

Tom Olsen To Defend Island Marathon Title

Tom Olsen, winner of the first two P.E.I. Roadrunners CBCT-FM Island Marathons, will be back to defend his title at this year's Island Marathon.

The 26 year-old runner from Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia, has informed race organizers that he plans to be back to the Island and will be aiming at his third consecutive victory in the event.

Last year Olsen covered the 26 mile 385 yard distance in two hours, 34 minutes and 52 seconds to run the fastest marathon of the year in the Maritimes. That was almost six minutes better than his winning time in 1979.

This year Olsen has won a number of regional road races and has improved his time over last year. If the conditions are right, Olsen feels that he may be able to break the two hour 30

minute barrier at the Island Marathon.

Olsen is not the only runner from Sydney Mines who may be fighting for the lead in the Island Marathon on Sunday, September 13. Lauchie MacKinnon, last year's fourth place finisher, will also be entered in the race.

MILES HOMETOWN

As residents of Sydney Mines, Olsen and MacKinnon have quite a reputation to live up to. Sydney Mines was the home town of one of Canada's best ever long distance runners, Johnny Miles. Miles won the Boston Marathon in 1926 and set marathon records that remained in Canada for decades.

The Island Marathon will start at 12 noon near Cavendish in the National Park and will finish in downtown Charlottetown in front of Province House. More than 100 runners from the Maritimes and New England are expected to compete in the race.

Runners intending to enter who have already done so should contact Sport P.E.I. at 894-8879.

SEEK HELP

Anyone wishing to assist with the P.E.I. Roadrunners CBCT-FM Island Marathon on September 13 is urged to contact the P.E.I. Roadrunners Club.

Officials are needed to act as course guides and to serve at water and sponging stations. Up to 40 officials will be active on race day.

Transportation and equipment will be provided.

Persons can contact the P.E.I. Roadrunners Club by calling Sport P.E.I. at 894-8879.

Runner's Clinic With Marathon

A runner's clinic which is open to the public will be held in conjunction with the P.E.I. Roadrunners-CBCT FM Island Marathon on Saturday morning from 10 a.m. to noon.

The clinic will be held at the West Royalty Fitness Centre (The Spa).

Featured will be two guest speakers, Dr. Douglas MacMichael of Charlottetown and Freeman Churchill of Halifax.

Dr. MacMichael will be speaking on the prevention of injuries to runners. Dr. MacMichael is an orthopedic specialist who has a practice in Charlottetown.

Mr. Churchill will take on "the obsession of running" and how to live with it.

Freeman Churchill is familiar to many Island runners since he formerly resided on the Island and was a member of the P.E.I. Roadrunners Club. This spring, he ran the Boston Marathon in 2 hours, 34 minutes and 43 seconds.

In addition to the speakers, there will also be short films on running and a display of the latest in running gear put on by several of the most prominent running gear companies.

The clinic is open to the general public as well as entrants in the Island Marathon. There is no admission fee.

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Marathon open to runners

Anyone wishing to enter the Island Marathon set for Sunday, September 13th is asked to contact Sport P.E.I. at 894-8879 as soon as possible.

The 26 mile road race will start at noon near Cavendish in the National Park and will finish in front of Province House.

Sponsored by the P.E.I. Roadrunners and CBCT-FM, the race will draw over 100 runners from the Atlantic provinces and New England. Tom Olsen of Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia, will be back to defend his second consecutive title.

Kays, Bower Patrons For Sunday's Island Marathon

The P.E.I. Roadrunners Club is extremely proud to announce that Tom Kays and Phil Bower are the patrons for this year's P.E.I. Roadrunners - CBCT-TV Island Marathon.

Both Kays and Bower have established impressive credentials over the past few years as two of the finest Class A (totally blind) athletes in Canada.

"We are very pleased that Tom and Phil have accepted our invitation to be the patrons for the Island Marathon.

"It would be fitting to honor their achievements at any time, but in this, the International Year of the Disabled Person, we are most grateful to have them as patrons," said race organizer Don Harley.

The position of race patron is an honorary title that goes each year to persons who have contributed to the development of running or sport.

Tom Kays, like Phil Bower, became most heavily involved in sports after he reached the age of 40.

Kays participated in the first Canadian Games for the Physically Disabled in 1976 and has attended the National Championships for the blind every year since.

In track events, he has established Canadian records in his class at each of the 600, 800 and 1,500 metre distances. He has won two gold and two silver medals at each of the national games since 1979.

Kays has also been a member of the Provincial Goalball Team since 1976. He was a founding member of the Island Goalball League and is currently a member of the organizing committee for the 1982 National Goalball Championship to be held in Charlottetown next March.

Kays is a native of Charlottetown and is presently work-

ing as a piano tuner across P.E.I.

MANY RECORDS

Phil Bower's sport background boasts a continuous record of achievements and successes. He too has established a solid record at the National Championships for the Blind.

He has won medals at every national championship since their initiation in 1976. His medals have come in events as varied as sprinting, long jump, discus, javelin, shotput and swimming.

Bower was selected as the Top Male-Masters (over 40) Blind Athlete in Canada in 1978 after he won two gold, two silver and a bronze medal at the national Games in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Besides track and field, his other love in sport is goalball, where he has played with the provincial team in national competitions since 1976.

He also teamed up with Tom Kays in another sport, lawn bowling, and helped capture the gold medal in pairs in 1976 at the National Championship.

Bower is originally from Shelburne, Nova Scotia, but has resided on the Island since 1955, when he came to serve as the executive director of the C.N.I.B., P.E.I. Division.

"Both Tom and Phil have been very supportive of the P.E.I. Roadrunners Club since its formation in 1977 and their example has served as an inspiration to us," Don

Harley added.

Last year's Island Marathon patrons were two-time Boston Marathon winner Johnny Miles, who now lives in Hamilton, Ontario, and former Island runner Wallace Rodd, who was one of the region's best road runners in the 1930's.

DATES TO WATCH THIS SUMMER:

- July 18, Uigg Days Celebrations - Uigg
- July 18, 19, 5th Annual Rollo Bay Open-Air Scottish Concert - Rollo Bay
- July 18-25, P.E.I. Potato Blossom Festival, O'Leary
- July 19-25, Summerside Lobster Carnival - Ronald McDonald will be there!
- July 30-Aug. 2, Northumberland Fisheries Festival - Murray River
- July 31-Aug. 1, Crapaud Provincial Exhibition - Crapaud
- Aug. 1, Highland Games and Gathering Of The Clans - Lord Selkirk Park, Eldon
- Aug. 5-8, Tyne Valley Oyster Festival - Tyne Valley
- Aug. 6-9, Country Days - Charlottetown Driving Park
- Aug. 9, La Fete acadienne - Tignish
- Aug. 10-15, Old Home Week, Charlottetown Driving Park. Ronald McDonald will be there on Gold Cup Day!
- Aug. 14, Gold Cup Parade - Charlottetown
- Aug. 19, Eastern Kings Exhibition - Souris
- Aug. 21-22, Prince County Exhibition - Alberton
- Aug. 21-26, Community Harvest Festival - Kensington
- Aug. 26-27, P.E.I. Ploughing Match and Agricultural Fair - Dundas.
- Sept. 4-6, Le Festival acadien - Abrams Village
- Sept. 13, P.E.I. Roadrunners Marathon - from Cavendish to Charlottetown

COMING IN SEPTEMBER RODEO EAST



Coming to the Kennedy Coliseum in Charlottetown September 11, 12, 13 - all the thrills of professional rodeo. Four performances by the world's top professional cowboys and a special appearance by Ronald McDonald. For ticket information call the Rodeo East hot line 892-5611.

Contestants get ready for Island marathon

A field of 73 runners will go to starting line Sunday afternoon in Cavendish for the third annual P.E.I. Roadrunners CBCT-FM Island Marathon.

Although the field is smaller than last year's, it is still one of the bigger marathon fields in Canada. The Island will be represented by 35 runners while three other provinces and two American states.

The race gets underway at noon in the National Park and winds up 26 miles, 385 yards later in Charlottetown at the foot of University Avenue.

Tom Olsen, of Nova Scotia, will not be taking part in the marathon this year after having won the first two Island marathons. But Gerard Campbell of Glace Bay, Tom Conway of Halifax and Bill MacEachern of Westville, who has won four Island races this year, are likely to contend for the title.

The youngest entrant in the race is 12-year-old Ronnie Lund while the oldest is 61-year-old Lawrence MacInnis. There are six teenagers in the race and four entrants over 50.

Runners in the marathon are hoping to get the same kind of support this year as they did

last year. Fans in North Rustico and other spots along the route greeted the runners with applause, horn honking, vocal cheering and drumming on cooking pots.

Drivers are asked to be especially careful along the marathon route. After it starts in Cavendish, the runners proceed along the shore road for five miles before arriving in North Rustico. From there it follows Highway 6 through South Rustico, joins Highway 7 at Oyster Bed Bridge, turns on to Highway 2 at Milton and then follows the Lower Malpeque Road and the Trans Canada into Charlottetown.

Main intersections will be patrolled by RCMP and city police. The roads will remain open for public use but drivers are recommended to reach their destinations by alternate routes where possible.

Joan Baird will address the banquet for the Roadrunners tonight. Using her background in working with the handicapped, she will talk on the success of the disabled in sport. The banquet is scheduled for 7 p.m. at Confederation Centre. Tickets are \$8 per person.

Around The Bases



Tom Olsen, winner of the first two Island Marathon races, was expected to be back to defend his title Sunday but with injuries hampering him, the field is now thrown open and no clear favorite has emerged. Olsen, of N.S., will probably see his title pass to Gerard Campbell of Glace Bay Tom Conway of Halifax. They have the previous best marathon marks of two hours and 37 minutes. Stiff competition can also be expected from Bill MacEachern of Westville, N.S. who has won four Island road races this year.

Bob Gray, who is a regular Friday morning columnist in this corner will be making his fall premiere next week. There have been many questions why Bob was missing for a while, but with vacation over and he's back teaching school, Bobby is ready to go again. He will be dwelling on school and university sports areas and anyone with tidbits of info can pass them in for Bob's consumption.

Injuries May Prevent Olsen From Defending Title

It appears to be a tossup as to who will win the Third Annual P.E.I. Roadrunners - CBCT-FM Island Marathon, to be held tomorrow (Sunday).

Tom Olsen, who earlier announced his intention to seek his third straight crown, has been hampered by small injuries and will probably not be able to defend his title.

The withdrawal of the 27-year-old Cape Breton runner leaves the race up for grabs as no clear favorite has emerged.

Fellow Nova Scotians Gerard Campbell of Glace Bay and Tom Conway of Halifax have the best previous marathon time coming into the race, with both having a 2 hour, 37 minute performance to their credit.

But past records may not tell the tale when the runners hit the many hills in the 26.2 miles between the race start in Cavendish and the finish line in Charlottetown.

Campbell and Conway are expected to meet stiff competition from at least two other Nova Scotians and a Florida runner.

Bill MacEachern of

Westville, N.S., who has already won four Island road races, will be out to wrap up a highly successful season of Island racing by taking the marathon.

Leo Glavin of Kingston, N.S., placed second in the first Island Marathon in 1979 in a time of 2 hours and 45 minutes, and he could post a threat to move up to the top spot.

Florida runner Robert 'Pudge' Hoffman is an unknown quantity, but has a previous best time of 2:44 to his credit.

There are at least eight other runners who are registered who have had times of between 2:50 and 3 hours who could push the front runners.

ISLAND HOPES

Island hopes for a high finish rest with Paul Wright of Bedeque and Jim Wyatt of Crossroads. Wright was the leading Islander last year, and ninth overall, when he posted a time of 2:50. Wyatt ran a 2:50 at the Johnny Miles Marathon earlier this year and, like Wright, looks as if he will be able to better his time this time around.

Ewen Stewart of Charlottetown is not only the favorite to take the Masters category (over age 40) but he should also place well overall. Stewart completed the first Island Marathon in 2:47 in 1979.

Other Island runners who might be able to crack the three-hour barrier include Charlottetown's Don Pridmore, who has a 2:55 best time; 19-year-old Calvin DesRoches of Freetown, and rapidly-improving Peter Kitilsen of Kensington.

On the women's side, 18-year-old Monica LaPointe of St. Eleanors would appear to be the early race favorite. She has a personal best of 3:16 going into the race.

Eleanor Farrington of New Glasgow, P.E.I. has improved with each of her performances in the Island Marathon, and may be a good bet to win the women's master's division title.

Late entries are being accepted, and there is always the chance that other top runners, and perhaps a potential race winner, will register just prior to the race.

DRIVERS BE CAREFUL

Drivers are asked to be careful when in the area of the Cavendish to Charlottetown route Sunday afternoon (between 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m.).

During the race, the roads on which the marathon will take place will remain open for public use. Main intersections will be patrolled by the RCMP and Charlottetown police for the safety of the runners. A short section of University Avenue between Grafton and Kent Streets will be closed off after 2:00 p.m. for the finish line area.

The marathon course will follow the Gulf Shore Road from Cavendish to North Rustico and then take Highway 6 to Oyster Bed Bridge and Highway 7 to Milton. The route then enters Charlottetown via the Lower Malpeque Road, the Trans Canada Highway and University Avenue.

Where possible, it is recom-

mended that through traffic reach its destination by alternative routes.

The P.E.I. Roadrunners Club invites those who live along the route, as well as the general public, to come out and cheer the runners.