Louise Cole
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Thanks to the persistence of a Chelmsford literary agent, a 12-foot bronze statue of two famous Greek marathoners sculpted by Tewksbury's Mico Kaufman is on its way to Marathon, Greece, the gift of a Boston sportswear manufacturer to mark the 2004 Olympics.

Kaufman's bronze is of Spyridon Louis, considered the father of the modern marathon and the winner of the first Olympic marathon in 1896, and Stylianos Kyriakides, who overcame poverty and near starvation to win the 50th Boston Marathon in 1946.

The statue, which cost \$250,000 and was paid for through a gift from the New Bal-

ance Athletic Shoe Co., will be unveiled in ceremonies in Marathon on Aug. 9.

Last September, Susan Julian Gates, a former Chelmsford select-women whose law practice is primarily devoted to representing artists and authors, approached Jim Davis, the head of New Balance in Brighton about backing the project.

At the time, Gates had help from former governor Michael Dukakis, who intervened with some of the parties involved to keep the project going.

Gates said the sculpture was first suggested by former Boston Globe reporter Andy Dabilis and Nick Tsiotis, the authors of a book about Kyriakides and the impact

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Measures in
to protect p

By James Vaz
GLOBE STAFF

New Hampshire students will receive personal identification numbers — similar to Social Security numbers — so they can better track their performance on standardized tests and transfer credit from one school to another.

The identification numbers are one aspect of a computerized accountability system that the Department of Education is trying out this fall in several

REGION

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By Christine Mc
GLOBE STAFF

In three closed-door meetings last week, people who live along the Route 3 North Branch in Billerica, Mass., met with Massachusetts Highway Commissioner Joe Valente and told him how they need sound barriers to protect their neighborhoods from increasing highway noise.

The meetings came in response to a series of repeated requests for sound barriers from people in Billerica, and, more recently, in North Billerica. The residents complain that increased noise caused by a massive widening project on Route 3 North is having a severe impact on their quality of life. They are asking the state to provide