

# Looks Like Larger Field Of Runners For 1980 P.E.I. Marathon

It appears that there will be a larger field of runners this year competing in the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon.

As of September 2, the official entry deadline, the number of entries for the 1980 race stood at 87. Last year at this time there were 81 entries for the First Annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon.

The marathon is to be held Sunday, September 14, beginning at Cavendish at noon and finishing in Charlottetown in front of Province House. A marathon

is 26 miles 385 yards in length.

The entries this year have come largely from the Maritimes and New England. P.E.I. has 36 entrants, Nova Scotia 22, New Brunswick 12, the U.S. 12 and Ontario 4.

The entries indicate that there could be a good race shaping up for the lead, and for a course record, since seven entrants have run marathons previously in under 2 hours 45 minutes.

Last year's winning time was 2:40:33 by Tom Olsen of Sydney Mines. Olsen has not officially entered as yet, but has indicated that he intends to defend his title.

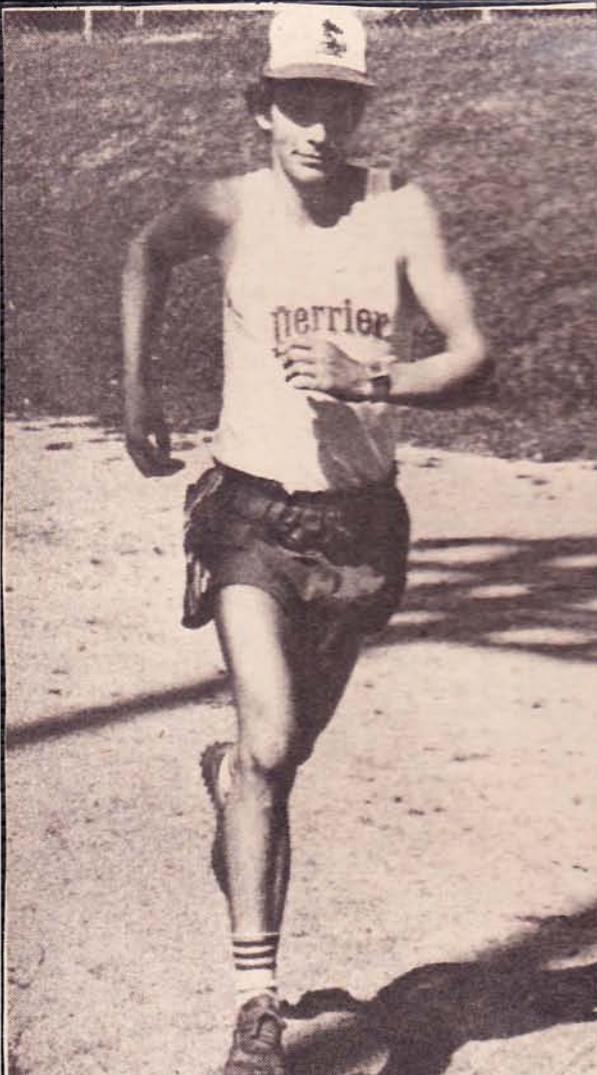
Up to one third of the field may be first time marathoners. Twenty-six entrants will be challenging the distance for the first time.

The field will be predominately composed of male runners, but the number of female entrants is up to six from four at this time last year.

And if you thought running was a young person's sport, the marathon field may surprise you. Almost two thirds of the entrants, 50 runners, are over the age of 30. In fact, three runners are in their 50's.

Late entries will be accepted. Runners may either

register the day before the race at the Basilica Recreation Centre or at the Sport P.E.I. office until Friday, September 12.



The big question is whether Roy Mason will run this weekend's P.E.I. Marathon. Mason, of Charlottetown, says he has not made his final decision as to whether or not to run the 26 mile, 385 yard distance

Sunday. Mason is currently the leading runner on the P.E.I. Grand Prix of Road Racing but his heavy racing schedule over the summer may have left him too drained for the marathon.



## Attempting First Marathon

Calvin Wiley, a familiar figure at Island road races, will be attempting his first marathon at the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon on Sunday, September 14.

Calvin, a resident of Summerside, will be one of a number of runners who will be taking their first crack at the 26 mile, 385 yard distance. The race begins at Cavendish at 12 noon and finishes in Charlottetown in front of Province House.

—P.E.I. Roadrunners' Photo



## FIRST TIME

Bob Gray of Charlottetown will be one of the many first time marathoners entered in the P.E.I. Roadrunners

Marathon on Sunday, Sept. 14. The 26 mile 385 yard

course begins in Cavendish and ends in front of Province House in Charlottetown. Bob

has been training for several months with the marathon in mind and wants to give it a shot.

## Marathon Organizers Set Theme For Second Annual Run

Organizers for the second annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon have announced that the theme for the associated events connected with the race will be "a tribute to P.E.I.'s sporting forefathers."

The marathon itself will be held on Sunday, September 14, starting at the National Park at Cavendish and covering 26 miles, 385 yards, to Province House in Charlottetown.

The Club will be publicizing some of the achievements of past Island runners.

Local racing was once one of the most popular sports in P.E.I., attracting thousands of spectators to watch highly competitive races.

Runners such as Michael Thomas, now in the P.E.I. Sports Hall of Fame; Harry Barley and members of the Abegweit Club established high standards of excellence early

In 1909, the Patriot 10 Mile Road Race in Charlottetown drew extensive front page coverage. The account of that race included comments such as the following:

"As the three foremost runners... sped through the human avenue (of spectators), the excitement grew in intensity and the thronging thousands swayed and surged like the tumultuous waves of the stormy ocean."

## Field grows for marathon

Island native Charles Ballem will be the guest speaker at the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon banquet to be held Saturday at the Confederation Centre in Charlottetown.

The theme of the banquet will be a tribute to P.E.I.'s running forefathers. Ballem, who has a keen interest in sport history, will be elaborating on this theme by focusing on the careers of such Island runners as Michael Thomas, Barney Francis and John Paul.

Ballem is now the head of the undergraduate recreation division of the school of physical education at Dalhousie University.

Prior to 1978 he was employed by the P.E.I. department of education as a physical education and recreation consultant. He was also the executive secretary of the P.E.I. School Athletic Association.

He has done extensive research on the development of sport in P.E.I. and wrote his masters' thesis on the Abegweit Amateur Athletic Association (1884-1914) entitled Reflections on a Sport Dynasty.

Tickets to the banquet are available to the general public. Tickets are going for \$7.50 per plate and must be reserved by today, since only a limited number will be available at the

door.

Tickets can be obtained from Sport P.E.I. at 894-8879.



## RUNNER READY

This is the first year of running for Sherwood's Frank Huston, but he feels ready to take on the 26 mile 385 yard marathon distance on Sunday, Sept. 14. He will be one of the many first time marathoners competing in

the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon. The race will start in Cavendish at 12 noon and finish in Charlottetown in front of Province House. Runners like Frank would appreciate as much spectator support as possible.

# To Be Guest Speaker At Roadrunners Marathon

Island native Charles Ballem will be the guest speaker at the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon Banquet to be held Saturday, September 13, at the Confederation Centre in Charlottetown.

The theme of the banquet will be a tribute to P.E.I.'s running forefathers. Ballem who has a keen interest in sport history, will be elaborating on this theme by focusing on the careers of such Island runners as Michael Thomas, Barney Francis and John Paul.

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Charlie Ballem

titled "Reflections on a Sport Dynasty".

Tickets to the banquet are available to the general public. Tickets are going for \$7.50 per plate and must be reserved before Tuesday, September 9, since only a limited number will be available at the door.

Tickets can be obtained from Sport P.E.I. at 894-8679.

# Marathon plans Runner's clinic

What drives a runner to complete a marathon? Insights into this question may be gained at a runner's clinic being held Saturday morning as part of the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon schedule of events.

Dr. Don Macer, of the Psychology Department at UPEI, will be conducting a session on the psychology of long distance running.

The session will be one of

three topics to be covered at the clinic.

Dr. Douglas Macmichael, an orthopaedic specialist at the Polyclinic in Charlottetown, will discuss runner's injuries and their prevention. Dr. Macmichael, originally from Halifax, is currently in Charlottetown after a number of years of practise in Toronto.

The third session will be under the direction of Cornwall's Bob Jay. Mr. Jay will speak on the nutritional value of health foods.

Mr. Jay is the owner and proprietor of Nature's Harvest Natural Food in Charlottetown and Nature's Harvest country Market in North River. He is also the president of the P.E.I. Body Building Association.

The clinic will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday at the Basilica Rec Centre in Charlottetown.

The clinic is open to interested persons regardless of whether they have entered the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon. There is no admission fee.

# Marathon Run Spectator Sport

Would someone feel lonely if he or she were to watch the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon Sunday?

Not if spectators come out to watch the race the way they did last year.

It is almost commonplace now to see pictures of thousands of runners at the major marathons gathered in starting lines, ready to run the 26

mile 35 yard distance. What is often overlooked in those photos is the size of the crowds that watch the races.

In Boston each spring, spectators line the sides of the roads for almost all of the route of the Boston Marathon. Spectators perch on roof tops, climb trees and peer over rows of people to watch the race.

This year an estimated two million people watched the Boston Marathon. That's more than attended all of the home games for the year of the hockey Bruins and basketball Celtics combined.

In Canada there are marathons that marathons are becoming popular occasions for spectators. The Labatts Triathlon Marathon attracted more than a quarter million spectators last October and Ontario's National Capital Marathon was watched by an estimated one third of that City's population.

What is the attraction in watching a marathon?

First of all, there is the race. Often the race changes several times during the day. With such a long distance to be covered, the outcome can never be taken for granted. Marathons make successful races and are interesting to watch for that reason alone.

But the more important reasons are the people who run marathons and the distance itself.

The 26 mile 35 yard length of marathons represents a challenge that tests the curiosity of many. The thought of people covering that distance or just it as little as a few hours fires the imagination.

Then there are the people themselves. Spectators instinctively recognize the magnitude of effort that each runner is putting out and identify with their will to beat back the weariness and pain and reach the finish line.

There is satisfaction in watching people as they overcome physical limitations to achieve a remarkable goal.

There are winners and there are runners-up in a marathon race, but there are no losers. Every runner records a personal victory over distance, doubt and fatigue.

The course begins in the National Park at Cavendish and passes through North Rustico, South Rustico, Oyster Bed Bridge, North Milton, Milton and Lower Malpeque Road and West Royalty before finishing at the foot of University avenue in front of Province House.

The race starts at noon.



### Hopes To Do Better This Year

Eric Manuel hopes to have a pleasant return to the Island when he runs the P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon on Sunday, September 14. The Charlottetown native is now a resident of Moncton, but has visited the Island frequently this year to attend Island road races.

Eric was a participant in the first annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon. He hopes to better last year's time of 3 hours, 45 minutes, 41 seconds for the 26.1 mile distance.

—P.E.I. Roadrunners' Photo

## Spectators Can Cure Marathoners' Lonliness

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In Canada there are also signs that marathons are becoming popular occasions for spectators. The Labatts Toronto Marathon attracted

more than a quarter million spectators last October and Ottawa's National Capital Marathon was watched by an estimated one third of that City's population.

So what is the attraction in watching a marathon?

First of all, there is the race. Often the lead changes several times during the day. With such a long distance to be covered, the outcome can never be taken for granted. Marathons make suspenseful races and are interesting to watch for that reason alone.

But the more important reasons are the people who run marathons and the distance itself.

The 26-mile, 385-yard length of marathons represents a challenge that perks the curiosity of many. The thought of people covering that distance on foot in as little as a few hours fires the imagination.

Then there are the people themselves. Spectators instinctively recognize the magnitude of effort that each runner is putting out and identify with their will to beat back the weariness and pain and reach the finish line.

There is satisfaction in watching people as they overcome physical limitations to achieve a remarkable goal.

There are winners and there are runners-up in a marathon race, but there are no losers. Every runner records a personal victory over distance, doubt and fatigue.

The P.E.I. Roadrunners Club invites you to come out and watch the runners in the Second Annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon on Sunday, September 14.

The course begins in the National Park at Cavendish and passes through North Rustico, South Rustico, Oyster Bed Bridge, North Milton, Milton, the Lower Malpeque Road and West Royalty before finishing at the foot of University Avenue in front of Province House.

The race starts at 12 noon.