

Weekend Sports Report

Olsen Repeats As Marathon Champion



Lauchie McKinnon, LEFT, on his win at the second annual P.E.I. Roadrunners

Marathon. McKinnon and Olsen trained together for this event.

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By GARTH HURLEY
Defending Champion Thomas Olsen of Sydney Mines, N.S. passed Bill Koehler of Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland just before the 24th mile mark and went on to win the second annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon Sunday.

Olsen won the marathon last year with a time of 2:40:33. He bettered that this year by just over four minutes, crossing the finish line at 2:34:52.

"The thing that helped me was keeping a steady pace throughout the race. I was trying to keep a six minute mile pace" said Olsen.

The winner said he would have been happy to run a 2:55 marathon. Olsen's next marathon will be the Halifax Alpine next weekend. The Roadrunners Marathon was the third marathon he's been in this year.

Conditions for the race were excellent. It was cool with rain falling throughout the day. The wind was facing the runners but most agreed that this wasn't a major factor, the hills were.

"This is one of the toughest courses around, comparable if not the toughest said the 26-year-old electrician.

Olsen was behind during most of the race, as Thomas Conway of Halifax N.S. sprinted to take a fast lead. As they came through the three mile timing station,

Conway had a big lead over Koehler going through at 16:04. At this point Olsen was in 11th.

STILL AHEAD

At nine miles it still was Conway 11 seconds ahead of Koehler at 50:54, Olsen was fifth. As the race wore on to the halfway mark, Conway's lead was down to two seconds. Olsen moved up to fourth spot and they were ahead of last year's pace. Two miles gone by and Conway widened his lead by more than seconds.

However, 18 miles into the race an interesting development took place. Conway, who had built such a big lead, stopped at the refreshment station and told Koehler he was quitting and for Koehler to take the lead. Conway looked fresh when he said that he did what he set out to do, to take the lead, set a pace and quit after 18 miles. Koehler had a time of 1:45:15, one minute, 53 seconds ahead of Stephen Dexter of Waterville, Me.

TOOK SECOND

Just past 19 miles Olsen passed Dexter and took second place. With five miles left in the race Koehler had a time of 2:03:26, Olsen's time was 2:04:48, 42 seconds behind the leader. Before the runners entered University avenue and the 24-mile mark Olsen passed Koehler and took the lead. Olsen led for the final two Koehler was 35

seconds behind the new leader. Olsen led for the final two miles and crossed the finish line ahead of the other runners with a time of 2:34:52. Bill Koehler finished second at 2:36:30. Third place went to Stephen Dexter who crossed at 2:37:33.

The first Island runner across the finish line was Paul Wright of Bedeque. He finished with a time of 2:50:10. Carol Roy from Bangor, Me. was the first female runner finishing at 3:09:55, beating last year's time set by Gertrude Mooney by 10 minutes, 24 seconds. The youngest runner to finish was 11-year old Ronnie Lund with a time of 4:47:52. Sixty-year old Lawrence MacInnis of Goldboro N.S. was the oldest finisher at 3:20:56.

The marathon started with a field of 114 runners and 96 finished the grueling 26 mile, 385 yard course.

Prize and trophy list for second annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon:

TOP FIVE FINISHERS

Race Winner — Championship trophy donated by Tourlam Industry Association of P.E.I. presented to Thomas Olsen 2:34:52.
Second place finisher — Trophy donated by Hotman's of P.E.I. presented to Bill Koehler 2:36:30.
Third place finisher — Trophy donated by Twel's Gift Shop, presented to Stephen Dexter 2:37:33.
Fourth place finisher — Trophy donated by Tim Horton's Donuts, presented to Lauchie MacKinnon 2:39:22.
Fifth place finisher — Trophy donated by Bonnie Bros Restaurant, presented to Dr. Tim Laflus 2:39:59 Florida, U.S.A.

TOP THREE FEMALE FINISHERS

First place female - Trophy donated by McDonald's Restaurant Presented to Carol Roy 3:09:55;
Second place female presented to Cindy Finlayson 3:29:33;
Third place female presented to Laura Tindy 3:30:37;
First Island resident to finish - Trophy donated by Rodd's Motor Inn, presented to Paul Wright 2:50:10;
First finisher from each county: Kings County - Trophy donated by Scott's Gift Shop, presented to Mark McCosham 3:12:32
Queens County - Trophy donated by Paul's Flower Shop, presented to Elven Stewart 2:52:24
Prince County - Trophy donated by Garden of the Gulf Quality Inn, presented to Paul Wright 2:50:10

Age Category Awards (Medals Gold Silver and Bronze) donated by Island Optical Ltd:

Men 20 and Under Calvin DesRoches 3:09:02; Mark McCosham 3:12:32; Ken-ny Arsenault 3:26:35
Men 21-29 Thomas Olsen 2:34:52; Stephen Dexter 2:37:33; Lauchie MacKinnon 2:39:22
Men 30-39 Bill Koehler 2:36:30; Deke Talbot 2:43:01; Thomas Egan 2:44:19
Men 40-49 Ewen Stewart 2:52:24; Parker Lund 3:04:40; Stew Freeman 3:17:24.

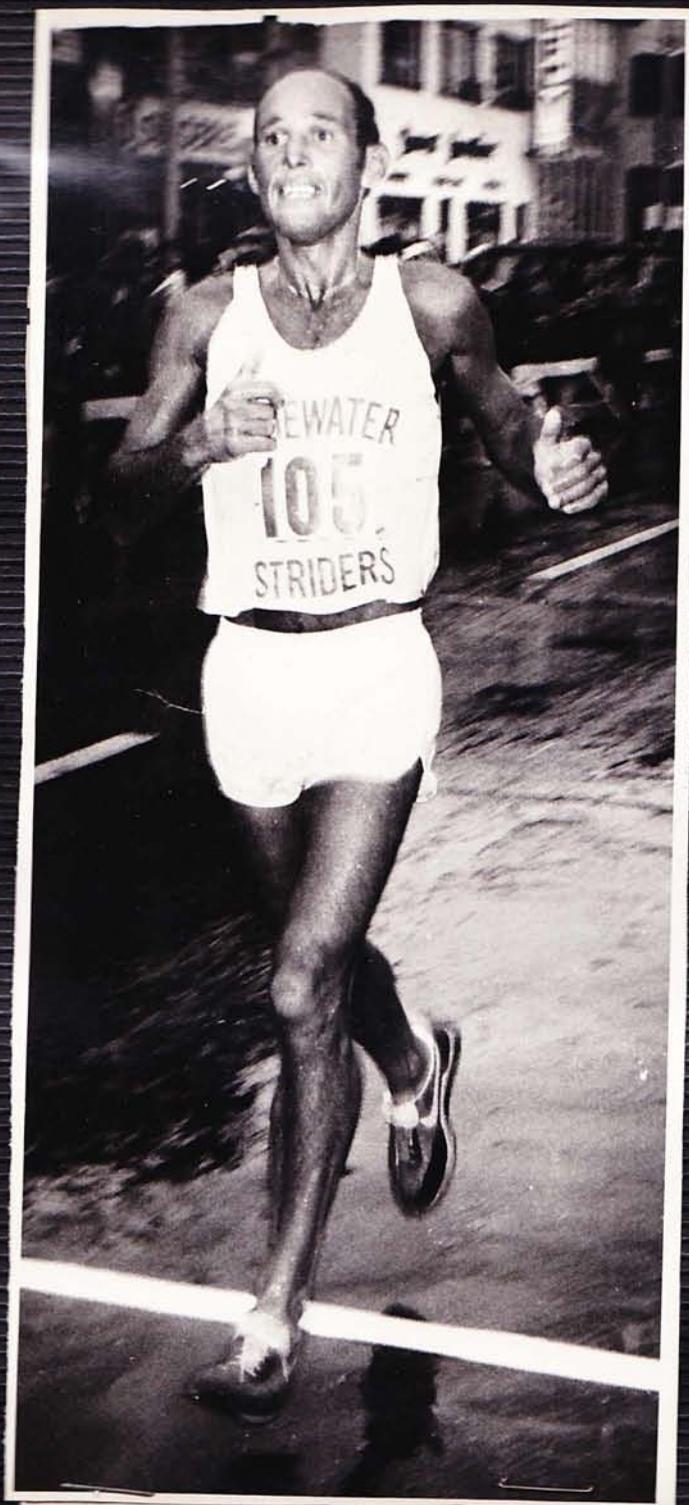
Men 50 and Over Lawrence MacInnis 3:20:56; Ernest Bishop 3:37:39
Women 20 and Under Annica La-Pointe 3:34:09; Maya La Pointe 3:52:56
Women 21-29 Dale Clayburne 4:08:51

Women 30 and Over Carol Roy 3:09:55; Cindy Finlayson 3:29:33; Laura Tindy 3:30:37

Masters Award (40 and Over) - Harry A. Harley Memorial Trophy
Trophy donated by the family of the late Harry Harley presented to Eben Stewart 2:52:24

Youngest Runner - Trophy donated by Taylor's Jewellers, presented to Ronnie Lund (11 years) 4:47:52
Oldest Runner - Gift certificate donated by H. I. Quality Sports presented to Lawrence MacInnis 3:20:56

Team Award - Plaques (Team) Short-lyne Silver Mugs (Individual) donated by Island Optical Ltd. presented to Maine (Team Members) Stephen Dexter, Deke Talbot, Philip Stewart, Bob Finlayson, Kevin Eyer



BILL Koehler of Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, crosses the finish line at the second annual P.E.I.

Roadrunners Marathon. Koehler finished second behind winner Thomas Olsen.

Olsen defends title at second marathon

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THANKS FOR HELP

Editor: — The P.E.I. Roadrunners Club would like to publicly thank all those who helped make the Second Annual P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon the success it was.

The list of those who assisted is long. Especially deserving of praise, though, are the many volunteers who spent many hours in the rain but who make the day bright for the runners with their enthusiasm. It was volunteers who provided the medical services, kept time, passed water to the runners, directed traffic, acted as course guides, provided transportation, erected signage, operated a communications system, set up equipment and handled a dozen other tasks. The runners and the organizers deeply appreciate your contribution.

We would like to thank all businesses, firms and individuals who donated trophies and prizes. Also, to those in the media, we are appreciative of the coverage given to the marathon.

Last, but most certainly not least, we would like to extend a special word of thanks to all those who came out to cheer on the runners. The welcome you gave to runners shone through the bleak skies to lighten every runner's day.

Yours in running,

DON HARLEY
President
P.E.I. Roadrunners Club

Sports Letter

ROADRUNNERS EXPRESS THANKS

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(President,
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