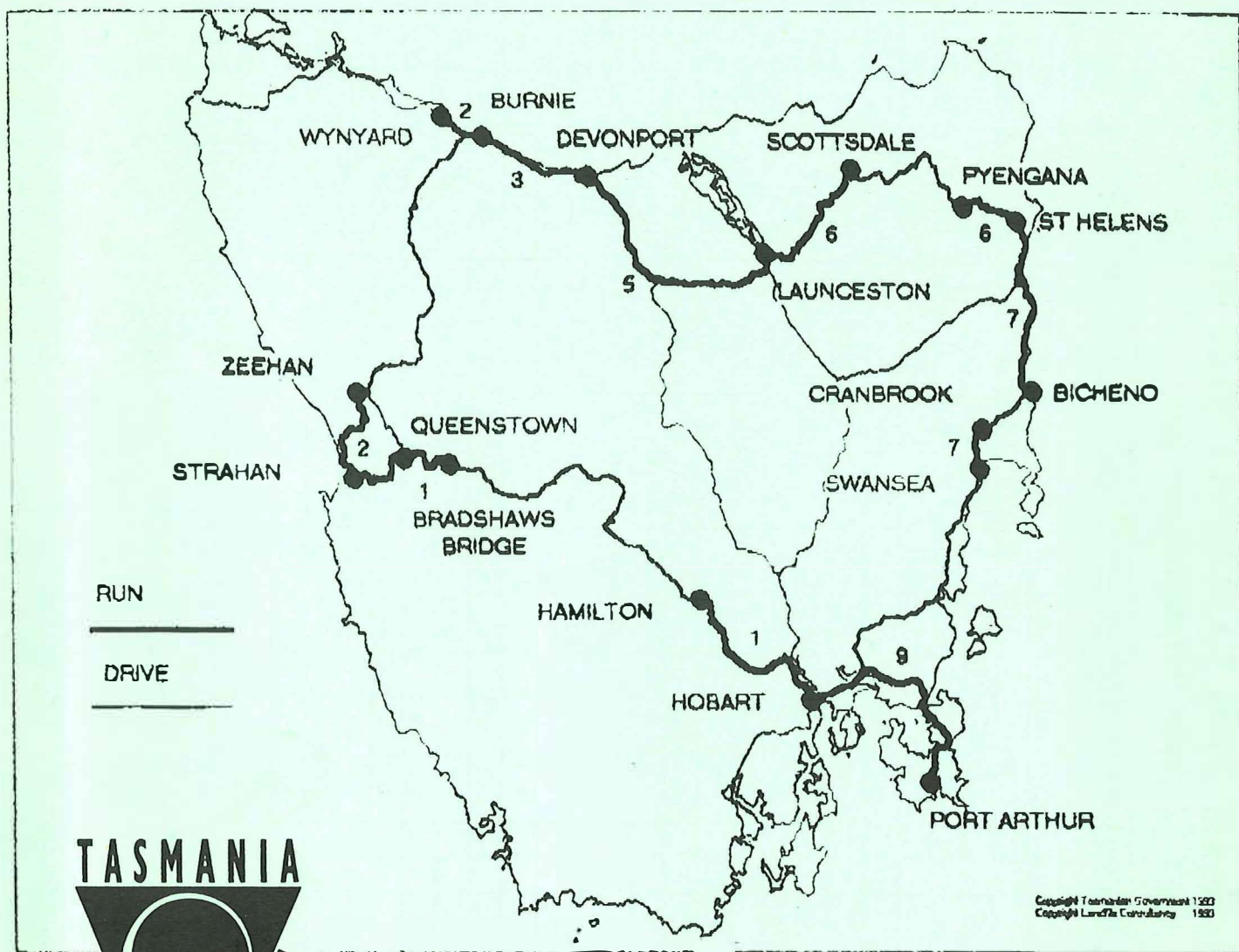


# ULTRAMAG

Vol 9, No.3 PART TWO

September, 1994

## TASMANIA RUN 1994



TASMANIA



**AURA**  
**MAGAZINE**



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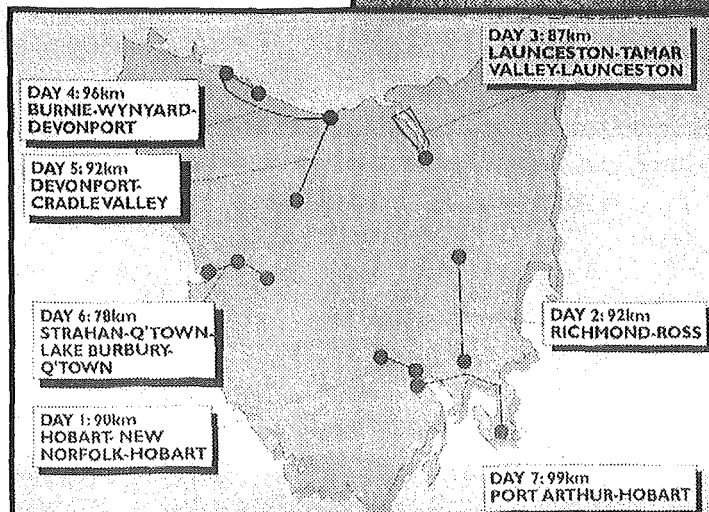
# RESULTS OF THE TASMANIA RUN '94 - AUGUST 1994

## Unadjusted times

	Place	No	Name	Days	Hrs/Min	Difference	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	
RUSSIA	1	21	ANATOLI KROUGLIKOV	2	0:42:44	0	0:00:00	6:18:47	6:55:48	6:34:34	6:41:15	7:30:34	6:28:43	8:13:03
GREECE	2	1	YIANNIS KOUROS	2	1:27:58	0	0:45:14	5:58:14	6:56:04	6:35:16	6:55:21	8:07:43	6:28:44	8:26:36
AUSTRALIA	3	8	BRYAN SMITH	2	6:39:15	0	5:56:31	6:54:09	8:25:34	7:18:23	7:48:42	8:12:41	7:19:14	8:40:32
SLOVENIA	4	7	DUSAN MRAVLJE	2	7:23:03	0	6:40:19	6:58:42	7:57:37	7:03:48	7:44:08	8:21:27	7:30:06	9:47:15
RUSSIA	5	15	GENMADY GROSHEV	2	8:22:07	0	7:39:23	6:49:33	7:58:37	7:08:01	7:40:41	8:53:21	7:18:22	10:33:32
ENGLAND	6	11	ERIK SEEDHOUSE	2	8:50:47	0	8:08:03	6:51:11	7:53:53	6:44:47	7:26:14	8:22:28	8:31:11	11:01:03
AUSTRALIA	7	14	PAT FARMER	2	9:17:41	0	8:34:57	7:14:08	9:06:36	7:11:25	7:40:34	8:24:55	6:27:58	11:12:05
GERMANY	8	10	VALERY KLEMENT	2	10:43:49	0	10:01:05	7:21:33	9:08:35	8:22:04	8:14:43	7:54:06	7:18:22	10:24:26
ENGLAND	9	22	ELEANOR ROBINSON	2	12:31:34	0	11:48:50	7:19:36	8:42:05	8:07:45	8:36:00	8:39:32	7:54:31	11:12:05
LATVIA	10	16	GEORGES JERMOLAJEVS	2	16:43:28	0	16:00:44	9:15:53	9:35:59	8:24:13	10:01:58	9:35:50	7:09:54	10:39:41
STH AFRICA	11	27	KOVALAN MOODLEY	2	17:11:32	0	16:28:48	6:57:19	9:23:07	8:30:18	9:04:52	9:35:10	8:56:30	12:44:16
AUSTRALIA	12	25	HELEN STANGER	2	17:37:47	0	16:55:03	8:11:51	10:00:57	8:33:08	9:37:53	9:27:48	8:32:11	11:13:59
FRANCE	13	4	ROLAND VUILLEMENOT	2	18:19:32	0	17:36:48	6:30:22	7:45:27	7:50:13	10:45:08	10:45:50	9:41:25	13:01:07
GERMANY	14	23	SIGRID LOMSKY	2	19:53:31	0	19:10:47	8:15:41	9:28:45	8:56:56	10:04:42	10:35:02	9:02:43	11:30:09
AUSTRALIA	15	13	ROSS PARKER	2	23:09:25	0	22:26:41	7:35:10	10:43:53	9:32:37	10:24:00	10:16:08	9:04:18	13:33:19
AUSTRALIA	16	26	GEORGINA MCCONNELL	3	4:27:39	1	3:44:55	9:15:53	11:54:24	10:14:58	11:18:38	10:50:00	9:44:43	13:09:03
BELGIUM	17	6	LUCIEN TAEMLAN	2	11:22:31	0	10:39:47	6:18:52	7:23:42	6:56:09	7:18:58	8:35:04	8:49:46	14:00:00
RUSSIA	18	24	IRINA PETROVA	2	15:13:01	0	14:30:17	7:19:01	7:58:37	7:10:20	7:51:43	8:53:20	10:00:00	14:00:00
HUNGARY	19	3	JANOS BOGAR	2	13:21:06	0	12:38:22	6:02:52	6:54:36	6:33:59	6:49:39	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
FRANCE	20	17	CHRISTOPHE ROCHOTTE	3	1:24:53	1	0:42:09	8:11:51	9:38:40	9:22:04	11:12:18	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
AUSTRALIA	21	19	JAMES ROONEY	3	3:29:19	1	2:46:35	8:35:22	11:03:14	9:23:08	11:27:35	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
AUSTRALIA	22	5	DON WALLACE	2	20:51:25	0	20:08:41	5:56:53	6:54:35	8:59:57	12:00:00	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
STH AFRICA	23	9	CHARLES MATTHEUS	3	1:11:28	1	0:28:44	6:25:45	9:15:43	10:30:00	12:00:00	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
AUSTRALIA	24	20	HARRY CLEMENTS	3	8:03:17	1	7:20:33	9:39:05	12:54:12	10:30:00	12:00:00	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
RUSSIA	25	2	KONSTANTIN SANTALOV	3	4:03:39	1	3:20:55	6:03:39	12:30:00	10:30:00	12:00:00	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
AUSTRALIA	26	12	ANDREW LAW	3	5:51:25	1	5:08:41	7:51:25	12:30:00	10:30:00	12:00:00	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00
AUSTRALIA	27	18	ANDREW LUCAS	3	6:57:02	1	6:14:18	8:57:02	12:30:00	10:30:00	12:00:00	11:00:00	10:00:00	14:00:00

### HANDICAP SECTION:

1ST VALERY KLEMENT (GERMANY)  
 2ND BRYAN SMITH (AUSTRALIA)  
 3RD PAT FARMER (AUSTRALIA)



▲ The greatest ultra-marathon runner of them all, Yiannis Kouros, right, accompanied by Hobart's Andrew Law, leads a group of local runners through the streets yesterday. Kouros will head a star-studded international field in the 650-kilometre Telecom Tasmania Run around the state in August. Kouros believes the Tasmanian run, dubbed "hell in paradise", will be the ultimate in ultra-marathon races.

◀ The public will get the chance to see the runners in most parts of Tasmania with stages finishing in towns as far apart as Devonport, Launceston and Queenstown.



# Big run odds against Kouros

THE "Colossus of Roads" Yiannis Kouros believes the Telecom Tasmania Run might be a bit too easy for him and favour his rivals.

The amazing man of ultra-marathon running was poker-faced in delivering his appraisal of chances in the gruelling 650-kilometre torture test over seven days in August.

Immediately after a "light", one-hour jog with some of the Tasmanian hopefuls yesterday, Kouros, who made the Westfield Sydney-to-Melbourne race his own between 1984 and 1990, said he preferred to run non-stop.

"I like the continuous racing, which is more sustained — the Tasmanian race probably suits the genuine marathon runners who are faster," said the Greek-born Australian.

Competitors in the Tasmania Run will rest overnight after each stage as in cycling stage races.

Kouros has not done much serious racing since winning the 1990 Westfield but is back in shape after a good performance in California four months ago.

"These days I write poetry, I'm nearly finished a book and I'm studying music," said Kouros.

But he is too competitive and talented to go into the Tasmania Run without being well prepared.

The run was launched in grand style at Wrest Point Hotel-Casino yesterday, attended by Premier Ray Groom and celebrated author Bryce Courtenay.

Courtenay, who achieved fame for his novel *The Power of One*, modestly marvelled at the exploits of Kouros and company.

Playing down his own marathon feats — he has run 29 marathons and five ultras — Courtenay spoke enthusiastically about the Tasmania Run.

"It's totally inappropriate for one of the worst marathoners in the world to be welcoming the best," said Courtenay, who has a best time of 3hr 10min for the marathon and finished outside the official cut of 11 hours in last year's Comrades Marathon in South Africa.

The best ultra runners in the world will slug it out from August 6-12 in most parts of Tasmania.

The race is the brain-child of Alan Rider, himself a Westfield entrant in the late 1980s, and executive director of the Tasmania Run.

Rider was in South Africa last week to watch the famous 87-kilometre Comrades Marathon, with its 14,000 starters.

"We will have quality and

not quantity in our race — the best in the world," said Rider.

Local interest will be high with 1991 Westfield third placegetter Andrew Law, from Hobart, among the Tasmanians.

But the international list of prospective starters is a "who's who" of ultra running, including Russian Konstantin Santalov, the world 100-kilometre champion.

A field of about 28 is expected to trot out of Wrest Point on the first day, and they come from all parts of the globe.

South African Bester, second to Alberto Salazar in the Comrades last week, and British star Eleanor Robinson are among the 17 internationals expected to line up.

Two other Tasmanians, Andrew Lucas and Tim Sloane, will join Law in the race.

James Rooney, gutsing it out in bleak wintry conditions in the Telecom Tasmania Run





# Endurance events pleasant diversion

THE MERCURY 7/13/94

**BRIGGSIE**  
ON  
Sunday



WHEN I was a small child, the thought of being a sporting star motivated me more than passing exams and I played out my fantasies in many ways.

I would play four quarters of football in the backyard, kicking the ball to myself and mimicking the radio commentators, who seemed as godlike as the players I would see on treasured days at the footy.

Other times I would be Neil Harvey, leading the Aussies to another Test victory against the Poms or John Landy running at the Olympics.

The dream of being a star did not fade easily and to be merely a state champion at anything would have been joy.

Sadly, there were few choices in those days and I was destined to be a B grader at tennis, golf, football, cricket, running and most other things.

These days there is a virtual smorgasbord of sporting options, from underwater hockey to men's netball, women's cricket and mountain running.

If you can't find a sport which suits, make one up - that's the theory.

I was reminded of it last week when the ultra-marathon runners arrived in town for the Telecom Tasmania Run.

We were discussing just where the race fits into the traditional sporting world and the answer is clouded in doubt.

A small amateur survey revealed almost none of the international field had been top performers in any traditional sport.

Even the remarkable Yiannis Kouros, who can peel off marathons every day much faster than most of us can dream about, remains a nobody in the traditional world of sport.

There are champion mountain bike racers who get "shaken off" with the first serious turn of the pedals in a dinkum road race and mountain runners who can't keep 'up in a Sunday morning fun run.

Some of the ultra runners admit they have little physical ability but see the very long runs as a way of seeking glory in events where the mind plays a greater role than the body.

As you read this, the chances are I'll be chasing along behind a bunch of runners in the Tassie run, sharing my usual love-hate relationship with such races.

At one level you can't help but admire the enormity of the tasks they set themselves.

I watched Tasmanian Run candidate Dusan Mravlje win the 1986 Sydney to Melbourne race with a mixture of awe and admiration.

Yet, as one leading track and field coach remarked to me recently, the ultra runs are merely another extension of pole sitting.

The pole-sitters emerged decades ago, grabbing publicity for the ability to sit on high for weeks at a time.

The wonderful thing about sport is that it provides an opportunity for all kinds to share in the spoils.

In track and field, we present medals and give prizemoney for excellence in a wide variety of running, throwing and jumps events, yet it's not enough for some.

They seem determined to discover new races, including runs up tall buildings, high mountains or all around Tasmania.

The Commonwealth Games start in two weeks and we know that's the genuine article and something for sports fans to savour.

In the meantime we have the pleasant diversion of the Tasmania Run but I can't help thinking of a Jewish comedian, commenting on the rag trade, who said, "never mind the quality, feel the width".

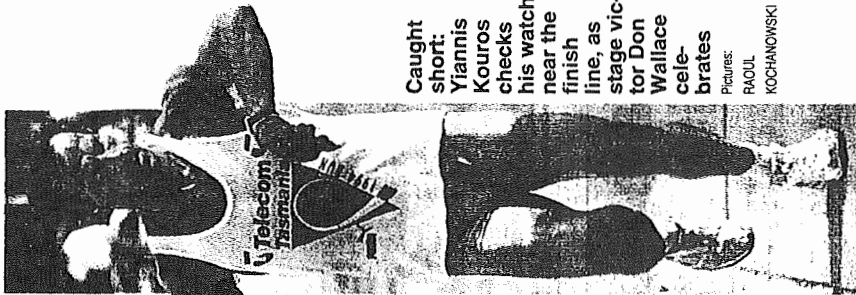
— JOHN BRIGGS



Enormous tasks . . . Dusan Mravlje, who won the 1986 Sydney-to-Melbourne, competing in the Telecom Tasmania run.

# Going to water gave Aussie Don the drop

THE SUNDAY TASMANIAN AUGUST 7, 1994



approaching Bridgewater on the run back to Sandy Bay from New Norfolk.

"They both decided to have a leak and I didn't," said a jubilant Wallace, who made his winning move at the right time.

"It turned out to be the right thing, but I need to go the toilet right now."

The opening day of the run was full of incident.

Women's race favourite Eleanor Robinson surrendered a four-minute lead in the final four kilometres to be run down by 20-year-old Russian Irina Petrova.

Robinson, who looked to have the race in her keeping, faltered in the final few kilometres and had oxygen to revive her after an exhausting run.

Another incident arose when Kourous was threatened with disqualification for failing to wear the sponsor's singlet.

He obliged with a quick change on the run before the finish at Wrest Point

Caught short: Yiannis Kourous checks his watch near the finish line, as stage victor Don Wallace celebrates.  
Pictures: RAOUL KOCHANOWSKI

By JOHN BRIGGS  
QUEENSLAND runner Don Wallace reckons rivals Yiannis Kourous and Janos Bogar "went to water" during the Telecom Tasmania Run's dramatic opening day yesterday.  
Wallace was in third place

Casino.

Wallace, the Australian record holder for 100 kilometres, was in a cheerful mood and joked with supporters after the run.

The Australian fought off legendary Greek running machine Kourous in the final 15 kilometres to win by 1min 21sec from him.

Wallace ran a stunning 5hr56min53sec for the 88 kilometres from Wrest Point to New Norfolk and return.

Third home was Hungarian Bogar in 5hr58min14sec, followed by Russian Konstantin Sandalov in 6hr03min39sec, well ahead of fellow Russian Anatoly Kruglikov (6hr18min47sec) and Belgian Lucien Taelman (6hr18min52sec).

A chirpy Wallace said he expected to run well on the opening day.

"I should say I'm feeling a million dollars right now, but I wish I had a couple of thousand on at 25-1," he said, referring to his pre-race quote from sports bookmaker Wayne Monaghan.

"The trouble is I didn't even have a bet - can't afford it."

Wallace could be \$8000 richer at the end of the week if yesterday's form is any guide.

The leading six runners were in a pack until New Norfolk before Kourous and Bogar made their move.

Wallace was just behind them before his winning thrust at Bridgewater.

Although the race is only one day old, the Queenslander, who has run 6hr39min for 100 kilometres, stamped his authority on yesterday's stage.

The other man who looms as a danger to yesterday's placegetters is Sandalov, who finished 6min46sec behind but is a seasoned campaigner in ultra-marathons.

Despite the opening day's dramas, director Alan Rider was delighted with the inaugural race.

"We promised the runners hell in paradise and it's going to get tougher each day, but we have a full field of 27 going into the second stage," Rider said.

World champion axeman David Foster started the race.

The pace was so hot on the outward journey to New Norfolk it surprised even race officials.



# Heroics and hardship on hell highway

THE SUNDAY TASMANIAN AUGUST 7

THE Telecom Tasmania Run lived up to its reputation as "Hell in Paradise" for race favourite Eleanor Robinson yesterday as young Russian Irina Petrova grabbed a dramatic win.

The opening day of the women's section ended with an exhausted Robinson reduced to walking pace and the 20-year-old Russian finishing full of running.

Britain's Robinson spent 15 minutes after the race receiving medical treatment as Petrova looked on in concern for her fallen rival.

Robinson had gone out hard in the first 88-kilometre stretch of the seven-day race, establishing a huge lead over Petrova, who was running solidly in second place, during the run to New Norfolk.

Robinson retained a lead of more than four minutes as she approached the city and virtually in sight of the finish at Wrest Point.

But a combination of a fast early pace and the freezing conditions took their toll as the Russian stormed past her in the final kilometre to win in the time of 7h19m01s.

Robinson was 35 seconds astern, a mere whisker in such a long race, and third woman was Helen Stanger, of NSW, in 8:11.51, followed by German Sigrid Lomsky (8:35.22) and Georgina McConnell (9:15.53).

Robinson emerged from the oxygen mask to smile cheerfully at her supporters and declared she would be right for the second stage from Richmond to Ross.

Asked if she would be fit to run today, Robinson replied she would be fit to go back on the road in the next 30 minutes.

The medical team gave her the all clear as Petrova strolled away for a shower and a sleep, looking relaxed and confident.

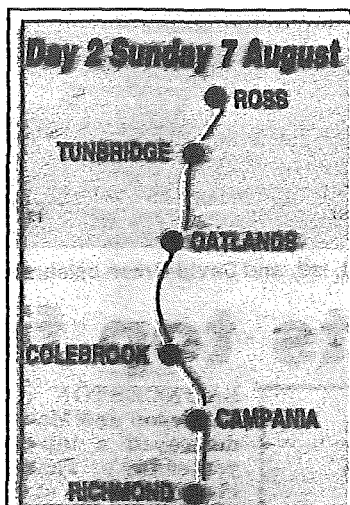
"I'm OK, I'm feeling good," was the only response from the Russian, who speaks little english.

Her manager-coach Nail Bairmgallin was off giving assistance to other Russian athletes nursing aching muscles after a hard day.

The dramatic ending to the first day has whetted the appetite of spectators who were stunned at the high-quality running.

A pack of six runners went out powerfully in the men's race and stayed intact all the way to New Norfolk.

The big six included eventual winner Don Wallace, Greek star Yiannis Kouros, Russians Anatoly Kruglikov and Konstantin Santalov, Hungarian Janos Bogar and South African Charl Mattheus.



## TELECOM TASMANIA RUN

**START RICHMOND**  
(Bridge) 8.00am

**Leaders expected:**

Campania 8.45am

Colebrook 10.00am

Oatlands 12.30pm

Tunbridge 2.00pm

**FINISH ROSS**  
3.30pm

\* All times approximate only

## RESULTS

Don Wallace, 5h56m53, 1; Yiannis Kouros 1m21s behind, 2; Janos Bogar 5.59, 3; Konstantin Santalov 6.46, 4; Anatoly Kruglikov 21.54, 5; Lucien Taelman 21.59, 6; Charles Mattheus, 28.52, 7; Roland Vulliamenot 33.29, 8; Gennady Groshev 52.50, 9; Erik Seedhouse 54.18, 10; Bryan Smith 57.16, 11; Kovalan Moodley 1:00.26, 12; Dusan Mravljic 1:01.49, 13; Pat Farmer 1:17.15, 14; Irina Petrova 1:22.08, 15; Eleanor Robinson 1:22.43, 16; Valery Klement 1:24.40, 17; Ross Parker 1:38.17, 18; Andrew Law 1:54.32, 19; Christophe Rochette 2:14.58, 20; Helen Stanger 2:14.58, 21; Sigrid Lomsky 2:18.21, 22; James Rooney 2:38.29, 23; Andrew Lucas 3:00.09, 24; Georges Jermolajevs 3:19.00, 25; Georgina McConnell 3:19.00, 26; Harry Clements 3:42.12, 27.

But the race developed into a three-way battle between Kouros, Wallace and Bogar before Wallace produced the goods in a strong finish to beat the Greek champion.

The race produced no other major dramas and all runners were under the generous 11-hour cut-off point set by race director Alan Rider.

The man who spent the longest period on the road was Harry Clements, of NSW, last home in 9:39.05.

All 27 runners will line up for today's second stage between the historic bridges at Richmond and Ross.

The 92-kilometre stage should be tougher with strong winds and rain forecast and some athletes may be in danger of missing the cut as the pressure builds up after two difficult days.

The race continues in Launceston tomorrow with an out-and-back journey of 85 kilometres into the Tamar Valley.

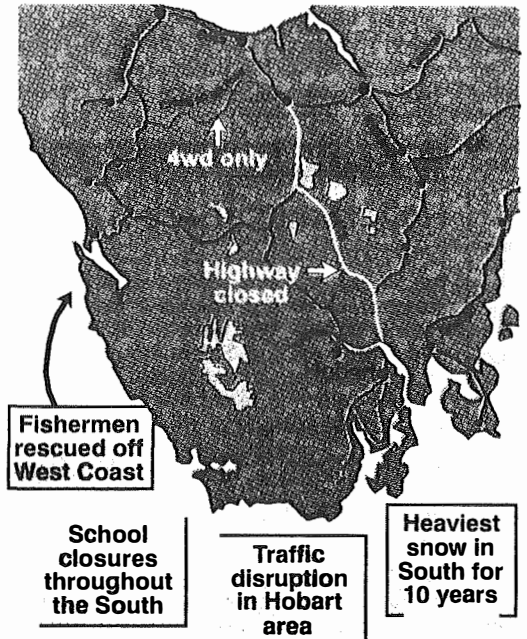


▲ Pat Farmer, of New South Wales, leads a pack of runners in the early stages, including Eleanor Robinson (left) and South African Kovalan Moodley, with Australian Bryan Smith at the rear.



Stage winner Irina Petrova approaches the finish.

## Our weather woes



GRAPHICS by Cyndi Fontyn

## Gales devastate tourist drawcard

THE East Coast Birdlife and Animal Park at Bicheno is closed indefinitely after being devastated by a freak storm.

Gales cut through the park late on Friday afternoon, peeling roofing iron off the main reception and office building, uprooting trees and flattening fences and displays.

Police said the storm also caused havoc in the Bicheno Gulch, with two fishing boats dragging their moorings and one breaking free.

Unofficial Bureau of Meteorology reports put the wind speed at Bicheno at between 70 knots and 75 knots.

At Swansea, residents went without power from 4pm for about

three hours and police reported between 12 and 15 trees fallen on roads, with one ripping up part of the road at Pontypool.

Birdlife park co-owner Bob Reeve said yesterday one aviary had been wrecked by the storm but he was uncertain how much wildlife had been lost.

A local State Emergency Service team was helping to clean up and secure unstable buildings yesterday as the strong winds continued.

In Hobart, sustained wind speeds up to 52 knots were recorded on Friday.

There was a 71-knot gust at the top of the Tasman Bridge during the afternoon.



# Tassie held in the grip of big freeze

THE MERCURY, MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1994

By RACHAEL STANDEN  
and JANE LOVIBOND

TASMANIA was a divided state last night as heavy snowfalls blocked the Midland Highway and threatened to add to driving chaos overnight.

Several other major roads were closed forcing some motorists to cancel travel plans while others opted for time-consuming detours.

Southbound traffic on the

Midland Highway was hardest hit. With the Lake Leake Highway closed, vehicles were diverted to the East Coast via the Fingal Highway.

Northbound traffic was able to avoid the Midland Highway trouble spot at Spring Hill by travelling from Hobart to Oatlands on the Mudwalls Road through Colebrook and Jericho.

However, the advantage was shortlived as heavy snowfalls during the night

blocked the highway north of Oatlands at St Peter's Pass.

Police were inundated with calls from the public seeking information about road conditions all day and well into the night.

They advised the public to avoid travelling at all last night due to bad driving conditions that worsened throughout the day.

But accidents were few, with a truck running off Huon Road and minor accidents in the north and the

Midlands being the only weather-related incidents reported by police.

A police spokesman said the few accidents indicated that motorists were driving cautiously in the hazardous conditions.

The effects of the big freeze were widespread. It isolated communities above the 500-metre level, tested competitors in the Telecom Tasmania Run and added to the woes of farmers who desperately need rain rather than

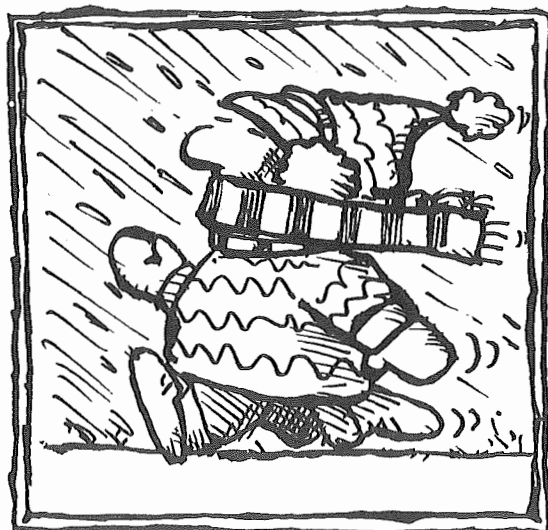
Continued Page 2

## WHY HOBART SHIVERED

7 am	3.8
8 am	3.8
9 am	4.3
10 am	5.2
11 am	6.6
12 am	5.2
1 pm	7.1
2 pm	6.8
3 pm	3.3
4 pm	5.6
5 pm	4.6
6 pm	4.6

MUST BE THE  
TASMANIA RUN  
VERSION

BOYS OF  
TRACK and FIELD



ON SALE NOW!

KUDELKA.

# 102. Arctic agony of hell run

THE MERCURY Monday August 8, 1994

By JOHN BRIGGS

LIKE a pair of crazy men Don Wallace and Janos Bogar sprinted into Ross yesterday with only pride at stake.

For Wallace it was a second-straight stage win in the Telecom Tasmania Run, after making an identical move on the opening day.

With no money or trophies on offer for a stage victory Queenslander Wallace and Hungarian Bogar turned on a finish fit for short-distance road race as Wallace got home by a mere one second after 92 kilometres of the toughest day's running any of the competitors could remember.

Wallace had led the Hungarian by more than 90 seconds with six kilometres to go but Bogar produced an amazing finish as both athletes put safety-first tactics and thoughts of the future stages aside.

Wallace, the overall race leader, following his first-day triumph over Greek star Yiannis Kourous, added more time to his lead.

His slender one-second advantage over Bogar was not as significant as the 1m 29s margin over Kourous.

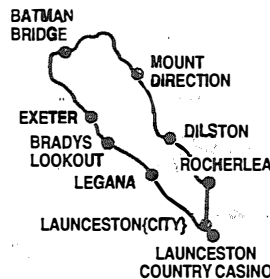
He now takes a 2m 50s advantage from Kourous when the race resumes at Launceston this morning.

Bogar is six minutes astern of Wallace in the overall standings, while Russian Anatoly Kruglikov is fourth, 24m7s behind the leader.

Wallace, who covered the 92 kilometres from Richmond to Ross in 6h 54m 35s, made his move 17 kilometres from the finish, after sharing the pace with Bogar, Kourous and Kruglikov through blizzards on the road from Richmond.

Asked why he refused to relinquish the stage win after Bogar had come from behind and headed him in the home straight, the Queenslander grinned and

## Day 3 Monday 8 August



## TELECOM TASMANIA RUN

**START LAUNCESTON**  
(Country Club Casino) 8.00am

*Leaders expected:*

Launceston (city) 8.45am  
Legana 9.30am  
Bradys Lookout 9.50am  
Exeter 10.15pm  
Batman Bridge 12 noon  
Mt Direction 1.15pm  
Dilston 2.00pm  
Rocherlea 3.00pm

**FINISH LAUNCESTON**  
(City) 3.30pm

\* All times approximate only

## RESULTS

Don Wallace, 12h51m28s, 1; Yiannis Kourous, 2m50s behind, 2; Janos Bogar, 6m 3; Anatoly Kruglikov, 23m7s 4; Lucien Taelman, 46m6s 5; Roland Vuilleminot, 1h24m21s 6; Erik Seedhouse 1h53m36s 7; Genady Groshev, 1h56m42s 8; Dusan Mravljic, 2h04m51s 9; Irina Petrova, 2h26m10s 10; Bryan Smith, 2h28m15s 11; Charl Mattheus, 2h50m 12; Eleanor Robinson, 3h10m13s 13; Kovalan Moodley, 3h28m58s 14; Pat Farmer, 3h29m16s 15; Valery Klement 3h38m40s 16; Sigrid Lomsky, 4h52m31s 17; Christophe Rochotte, 4h59m03s 18; Helen Stanger 5h21m20s 19; Georges Jeromajevs, 6h24s 20.

said he had no intention of letting the Hungarian share in the glory.

"I had been on my own for the previous 17 kilometres and I'll always back myself in a sprint at the end of any race," said Wallace.

Kourous was relegated to fourth in the stage behing

the powerful Russian but is far from finished in the big race.

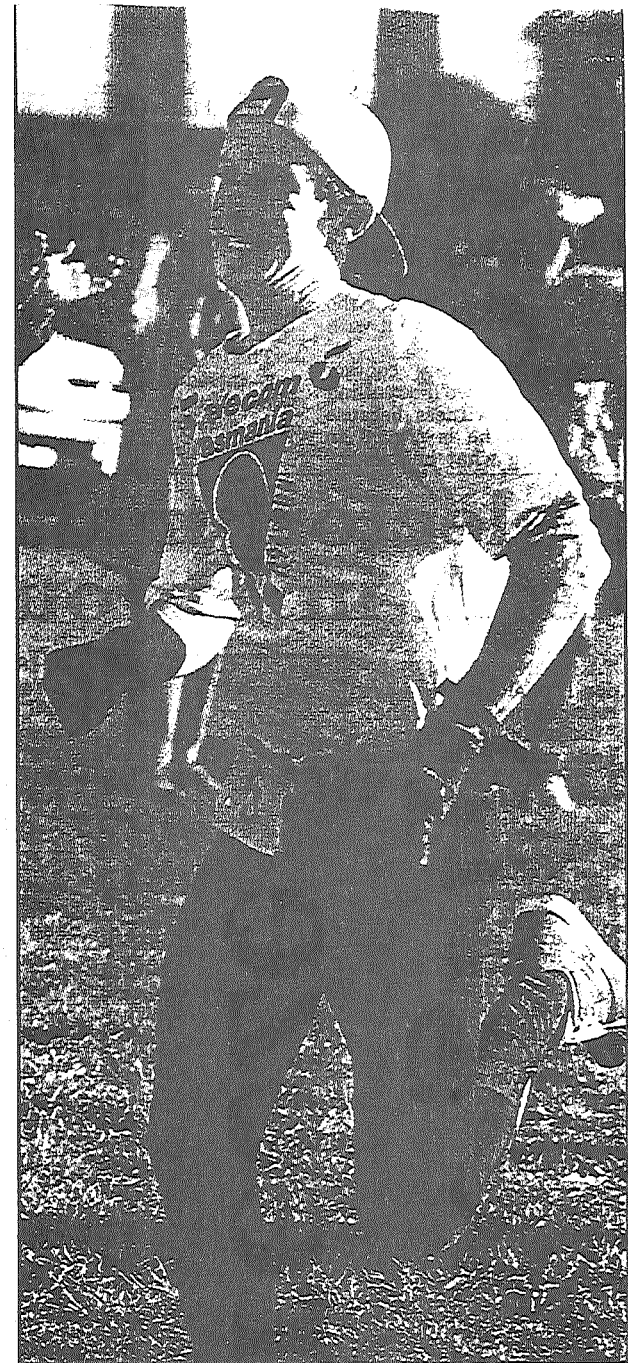
"That's their problem," said Kourous, when asked for a comment on the amazing finishing sprint from Wallace and Bogar.

Kourous said his chances of pegging back Wallace on the remaining five days depends on the weather conditions.

"If we have more snow on Cradle Mountain I'll be in trouble," said Kourous, who has been racing in extreme heat on the island of Crete in recent weeks.

Irina Petrova produced another amazing run to take a stranglehold on the women's race, completely dominating her more experienced rival Eleanor Robinson.

The 20-year-old Russian was ninth overall yesterday in a great time of 7h 58m 37s.



▲ Queensland's Don Wallace wins the sprint to the line to clinch yesterday's second stage.

◀ Race favourite Yiannis Kourous battles his way through the snow and the sleet.



Ultra-marathoners Yiannis Kouros, Janos Bogar, Anatoly Kruglikov and Don Wallace, obscured, race along the Midland Highway yesterday. Inset: Briton Eleanor Robinson shows the strain. Pictures: **RAOUL KOCHANOWSKI**

# Heat was on despite snow and ice

THE MERCURY Monday, August 8, 1994



By JOHN BRIGGS

TASMANIA'S icy weather yesterday took its toll on competitors in the Telecom Tasmania Run, dubbed "Hell in Paradise" by promoters.

Blinding blizzards and snow several centimetres deep on the ground gave the race an eerie look as the runners ploughed onwards between Richmond and Ross on the second day.

Seasoned ultra-marathon runners described the conditions as the worst in their experience and the toll of attrition began with three competitors forced to pull out with injury or exhaustion.

The weather played no favourites and there was irony in Tasmanians Andrew

Law and Andrew Lucas being two of the first to crash out of the gruelling 620-kilometre, seven-day race.

Law succumbed to a crippling Achilles tendon strain after 88 painful kilometres on the opening day from Sandy Bay to New Norfolk and return.

Injury also claimed world 100-kilometre champion Konstantin Santalov, who pulled out early yesterday with badly swollen ankles.

Another Tasmanian,

Andrew Lucas, was forced out with sheer exhaustion late yesterday afternoon.

The field has been reduced from 27 to 24 and there are five days to go.

The heavy snowfalls north of Colebrook reduced visibility to a few metres but there were no accidents and organisers praised the work of support crews and Tasmania Police.

Greek running legend Yiannis Kouros, fourth in yesterday's 92-kilometre

stage, said it was clearly the worst conditions he had experienced.

Kouros "warmed up" for the run with a 12-day race on the island of Crete, where the temperature averaged 35 degrees every day.

Stage winner Don Wallace said it was certainly the coldest conditions he had faced.

"We don't get many days like this in Queensland, where I come from," said a smiling Wallace, who takes a

two-minutes 50 seconds lead over Kouros into today's third stage in Launceston.

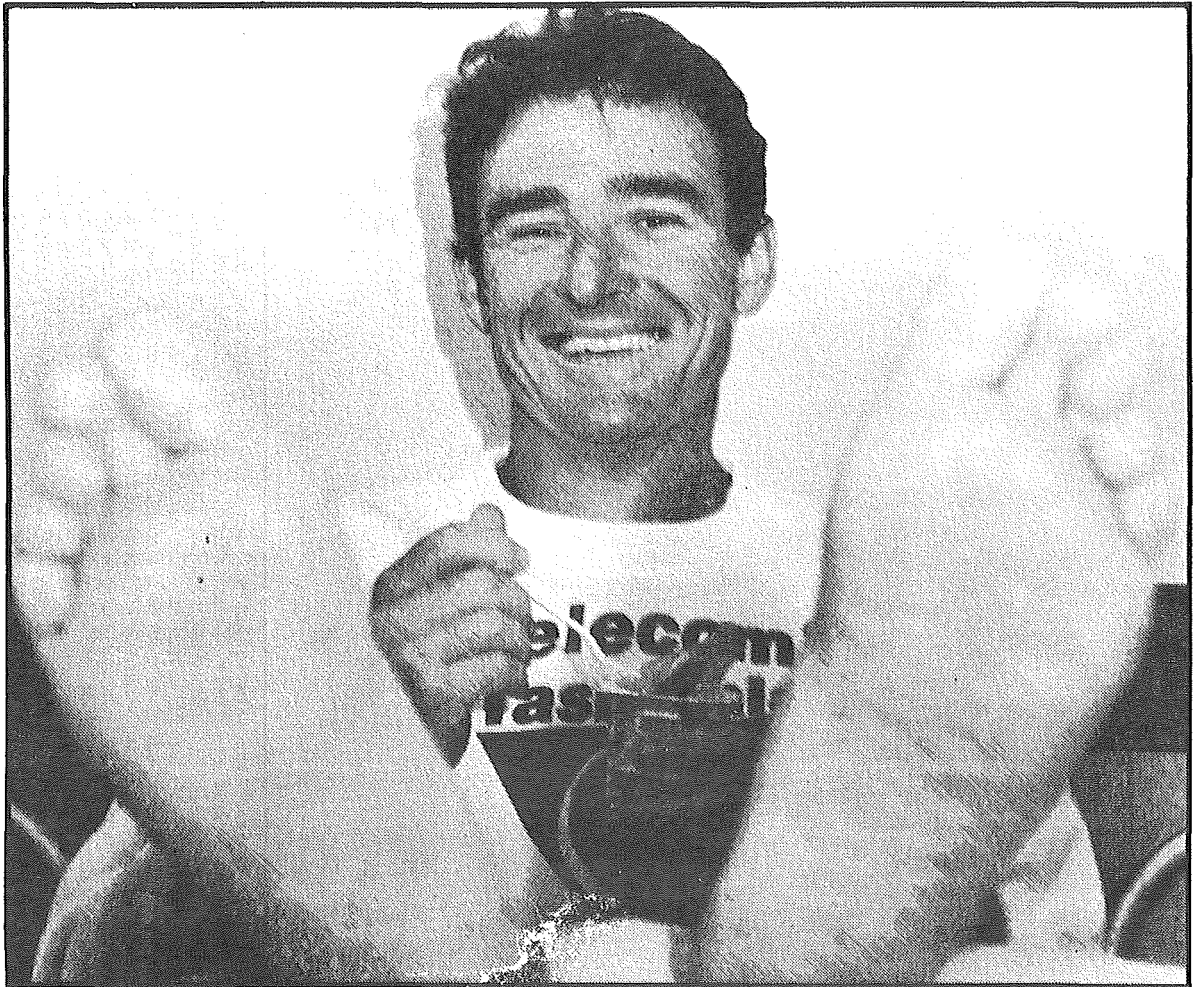
Some of the stragglers were out on the road for more than seven hours yesterday but no cases of hypothermia or other weather-related problems were reported by medical officials helping with the race.

Russian prodigy Irina Petrova, 20, was untroubled by the wintry conditions and leads the women's race by 45 minutes from British star

Eleanor Robinson, who finished both the first two stages in distress.

A chirpy Robinson remarked the weather reminded her of home as she slogged through the snow early in the day and, after a short recovery period late in the day, vowed she would be in shape for today's resumption at the Launceston Country Club Casino.





**FEET OF CLAY:** Patrick Farmer, of NSW, isn't going to sprint home to victory in the Telecom Tasmania Run, but he was happy just to get a breather yesterday.

# Weather takes the hint, terrain doesn't

By Rod Morris

THE weather was kinder but the terrain was not on the third day of the tough Telecom Tasmania Run.

An 85 km stage from Launceston down the West Tamar across the Batman Bridge and returning to the Northern capital via the East Tamar Highway, sorted out the class field.

Emerging from the pack was the Greek sensation Yiannis Kouros, who now holds a slender 1 minute 53 second lead over Hungarian Janos Bogar, winner of yesterday's stage.

Kouros, Bogar and Russian, Anatoli Kruglikov were involved in a three-way battle for the last half of the stage before the chirpy Hungarian "sprinted" to the line, winning in a time of 6 hours, 33 minutes and 59 seconds.

Kruglikov outgunned Kouros, 35 seconds behind Bogar and 42 seconds ahead of the race favourite.

Queenslander Don Wallace, who led the race for the first two days, was put out of contention through the Tamar Valley.

Wallace broke down after just 25 km and was forced to limp for the remainder of the stage after receiving medical assistance.

He eventually hit the finish line in 18th place, more than two hours and 20 minutes behind Bogar and seemingly out of all calculations.

"Wallace's injury does not surprise me," Kouros said.

"It was always going to be hard to maintain that pace for seven days, even this morning he was putting in sprints when he had no need to."

Diminutive 20-year-old Russian Irina Petrova continued her dominance over Eleanor Robinson, which is virtually a world championship final between the two female ultra-distant stars.

Petrova was eighth overall yesterday and picked up a further hour on her closest challenger.

Bogar, winner of the 1994 European 24-hour track championship,

in which he covered an amazing 261 km, said yesterday's conditions were far easier than Sunday's snow from Richmond to Ross.

"It was a privilege to run with Yiannis Kouros and even bigger privilege to beat him in the run home," Bogar said.

Kouros said he was happy with his position at the head of the field, but was still concerned with Bogar and Kruglikov.

Today's fourth stage will start at the Burnie Civic Centre at 8 a.m. and head to Wynyard before the field turns and comes back to Devonport, finishing around 4 p.m. in the City Mall.



Janos Bogar



## Missing mouse stops marathon

By Rod Morris

**RUSSIAN** ultradistance running sensation Irina Petrova briefly scared organisers of the Telecom Tasmania Run early yesterday morning.

Petrova (20) is the leading female in the gruelling seven-day race, but was hesitant to start yesterday because... she didn't have her fluffy toy mouse with her!

A small mouse christened "Mousska" is carried everywhere Petrova goes, including to the starting line of a 620 km ultramarathon.

Race organisers approved the assistance of a policeman yesterday morning to retrieve "Mousska" from Petrova's hotel room and obviously the talisman did its bit again.

Petrova was eighth overall yesterday, finishing the 85 km in 7:10.20 and more importantly gained extra time over her closest challenger, 46-year-old Briton Eleanor Robinson.

With four days of the



**SAFETY MOUSE:** 20-year-old Russian ultradistance runner Irina Petrova with her beloved toy mouse, 'Mousska'.

race remaining, Petrova is now 1:42.27 in front of Robinson and, barring injury or a total breakdown, should hold on for line honours in the women's category.

After the race yesterday, Petrova was baffled at all the media interest

in her.

"Why do you want to talk to me? There are four days to go and I'm not the winner yet," she said through an interpreter.

Her race strategy is simple: "Don't run too

slowly and just try to maintain a steady pace for each kilometre."

A fulltime runner from Moscow, Petrova is trying hard not to think of what tactics Robinson will throw at her during coming days.

## Sidelights

### Beer-man Dusan

**FLAMBOYANT** Slovenian runner Dusan Mravlje, a former winner of the tough Sydney to Melbourne run, is certainly a winner with dinkum Aussies.

Mravlje has a habit of downing a can of Fosters' beer as soon as he finishes a day's stage of the 620 km Telecom Tasmania Run.

Within 30 seconds of yesterday's stage finish in Launceston, Mravlje had already sculled his first can and was eagerly looking forward to another, followed by another.

On Sunday, Mravlje called into the Man O 'Ross Hotel for a couple of convivial glasses with the locals.

Blows all medical advice out the window, doesn't it?

● New South Welshman, Pat Farmer has a novel way of keeping his hands warm throughout the Telecom Tasmania Run.

Farmer, who, like most other runners, wears gloves, puts pepper on the inside to help keep the circulation flowing.

Farmer was second in the 1994 Trans America multi-day stage earlier this year and yesterday finished in ninth place in the 85 km Launceston stage.

● Lucian Taleman, a charismatic Belgian runner finished fifth in yesterday's stage and was quick to change into something warm.

It was then that the media noticed he had masking tape over his nipples.

The reason: to keep the circulation flowing.

Simple, when you think about it.

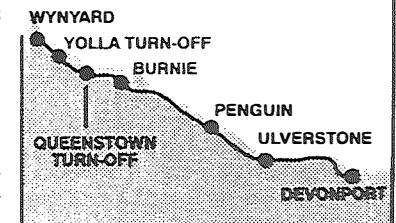
## Results

**TELECOM TASMANIA RUN results — Stage 3:** Janos Bogar, 6 hours, 33 minutes, 59 seconds, 1; Anatoly Krouglikov, 6:34.34, 2; Yiannis Kouras, 6:35.16, 3; Eric Seelhouse, 6:44.47, 4; Lucien Taleman, 6:56.09, 5; Dusan Mravlje, 7:03.48, 6; Gennady Groshev, 7:08.01, 7; Irina Petrova, 7:10.20, 8; Pat Farmer, 7:11.25, 9; Bryan Smith, 7:18.23, 10; Rolan Veillemonot, 7:50.13, 11; Eleanor Robinson, 8:07.45, 12; Harry Clements, 8:22.04, 13; Georges Jermolajevs, 8:24.13, 14; Kovalan Moodley, 8:30.18, 15; Helen Stranger, 8:33.08, 16; Sigrid Lomsky, 8:56.56, 17; Don Wallace, 8:59.57, 18.

**OVERALL:** Y. Kouras, 19:29.34, 1; J. Bogar, 19:31.17, 2; A. Krouglikov, 19:49.09, 3.

## Today's NW course

Day 4 Tuesday 9 August



# 1994 Telecom Tasmania Run — Day 3

THE EXAMINER, Tuesday, August 9, 1994



Watching for runners to pass them by yesterday were Grade 5 students from St Anthony's School at Riverside, from left: Kali Richardson, Julia Smith, Jacinta Brett and Jay Ludowyke, all aged 10.

## Irina couldn't bear to be without lucky mascot

The absence of her lucky teddy bear sent Russian 20-year-old Irina Petrova into a distressed spin before the start of yesterday's third stage. The youngest competitor in the event — who is leading the women's section — has a phobia about running without the stuffed toy in her support car. Organisers had to send a message back to Launceston's Great Northern Hotel to have the bear located in time for a police escort to pick it up and deliver it to the relieved Russian.

□ □ □

Slovenian foot-slogger Dusan Mravlje brought smiles to the faces of many gathered in the Uniting Church in Paterson St, Launceston, after yesterday's stage finish. Launceston City Council representative Scott Godfrey tried his best to help the figure huddled under a blanket before him, but was unable to assist. "Would you like some coffee, tea or soup to warm you up?" asked Godfrey. "Beer!" came the hurried reply from the thirsty athlete.

□ □ □

### SIDELIGHTS

By MATTHEW ROGERS

Greek ultra running star Yiannis Kouros had his handler Aris Grafanakis working overtime in the snow on Sunday. When Kouros requested a cup of coffee to warm him up, his handler obligingly came up with the goods after a quick visit to a farmhouse. But after carrying out another of Kouros' requests, Grafanakis accidentally jumped in an opposition support vehicle. He was soon turfed out into the snow.

□ □ □

Visions of the blizzard runners contended with on Sunday will live on in the minds of running followers throughout Australia and England for years to come. So spectacular was television footage of the runners' battle against nature's might that it was picked up by national networks 9 and 10 and the BBC in England.

□ □ □

South African runner Charl Mattheus pulled out of the gruelling run yesterday and is sorry he ever entered after trying to push on carrying a torn muscle in his left knee. "This isn't for me. I will never try another one of these in my life," said Mattheus. "I am amazed at the speed. This run could kill me forever if I try to finish."

□ □ □

Runners competing in "Hell in Paradise" might think they're having a tough time of it, but spare a thought for the event's medical officer, Christine Perry. After the runners finish each stage they can relax and take it easy, but that's when Perry is needed most. She spent most of Sunday night attending to complaints ranging from blisters to hypothermia and managed to fit in only three hours' sleep. As the event draws on and runners hurt more, opportunities for sleep become fewer for Perry, whose main concern is that she may fall asleep while treating a weary athlete.



# Courage weathers storms on land

THE EXAMINER 9/8/94

## Running mother comes close to death

By MATTHEW ROGERS

British running star Eleanor Robinson yesterday played down suggestions that she nearly died after the first stage of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

The 46-year-old mum from Cumbria had a body temperature of 31 degrees (37 is normal) and blood pressure of 50 over 45 (lower than 100 over 60 is dangerous).

"It was just the race organisers panicking," the stoic Brit claimed. Not so, said race medical officer Christine Perry, who believes the runner's life was in the balance.

"We took her to the hospital that night because she needed an intravenous drip," said Ms Perry, who held similar roles in six Sydney to Melbournes.

"But the doctor wouldn't do it and said she needed to go to bed for 24 hours. Eleanor jumped off the table and said 'I'll have it when the race finishes'."

A Launceston doctor who specialises in sports medicine said Robinson sounded "seriously ill".

"It sounds like her temperature was bordering on hypothermic and her heart was only just ticking over," said the doctor, who didn't want to be named.

With the same determination that has seen her hold 42 world records during her 13-year long distance running career, Robinson is battling on.

She has run 177km through snow, wind and rain since her scare on Saturday night and is determined to complete the 620km run.

"I'm just concentrating on getting through each day," said the woman regarded as the greatest ultra runner.



**TESTING HER LIMITS:** Briton Eleanor Robinson's face says it all as she makes her way down the West Tamar in the Telecom Tasmania Run yesterday.

Picture: PAUL SCAMBLER

"I always question the sanity of it as I run, but you do it to test your limits."

Now Robinson is playing the role of tortoise to 20-year-old Russian hare Irina Petrova, a runner young enough to be her daughter.

But with her husband Nigel and two-year-old son Myles following the race, Robinson said she has all the support she needs to run the Russian down.

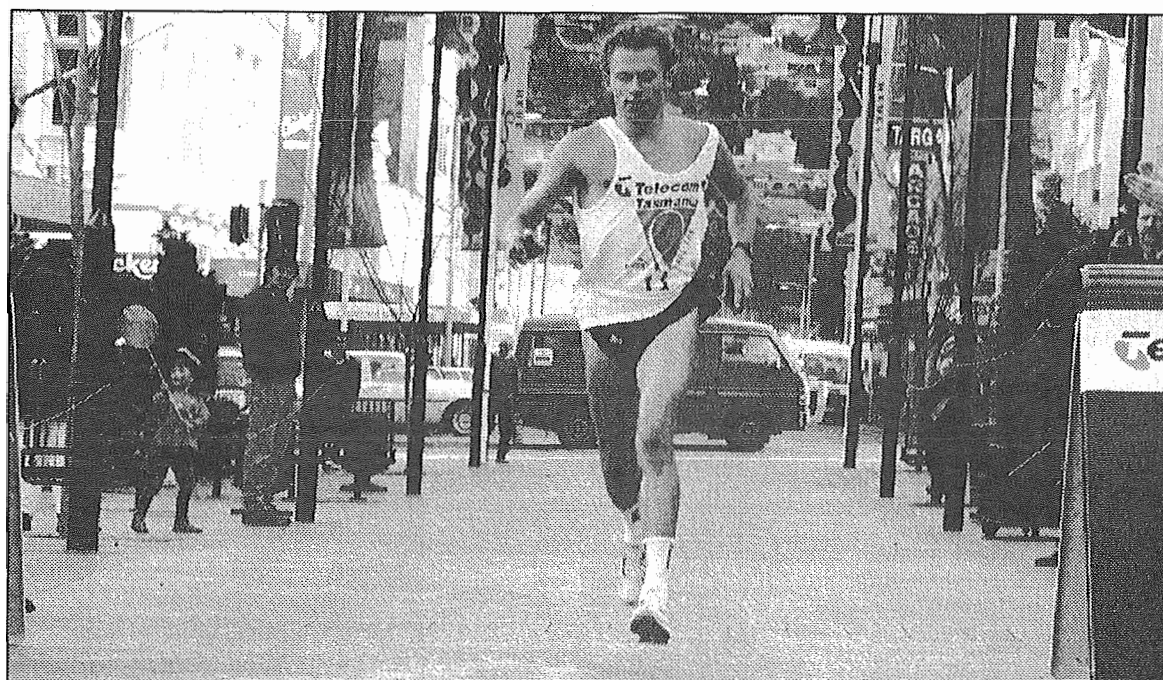
"She is a very good 100km runner and I cannot maintain the pace she has set early in the race," she said.



Telecom Tasmania Run race leader Don Wallace gets help from handlers Greg Barton and Nicolle Carroll to stretch his strained quadriceps muscle near the Batman Bridge yesterday. Wallace almost pulled out with the injury but he hobbled into Launceston with an hour to spare before the cut-off.

**THE EXAMINER 9/8/1994**

Picture: PAUL SCAMBLER



Britain's Eric Seedhouse runs to the finish line in fourth place in yesterday's 85km stage which finished in the Brisbane St Mall.

## YESTERDAY'S

## RESULTS

### AFTER YESTERDAY'S THIRD STAGE:

Y. Kouros (Greece) 6.35.16 (@ 00.00) 1; J. Bogar (Hungary) 6.33.59 (@ 0:01.53) 2; A. Krouglov (Russia) 6.34.34 (@ 0:19.35) 3; L. Taelman (Belgium) 6.56.09 (@ 1:09.09) 4; E. Seedhouse (Great Britain) 6.44.47 (@ 2:00.17) 5; D. Wallace (Queensland) 8:59.57 6; G. Groshev (Russia) 7:08.01 (@ 2:26.37) 7; D. Mravlje (Slovenia) 7:03.48 (@ 2:30.33) 8; R. Vuilleminot (France) 7:50.13 (@ 2:36.28) 9; I. Petrova (Russia) 7:10.20 (@ 2:58.24) 10; B. Smith (Vic) 7:18.23 (@ 3:08.32) 11; P. Farmer (NSW) 7:11.25 (@ 4:02.35) 12; E. Robinson (Great Britain) 8:07.45 (@ 4:39.52) 13; K. Moodley 8:30.18 (@ 5:21.10) 14; V. Klement 8:22.04 (@ 5:22.38) 15; C. Mattheus (South Africa) 10:30.00 (@ 6:41.54) 16; S. Lomsky 8:56.56 (@ 7:11.21) 17; H. Stanger 8:33.08 (@ 7:16.22) 18; C. Rochotte 9:22.04 (@ 7:43.01) 19; G. Jermolajevs 8:24.13 (@ 7:46.31) 20; R. Parker 9:32.37 (@ 8:22.06) 21; J. Rooney 9:23.08 (@ 9:32.10) 22; K. Santalov 10:30.00 (@ 9:34.05) 23; A. Law 10:30.00 (@ 11:21.51) 24; G. McConnell 10:14.58 (@ 11:55.41) 25; A. Lucas 10:14.58 (@ 11:55.41) 26; H. Clements 10:30.00 (@ 13:33.43) 27.



# Even the tough suffer in 'Hell'

THE man who had dominated the Telecom Tasmania Run for two days, hobbled towards the Batman Bridge yesterday and appeared to have succumbed to the pressures of injury and the rugged Tasmanian environment.

Don Wallace led the field through chilly winds in the Derwent Valley and a blizzard on the road from Richmond to Ross but as the winter sun gave the race a brighter hue yesterday, the Queenslander knew his race was run.

Less than three hours into the third of seven gruelling days, Wallace hobbled bravely through Exeter, clutching his right quadricip constantly, before collapsing and finishing on a stretcher within sight of the bridge.

The Queenslander made an amazing recovery to jog into Launceston late yesterday afternoon but he looks to have lost all chance unless a miracle recovery happens overnight.

"I felt it start to hurt yesterday but I thought I could run through it," said Wallace, during a painful roadside stop past Exeter.

At that stage he was bravely considering hobbling through and resuming his challenge to Yiannis Kourous and company.

He later confirmed he'll be back on the road after some medical treatment, despite losing all chance with his 18th stage placing, more than two hours behind Hungarian Janos Bogar.

Wallace appeared to be the fifth man to bow to injury and the tough race, dubbed "Hell in Paradise" with good reason.

Tasmanians Andrew Law and Andrew Lucas joined Russian Konstantin Sandalov as injured drop outs on

## RESULTS

Yiannis Kourous 19h28m17s 1; Janos Bogar 1m53s behind 2; Anatoly Kruglikov 20m52s 3; Lucien Taelman 1h10m26s 4; Erik Seedhouse 2h04m34s 5; Gennady Groshev 2h27m54s 6; Dusan Mravljic 2h31m50s 7; Roland Vullemeot, 2h37m45s 8; Irina Petrova 2h59m41s 9; Bryan Smith 3h9m44s 10; Don Wallace, 3h51m25s 11; Pat Farmer 4h03m42s 12; Eleanor Robinson 4h41m09s 13; Kovalan Moodley 5h22m27s 14; Valery Klement 5h23m55s 15; Sigrid Lomsky 7h12m38s 16; Helen Stanger 7h17m39s 17; Christophe Rochotte 7h43m18s 18; Georges Jermolavejs 7h47m48s 19; Ross Parker 8h23m23s 20; James Rooney, 9h33m27s 21; Georgina McConnell 11h56m58s 22.

day two, while New South Wales runner Harry Clements missed the cut in Ross on Sunday night, after straggling home many hours behind the leaders.

That reduced the field of 27 to 23 and within a few minutes South African Charl Mattheus became the next victim.

Nursing a swollen left knee the Comrades Marathon winner declared the race was just too tough and he doubted if he would be back.

"I can't believe the pace these guys are running at," said Mattheus.

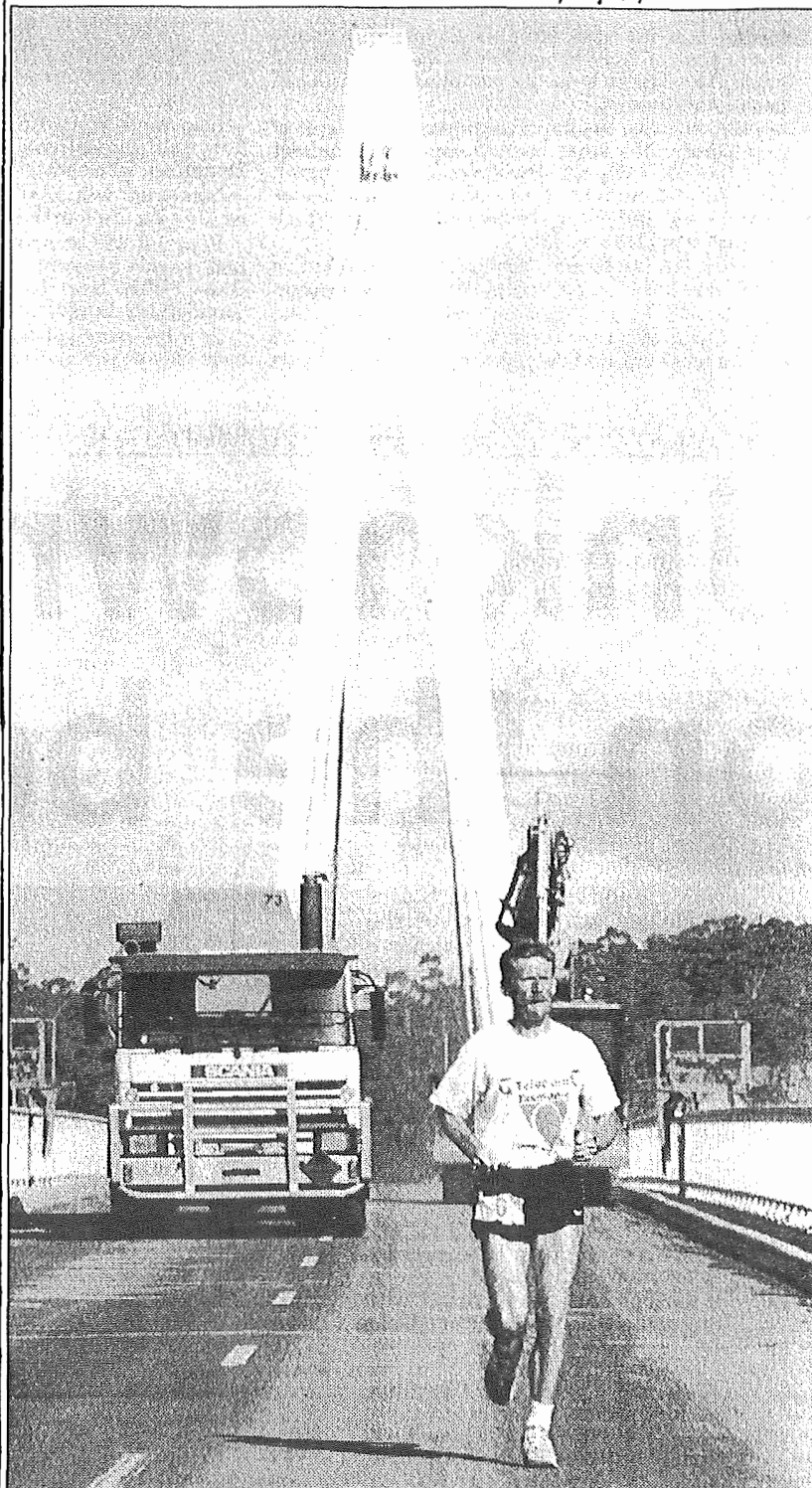
"The front runners are travelling at four minutes per kilometre — I expected a much slower pace."

Five very tough females were still looking good yesterday, headed by the amazing 20-year-old Russian Irina Petrova, who was eighth overall in the third stage.

Petrova won her third straight stage from England's Eleanor Robinson, Australian Helen Stanger, German Sigrid Lomsky and Aussie Georgina McConnell.

Predictions the race may claim more than half the field seem sure to come true with four more gut-busting stages to go, averaging 90 kilometres a day.

The runners travel 96 kilometres from Burnie to Devonport via Wynyard today before a haunting climb from Devonport to Cradle Mountain tomorrow.



Belgian runner Lucien Taelman runs over the Batman Bridge during yesterday's 85km along both the West and East Tamar.

Pictures: PAUL SCAMBLEY

# Kouros cruises into run lead

## Injury slows overnight leader Wallace

THE EXAMINER, Tuesday, August 9, 1994

By MATTHEW ROGERS

Race favourite Yiannis Kouros, of Greece, coasted to the lead of the Telecom Tasmania Run yesterday as the leader for the first two days, Queenslander Don Wallace, faltered in the Tamar Valley.

Kouros finished fourth in the 85km third stage and looked untroubled by the demanding terrain and pace as injury dashed the winning hopes of Wallace.

After winning the first two stages, Wallace was firmly installed as race leader, but a torn right quadricep made the going tough and he limped home within the cut-off time.

Wallace said he had encountered difficulty lifting his right leg during the hard racing on day one, denying his sprint finish to defeat Hungarian Janos Bogar in Sunday's stage had contributed to the injury.

"We tried to treat it ourselves and it didn't work," a dejected Wallace said last night.

"The muscle just shut down on the descent into Exeter and I had to limp along the rest of the way.

"I'll keep hanging in there and see what happens, but I have never run a multi-stage race before in my life and I'm pleased with what I've done."

Bogar drew clear of Kouros and Russian Anatoli Kruglikov in yesterday afternoon's approach to the Brisbane St Mall and was greeted by a large and vocal crowd.

The stage win saw Bogar cut his deficit to Kouros by more than a minute and was 1min 53secs down in second spot overnight after starting the day 3mins 10secs behind.

But the Hungarian doesn't believe he can beat the great Kouros in a seven-day event and is in obvious awe of the man alongside whom he considers it a privilege to run.

"I don't think I'll beat Kouros," Bogar said through an interpreter.

"Five days is the longest event I have run in before and I like to go uphill, not down.

"So far I've come third, second and now first and I am happy with that."

While others crumbled around him, Kouros said the event wasn't tough enough and he was surprised to find himself in the lead so easily.

"Resting every afternoon and night does

not suit me — the longer the race the better," Kouros said.

"That was the toughest stage so far, but I ran steady all day. I thought today we would finish together like friends.

"I increased my speed near the end when the pace lifted, but I did not want to kill myself. My form is good and I did not expect to run any better."

Kouros said he considered Bogar and Kruglikov "very good runners" who would make the race interesting.

But the Greek legend condemned Wallace for his dramatic start to the event.

"I was expecting to see him crumble," Kouros said.

"I admire what he did the first couple of days, but I knew it could not last."

Great Britain's Eric Seedhouse was the major improver yesterday, finishing fourth in the stage to enforce the widely-held belief he will ultimately be the only man left to challenge Kouros.

Russian 20-year-old Irina Petrova extended her lead over revered British ultra runner Eleanor Robinson, coming home eighth.

Five runners have now abandoned the event, South African

Charl Mattheus joining Russian favourite Konstantin Santalov and Tasmanians Andrew Law and Andrew Lucas.

New South Welshman Harry Clements failed in a last-ditch effort to remain in the race after failing to make the cut-off time on Sunday night.

Day four of the event today will see the athletes leave Burnie at 8am, heading to Wynyard and back along the Bass Highway to the finish in Devonport well ahead of the scheduled 4pm finish.

Organisers will today assess roads and weather conditions before announcing whether tomorrow's stage from Devonport to Cradle Mountain will go ahead on the planned route.

### THE RACE LEADERS

#### YESTERDAY'S STAGE

##### DAY 3, 85km

1. Janos Bogar (Hungary).
2. Yiannis Kouros (Greece).
3. Anatoli Kruglikov (Russia).
4. Eric Seedhouse (UK).

#### OVERALL

##### (After 265km)

1. Yiannis Kouros (Greece).
2. Janos Bogar (Hungary).





# Kouros leads despite win by Bogar

By JOHN BRIGGS

YIANNIS Kouros maintained his relentless progress towards a win in the Telecom Tasmania Run yesterday despite a stage win by Hungarian rival Janos Bogar.

The Greek star moved into the overall lead after a chronic groin injury reduced overnight pacesetter Don Wallace to a shuffle.

Bogar and Kouros took the honours while Queenslander Wallace was receiving medical treatment and struggling at the back of the field in a courageous, if foolhardy, attempt to continue past the third of seven days.

Russian Anatoly Kruglikov joined Kouros and Bogar in a three-man pack that stayed together for all but the final few kilometres of the 87-kilometre stage through the Tamar Valley.

The women's leader, Russian Irina Petrova, won her third stage to emerge with a huge lead from England's Eleanor Robinson and German Sigrid Lomsky.

Bogar, who has sprinted home in style almost to pip Wallace on Sunday, had his moment of glory with a 35-second winning margin over Kruglikov, with Kouros content to trail in third a further 42 seconds astern.

Bogar ran the 87-kilometre stage in 6h33.59s to continue an amazing pace in the front bunch.

As Kouros kissed his rivals on both cheeks after the race, he was well aware he maintained a lead of 1m53s in the overall standings.

The Hungarian said he had no problems about his sprint finishes and rejected theories they may cost him dearly before the race ends in Hobart on Friday.

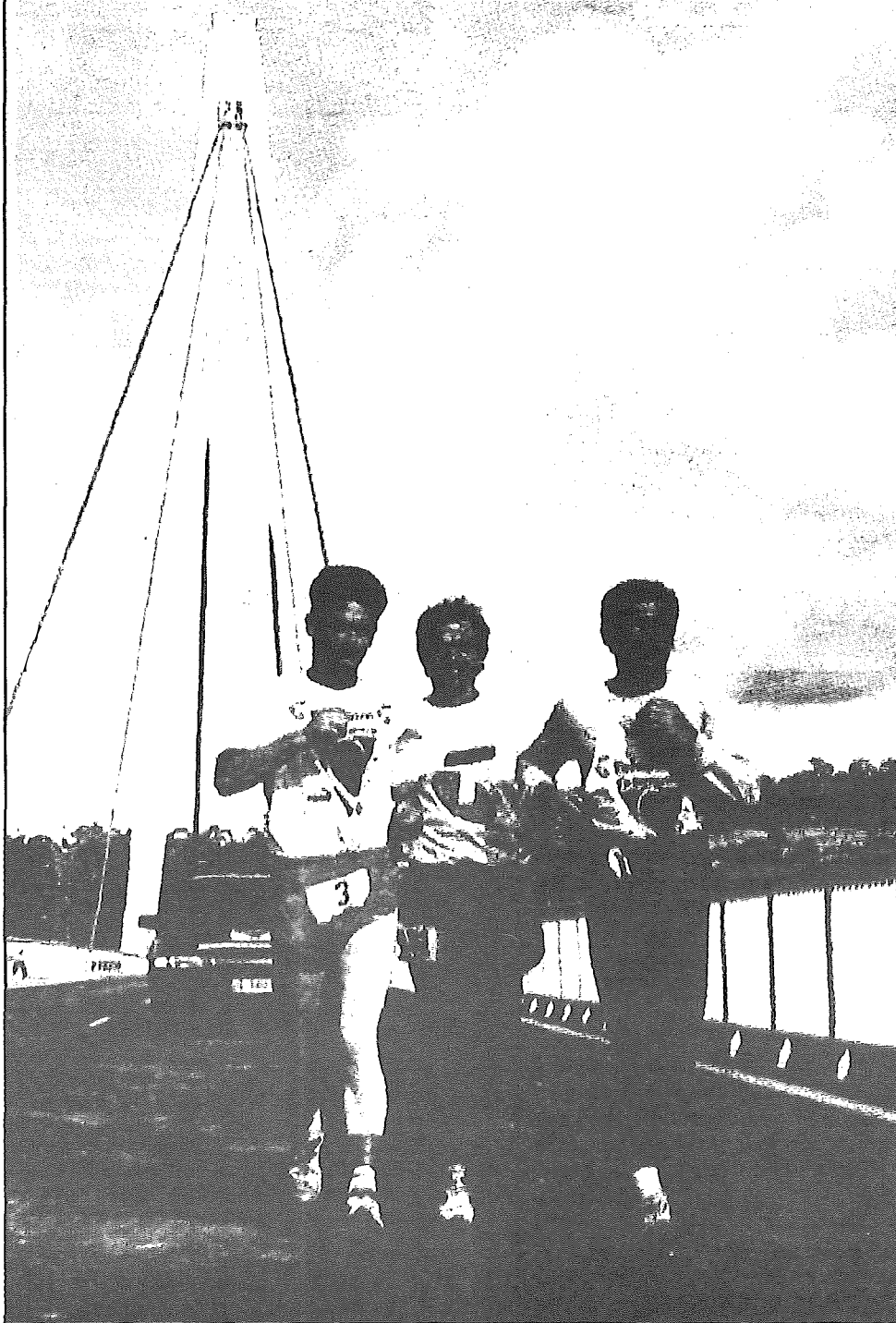
"I wanted to be the first one home on the previous two days and made sure of it this time," Bogar said with a wide grin.

He tipped Kouros to be the overall winner, although he may have been "foxing" after impressing many of the race observers for three days.

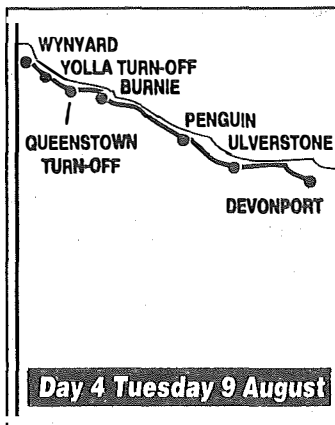
The hilly final 20 kilometres proved no major challenge for the leading trio and Kouros said downhill running was often a greater challenge for him.

"I'm feeling good and I'll

THE MERCURY, AUGUST 9, 1994



Over the Batman Bridge in the Tamar Valley yesterday ... Janos Bogar, Anatoly Kruglikov and Yiannis Kouros.



## TELECOM TASMANIA RUN

### START BURNIE

(Civic Centre) 8.00am

Leaders expected:

Queenstown turn-off 8.30am

Yolla turn-off 9.00am

Wynyard roundabout 10.00am

Bass Highway 10.30pm

Burnie 11.30am

Penguin 1.00pm

Ulverstone 2.00pm

### FINISH DEVONPORT

(Rooke St Mall) 4.00pm

\* All times approximate only

training pace," said Seedhouse, who looked remarkably fresh after the run.

Seedhouse was more than eight minutes ahead of Belgian Lucien Taelman, who is fourth overall.

Next to finish yesterday were Slovenian Dusan Mravlje, Russian Gennady Groshev, Petrova and Aussie Pat Farmer.

The women's race has been developing into a tortoise-and-hare affair, with Petrova taking each stage from Robinson and building up a huge advantage.

But some observers believe Robinson may yet triumph if the 20-year-old Petrova falters through lack of multi-day experience in the next four days.

be ready for the morning after a long massage," he said.

Kruglikov picked up a small amount of time on Kouros but still trails the overall leader by nearly 20 minutes.

Englishman Erik Seedhouse made a big impression with a strong run into fourth place, finishing just 3m50s behind Bogar and moving up into fifth overall.

"I'm getting better each day and just going at my

THE  
MERCURY

## Make more of paradise

**I**T may not have been the most bizarre event seen on Tasmania's roads. But it will take some topping.

Twenty-four runners — either the toughest in the world or the craziest, depending on the observer's perspective — battled through the snow in a race dubbed "Hell in Paradise".

Hell in hell may have been more appropriate.

Instead of running shorts and singlets, the competitors were decked out in thermal wear to keep their bodies at running temperature.

In weather which blocked highways and brought cars to a standstill, some of the world's greatest ultramarathoners, including Greek legend Yiannis Kouros, battled for supremacy in a race which will go down in sporting history.

It is the first "Hell in Paradise" event. It will not be the last, though it may go down as the toughest.

The publicity generated by the runners taking on blizzards has ensured that the healthy interest in the event this year, will increase dramatically for the next race.

The challenge for Tasmanians — the promoters, the State Government and the general community — is how they can make a good thing even better.

Like them or loathe them, it is difficult to remain indifferent to events such as "Hell in Paradise", Targa Tasmania, Agfest, the air race and the great seafaring spectacles such as the Sydney-to-Hobart and the Melbourne-to-Hobart yacht races.

### Outstanding

The events can provide a base upon which other functions can grow.

For example, the yacht races provide an excellent launching pad for festival events such as the Taste of Tasmania.

The Taste of Tasmania and its accompanying entertainments has been an outstanding success.

It has added to the diversity of the tourism industry in this state.



**Former Telecom Tasmania Run leader Don Wallace receives roadside treatment for injury near Exeter yesterday before battling on to the finish.**

The "Taste" has expanded the calendar of events which tourists can enjoy, and which can encourage people to extend their stay Tasmania.

Ways to widen the scope of events such as "Hell in Paradise" must be found.

They may never reach the heights of the Tour de France as a tourist attraction, but they can all help make Tasmania a more attractive place for visitors.

For example, the fourth Ben Lomond Descent was held near Blesington on Sunday.

This race could be promoted more vigorously and tied in with the "Hell in Paradise" run as an event for athletes from interstate who are not up to the torture of an ultramarathon.

There are other events which could be rescheduled so that they could be held in between stages of "Hell in Paradise".

"Hell in Paradise" has the potential to be a magnificent, permanent addition to the world's schedule of ultramarathons.

Tasmania must do all it can to tap into this potential.



# New race leader after run in the sun

THE ADVOCATE 10/8/94

TELECOM Tasmania Run athletes yesterday shrugged off the memory of Sunday's trudge through snow in the Midlands and emerged into the sunshine of the North-West leg of the 620 km ultra-marathon.

Yesterday's 92 km stage from Burnie to Wynyard and then Devonport produced a new race leader in Hungarian Janos Bogar, who finished 5 minutes and 50 seconds ahead of Yiannis Kouros.

Kouros was held up when he had to change a pair of ill-fitting shoes which were hurting his feet.

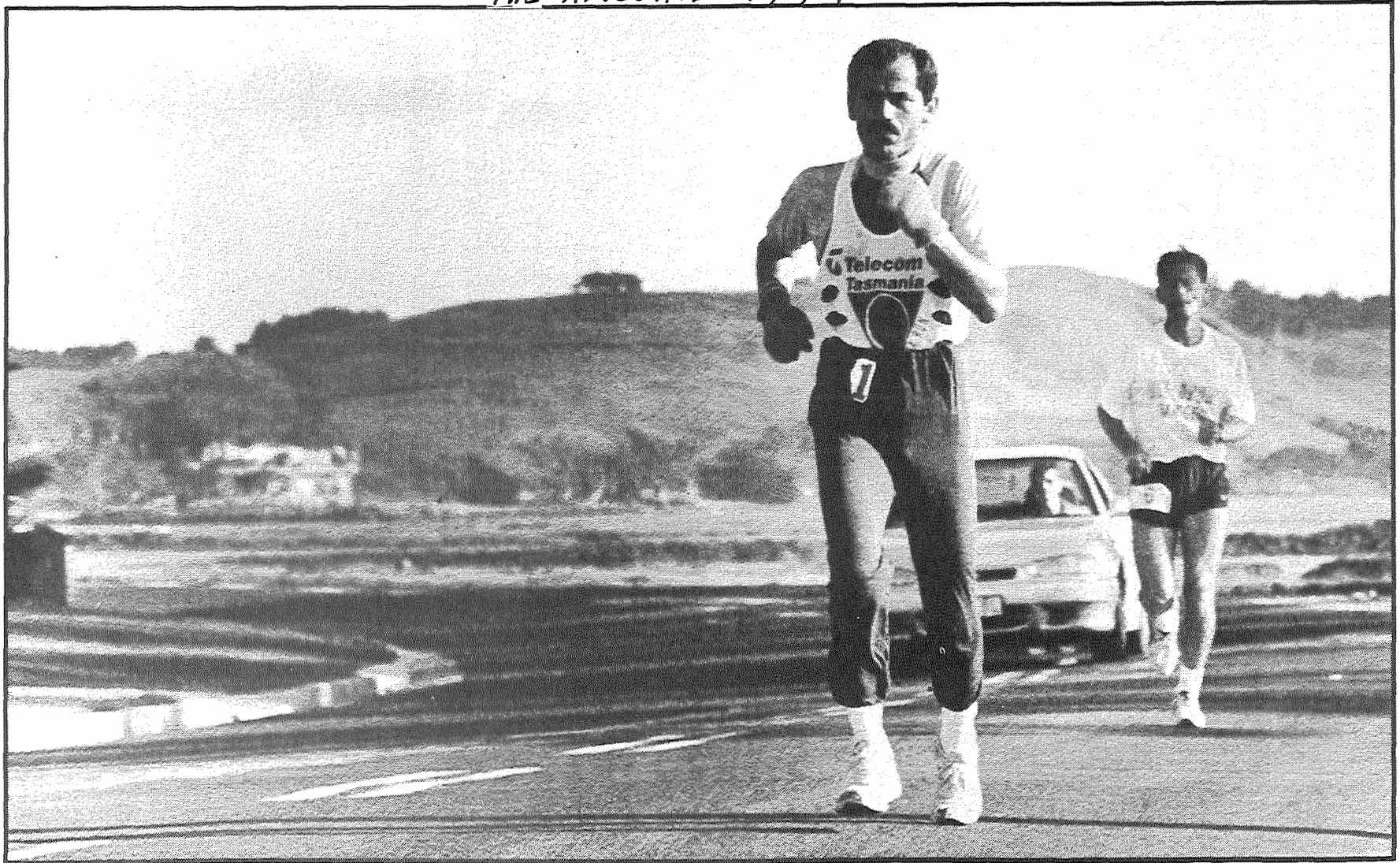
The stage was won by Russian Anatoli Kruglikov, who revelled in the faster pace set on the flat roads of the North-West Coast.

However, today's run from Devonport to the Cradle Mountain Lodge should favour Bogar, who prefers a hilly, slower course.

Early pacesetter Don Wallace, of Queensland, was the only withdrawal yesterday after suffering a severe muscle strain.

Twenty-year-old Russian Irina Petrova strengthened her grip on the women's event and lies eighth overall.

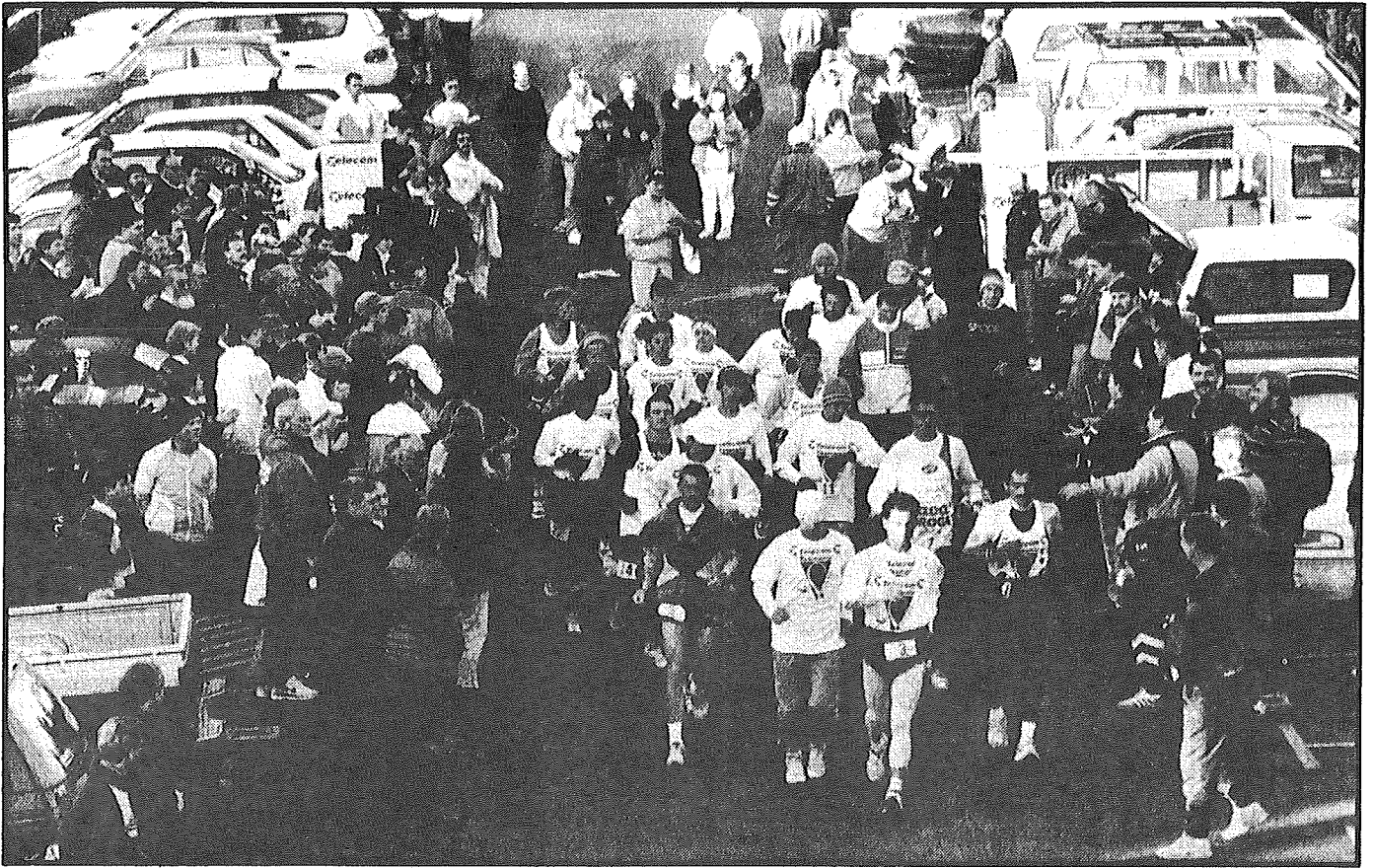
● More stories, pictures — Pages 42, 44.



**STILL GOING STRONG:** Greek super runner Yiannis Kouros makes his way along the Old Bass Highway at East Wynyard on route to Devonport during yesterday's 92 km stage of the Telecom Tasmania Run.



## Telecom Tasmania Run



**LONG ROAD AHEAD:** Runners head off from the Burnie Civic Centre on the road to Wynyard in yesterday's fourth stage of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

## Mixed emotions for Belgian athlete

By Rod Morris

**BELGIAN** Lucien Taelman didn't know whether to feel happy or sad yesterday.

Taelman has spent the early part of the Telecom Tasmania Run bemoaning the fact that there were too many hills, which does not suit his training regime.

"A bridge over water is considered a hill in Belgium," he joked.

"There is one hill, which is 60 m from top to bottom and I trained on that by running up and down there for three hours a day."

Therefore yesterday's 92 km Burnie-Wynyard-Devonport stage should have suited the fleet-footed Taelman.

After all, the biggest hill climb was at Penguin, where the rise is about 100 m.

While Taelman was happy with his stage time of 7:18.58, he was disappointed he could do no better than

fourth behind Anatoli Kruglikov, Janos Bogar and Yiannis Kouros.

"I was hoping for a top-three finish in this stage, which looked as though it would have suited me," he said.

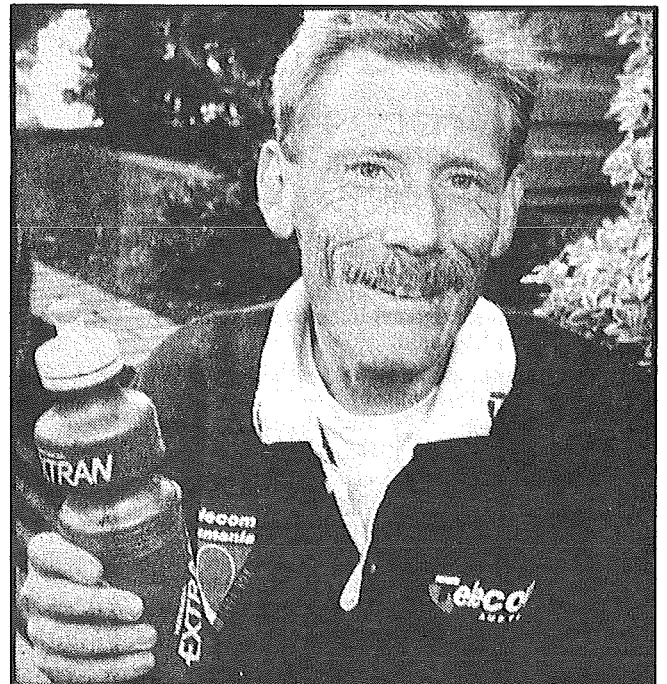
"I went out very fast at the start of the stage, but the top three worked well early before burning me off."

Taelman said on Monday the North-West stage was "going to be my day".

"So, you can see, I don't know whether to be happy or not," he said.

Taelman is still fourth overall, but an almost insurmountable 1:48.09 behind new leader Bogar, who yesterday replaced Yiannis Kouros.

Don't expect Taelman to figure too strongly, as the field must challenge a 950 m climb from Devonport to Cradle Mountain, battling 92 km and an expected steady downfall of snow.



**DAZED AND CONFUSED:** Belgian runner Lucien Taelman. . . didn't know whether to laugh or cry when he could do no better than fourth in yesterday's North-West leg of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

# Tas. could become ultra-distance mecca

By Sean Ford

TASMANIA could develop into the mecca of ultra-distance running, following the success of the present Telecom Tasmania Race.

The inaugural race may be the precursor to even bigger things, with Mr Graeme Paine, the acting manager of special events for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, saying yesterday it was hoped the race would develop into "the pinnacle of ultra-running in the world".

It appears the race will become an annual event —

certainly the public interest and quality of the field have been excellent.

"We've got the option of being part of a circuit or trying to put it at the top," Mr Paine said.

Asked about the race's timing — in winter conditions which ranged from good to dreadful in the first four days — Mr Paine said it had presented athletes with varied conditions and challenges, "which is what we want".

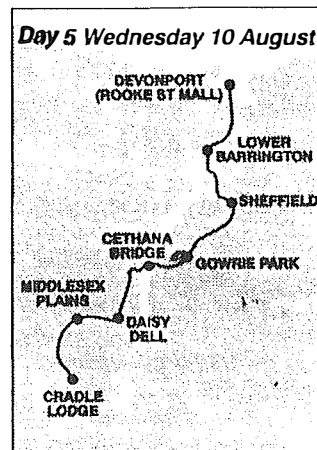
The department is aiming to lock the race into its push to secure special international events in the State each month.

The president of the International Association of Ultrarunners, Mr Malcolm Campbell, has been suitably impressed by the race so far.

Speaking at the Burnie Civic Centre before yesterday's fourth stage, Mr Campbell said: "I think it will become THE event".

"The format of the race means you can put stages where you want... and it's got all the potential to be one of the leading events.

"Basically, there isn't anything to change. The athletes are pleased with the race and delighted by the organisation."



## TODAY — STAGE 5

Start: Devonport Mall, 8 a.m.

Leaders expected —

Lower Barrington: 9.10 a.m.

Sheffield: 10.20 a.m.

Gowrie Park: 11.45 a.m.

Cethana Bridge: 12.30 p.m.

Cradle Mountain Rd: 1.20 p.m.

Daisy Dell: 2.10 p.m.

Middlesex Plains: 2.40 p.m.

Finish: Cradle Mountain Lodge: 3.30 p.m.

• All times are approximate only.

## Step, drag, grimace . . . grin

By Sean Ford

JAMES Rooney was limping along like a footballer with a torn hamstring.

Step, drag, grimace, step, drag, grimace . . . surely he's not going to race is he?

"It's a bit better today," the Sydney-based athlete says.

"It's good weather today and the course is reasonably flat. It'll be less stressful than tomorrow."

The muscle injury started to trouble him at the end of the second day of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

He survived Monday's 85 km third stage and hobbled off from the Burnie Civic Centre yesterday morning for a further 92 km.

They are incredible, these people.

Twenty minutes earlier, British champ Eleanor Robinson was swanning around at the breakfast function at the Burnie Civic Centre with all the joie de vivre of a woman about to dine at her favourite restaurant, scoff some fine wine and go dancing.

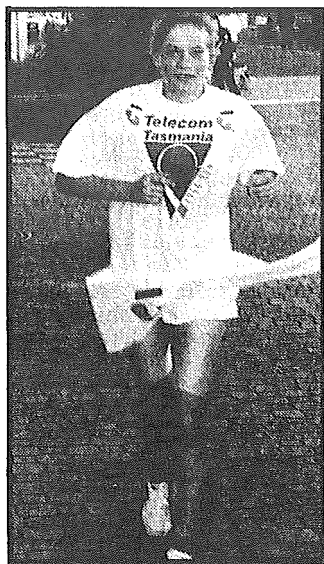
Not bad for a woman who was reportedly half-dead the day before.

Nearby, Sigrid Lomsky was stretching, looking relaxed but determined and nattering away in German.

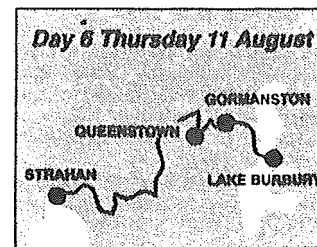
Later, near the starting line, the athletes hardly looked in awe and dread of what they were about to tackle.

Surely, these are the strongest and bravest of athletes.

Watch them if you can. You won't forget them.



WHAT HELL?: Russian Irina Petrova looked fine.



## TOMORROW — STAGE 6

Start: Strahan wharf: 7 a.m.

Queenstown: 10 a.m.

Gormanston: 11 a.m.

Lake Burbury: 12.15 p.m.

Gormanston: 1 p.m.

Finish: Queenstown Town Hall: 2 p.m.

• All times are approximate only.

## Sidelights

THE MAYOR of Devonport, Ald. Geoff Squibb, MLC, will host a breakfast in the City Mall at 7 a.m. today to celebrate the start of stage five of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

Today's stage will be one of the toughest yet — an 85 km run from Devonport to Cradle Mountain with an estimated climb of 950 m.

But it will also be one of the most scenic, with constant snow over the past two weeks literally blanketing the highland areas.

★ ★ ★

Englishman Eric Seedhouse was again prominent yesterday, finishing fifth in 7 hours, 26 minutes and 14 seconds.

That enabled the European Triple Endurance Triathlon medallist to hold down fifth place overall.

However, he is still a demanding 2h49m33s behind race leader, Janos Bogar, of Hungary.

But Seedhouse explained that his excessive fluid intake yesterday forced him to take several calls of nature over the closing 30 km.

"I was stopping almost every two minutes," he said.

★ ★ ★

Winner of stage four of the Telecom Tasmania Run, Anatoli Kruglikov, was a late entrant in the race and therefore missed much of the media build-up.

He is certainly making his presence felt as an ultra-distance runner, but that should not be overly surprising, considering his sporting background includes 20 years as a nordic skier.

★ ★ ★

Four days down and the field of world class ultra-distance marathon runners have now covered 357 of the 620 km.

Today the field will be forced to climb an estimated 950 m over the Devonport to Cradle Mountain stage, which is 85 km.

Tomorrow will see West Coast action as the runners challenge the 76 km, Strahan-Queenstown-Gormanston-Queenstown leg.

Janos Bogar, race leader after the fourth stage, has estimated he has lost close to 4 kg, despite maintaining a constant food and drink intake.

A vegetarian, Bogar has been a busy consumer at the post-stage food stations.

★ ★ ★

Although he has lost the yellow leaders' jersey, Greek runner Yiannis Kouros, remains confident he will be there at the finish on Friday.

Kouros was forced to change shoes after yesterday's start and consequently lost an important two minutes to race leader Janos Bogar and the eventual stage winner, Anatoli Kruglikov.

# Russian stakes

The Advocate, Wednesday, August 10, 1994

## claim

### 'Late starter' shows form

By Rod Morris

RUSSIAN Anatoli Kruglikov was a late and unheralded entrant in the inaugural Telecom Tasmania Run, but yesterday he made everyone sit up and take notice.

Kruglikov has put 18,000 km training in for this event alone and yesterday he was rewarded with victory in the Burnie-Wynyard-Devonport, 92 km stage.

In almost perfect conditions compared to Sunday's snow-covered Richmond to Ross stage, the field of world class ultra-distance runners headed by Kruglikov, Yiannis Kouros and Janos Bogar gave roadside spectators plenty to cheer about.

Kruglikov finished the 92 km in six hours, 41 minutes and 15 seconds at an average of 14 km/h.

While Kruglikov was the star on day four of the 620 km trek around Tasmania, Hungarian Bogar pinched the lead off the Greek sensation, Kouros.

Bogar was 8:16s behind Kruglikov in the time of 6:49:31, but more importantly, 5:50s ahead of Kouros, meaning he had turned a 1:53s deficit into a lead of 3:57s.

Bogar will now carry the yellow leader's jersey into today's stage, which promises to be one of the toughest and yet most scenic of the run.

Queenslander Don Wallace, who set the pace for the field on the first two days was the only casualty of yesterday's stage.

Wallace was forced to withdraw after just one hour of further punishment to his right quadricep muscle, which was badly strained in Monday's Tamar Valley stage.

The field will leave the Devonport Mall at 8 a.m. for an 85 km climb to the Cradle Mountain Valley, finishing at the Cradle Lodge at approximately 3.30 p.m.

Runners will be asked to climb 950 m throughout the Lower Barrington, Sheffield, Cethana and Daisy Dell stage.

In the women's race, Russian 20-year-old Irina Petrova extended her already healthy lead over Englishwoman Eleanor Robinson.

#### Overall standings

Janos Bogar, 26:19:41s, 1; Yiannis Kouros, 3m57s behind, 2; Anatoli Kruglikov, 12m36s, 3; Lucien Taelman, 1h48m09s, 4; Eric Seedhouse, 2h49m33s, 5.



**FIRST HOME:** Russian athlete Anatoli Kruglikov breaks the tape in Devonport at the end of yesterday's 92 km stage.

Kouros is now nursing a blister and a swollen small toe on his right foot because of the ill-fitting shoes.

Anatoli Kruglikov, 6 hours, 41 minutes, 15 seconds, 1; Jonas Bogar, 6:49.31, 2; Yiannis Kouros, 6:55.21, 3; Lucien Taelman, 7:18.58, 4; Eric Seedhouse, 7:26.14, 5; Pat Farmer, 7:40.34, 6; Gennady Goshev, 7:40.41, 7; Dusan Mravlje, 7:44.08, 8; Bryan Smith, 7:48.42, 9; Irina Petrova, 7:51.43, 10; Valery Klement, 8:14.43, 11; Eleanor Robinson, 8:36.00, 12; Kovalan Moodley, 9:04.52, 13; Helen Stranger, 9:37.53, 14.

Withdrew: Don Wallace.

## Results

Telecom Tasmania Run results —  
STAGE 4



Petrova — eighth overall — was 10th in yesterday's stage, while Robinson was 44:17s behind in 12th place and now trails the tiny Russian by more than three hours.

Kruglikov, obviously happy with his stage win, said: "The pace was very fast from the start of today's stage and that's how I like it."

It was a different story from Bogar however.

"Today's stage did not suit me, it was too flat and too fast, I would much prefer if it was hilly," he said through his interpreter.

"I am very happy with my overall position, but would have been just as happy if I was second or third."

Bogar said he would not finish outside the top three over the closing three stages.

He will enter today's hill climb stage as a "warm" favourite.

Yesterday, Bogar spent much of the last 10 km looking over his shoulder for Kouros.

"I was concerned where he was, I was trying desperately to stay ahead of him," he explained.

Kruglikov, Bogar and Kouros set the pace early, burning off Belgian, Lucien Taelman in the first 40 km.

The factors that cost Bogar and Kouros were the necessary calls of nature and — for Kouros — shoe changing.

"The shoes I started the day with were a little bit too big and they ended up hurting my feet," Kouros explained.

"And when I had to stop for relief, I lost more ground."

Bogar said he was stuck in the middle, not sure of whether to chase Kruglikov or wait for Kouros and work in tandem.

Helen Stranger was the first Australian woman to finish yesterday, in the time of 9:37:53s and 14th place.

While some runners considered yesterday's stage the easiest so far, seven athletes had not completed the course by dusk and were in danger of missing the 8 km/h, or 8.30 p.m. cut-off stipulation.

HE'S back on the road again and "Fast Eddie" Westburgh is loving every minute of it.

The first Tasmanian to tackle the grinding ultramarathon scene in two Sydney to Melbourne races is playing his part in the seven-day Telecom Tasmania Run as one of the support team for Greek champion Yiannis Kouros.

"Fast Eddie" is living up to his nickname as the drinks man and all-round helper for the "Colossus of Roads", presently holding second place.

"I'm covering as much ground as Kouros, running back and forth with drinks

every mile or so," said Eddie.

While the run has been full of dramas there have been plenty of laughs for runners and officials.

"The worst thing to happen has been Aris getting lost in the snow on Sunday," said Eddie.

Hobart Greek community leader Aris Grafanakis, who is part of Kouros' team, got into the wrong vehicle during the snow storm on the Mudwalls Road, south of Oatlands.

Visibility was near zero and Aris found himself in a media vehicle and temporarily lost in the blizzard.

There have been happy

stories, like the time Kouros found himself in need of some warm drinks and the crew had no hot water.

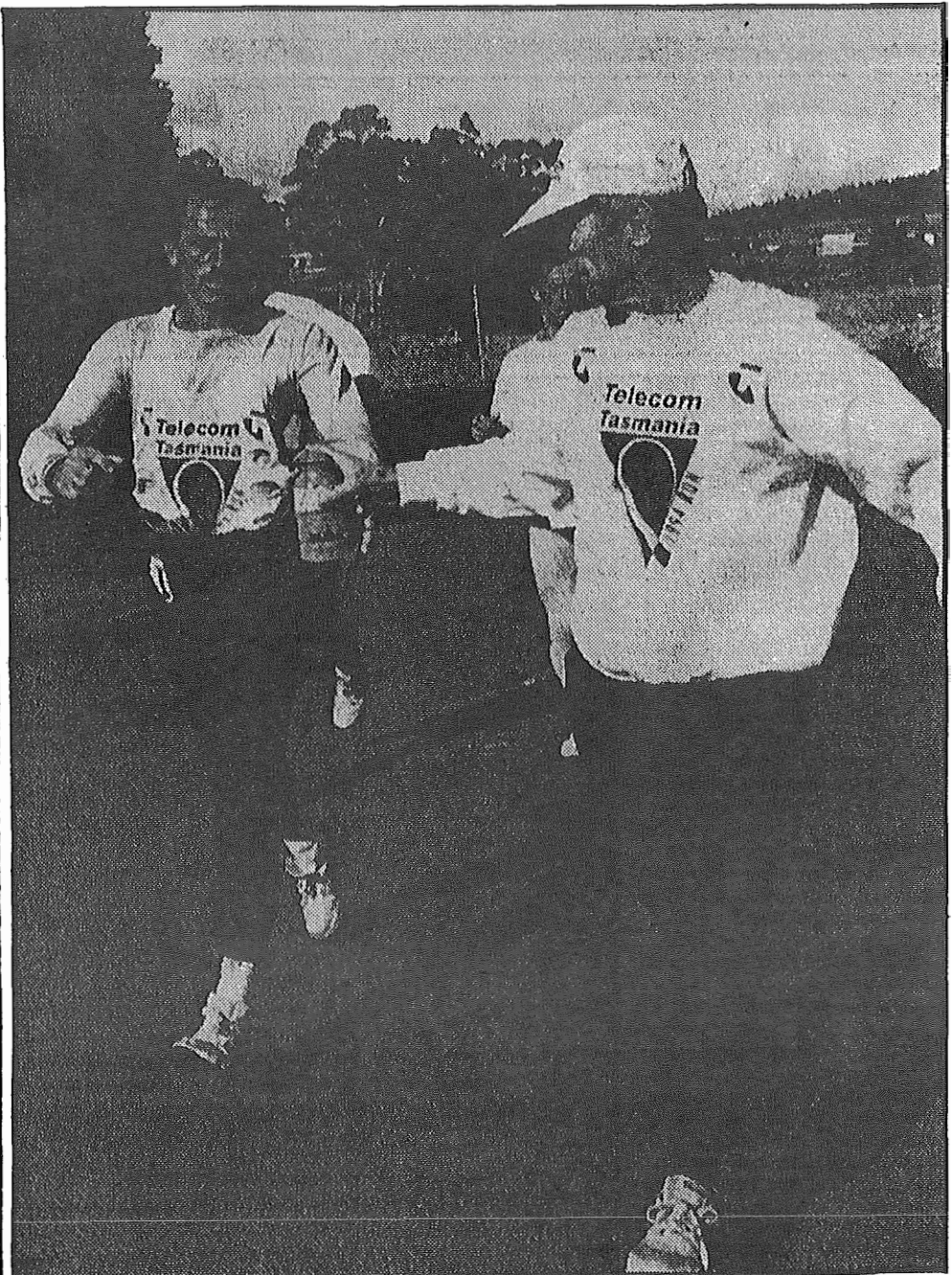
"We stopped at a farmhouse and they quickly boiled up some water for us," said Eddie.

The South African Kovalan Moodley lost his beanie in a blizzard and an obliging farmer gave the runner his own hat.

"Fast Eddie", who ran in the 1985 and 1986 Sydney to Melbourne Runs, admits he would love to be out there in the big race but he is now in his sixties and not so competitive.

# Yiannis keeps Eddie on run

THE MERCURY  
10/8/94



Eddie Westburgh keeps the fluids flowing for Greek champion Yiannis Kouros.

## RESULTS

STANDINGS after yesterday's Telecom Tasmania Run stage:

Janos Bogar, 26h21m06s, 1; Yiannis Kouros, 3m49s behind, 2; Anatoly Kruglikov, 9.18, 3; Lucien Taelman, 1.36.35, 4; Erik Seedhouse, 2.34.59, 5; Gennady Groshev, 3.15.46, 6; Dusan Mravljic, 3.23.09, 7; Pat Farmer, 3.51.37, 8; Irina Petrova, 3.58.35, 9; Bryan Smith, 4.05.42, 10; Roland Vuilleminot, 6.30.04, 11; Eleanor Robinson, 6.24.20, 12; Valery Klement, 6.45.49, 13; Kovalan Moodley, 7.34.30, 14; Helen Stanger, 10.02.03, 15; Sigrid Lomsky, 10.24.29, 16; Georges Jermolajevs, 10.55.57, 17; Ross Parker, 11.54.34, 18; Christophe Rochotte, 12.03.49, 19; James Rooney, 14.08.13, 20; Georgina McConnell, 16.22.47, 21.

# Russian stars rise on the N-West

By JOHN BRIGGS  
in Devonport

THE Russians conquered the North-West Coast of Tasmania yesterday as the sun finally shone on the Telecom Tasmania Run.

Anatoly Kruglikov and Irina Petrova raced to huge stage wins in their respective categories but the race has a new overall leader in Hungarian Janos Bogar, who keeps saying he can't win.

Overnight leader Yiannis Kouros lost valuable ground by running 55 of the 92 kilometres in shoes which were too big for him.

Kruglikov had no problems with his footwear or the conditions as the fickle Tasmanian weather turned on its best.

The Russian bounded away in the first hour of the fourth stage from Wynyard to Devonport, via Burnie, and went further ahead in each of the 96 kilometres.

Meanwhile, back in the pack 20-year-old Petrova was making the women's race all her own, swelling her overnight lead on English runner Eleanor Robinson by 44m17s to an overall 2h25m45s.

Robinson finished full of running and was cheerful enough about her chances in the next three days but the young Russian seems to need only to stay on her feet to win.

All the drama and speculation are in the men's race which is developing into a three-man contest between new leader Bogar, Kouros and Kruglikov.

Kruglikov's winning margin yesterday of more than eight minutes over Bogar and 14 minutes over Kouros has brought him back from a 20-minute deficit on day three.

The Hungarian leads the race by 3m49s from Kouros with the Russian a further 5.29 astern.

Yet Bogar insists Kouros is the man to beat.

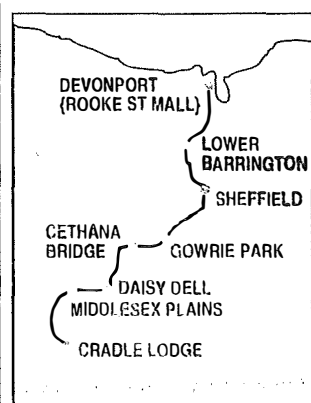
"I have never raced beyond five days and Yiannis is the master of multi-day running," Bogar said through his interpreter-girlfriend, Gyongyi Stemmer.

"I'm looking forward to the run to Cradle Mountain and I like to go up and down the hills," he said.

Kouros was making no firm predictions but hoped to get his footwear right tomorrow.



Anatoly Kruglikov: coasting along after a fast start on the North-West.



## TELECOM TASMANIA RUN

### START DEVONPORT

{Rooke St Mall} 8.00am

#### Leaders expected:

Lower Barrington 9.10am

Sheffield 10.20am

Gowrie Park 11.45am

Cethana Bridge 12.30pm

Cradle Mtn Rd 1.20pm

Daisy Dell 2.10pm

Middlesex Plains 2.40pm

### FINISH CRADLE LODGE

3.30pm

\* All times approximate only

fifth stage takes the runners 92 kilometres from Devonport to Cradle Mountain today.

Many observers believe it may be the crucial part of the race but Kouros reminded everyone yesterday there is a long way to go.

Early leader Don Wallace predictably pulled out of the race an hour after the start yesterday.

The Queenslander, who had been so brilliant on the first two days, hobbled into Launceston on Monday with an injured thigh muscle.

He realised it was pointless to continue and he may be joined by many others before the race finishes in Hobart on Friday.

kilometres.

"By the time I was moving freely it was too late to catch them."

Kouros is worried about the billy terrain when the



# Death sensed as Kouroos caves in

THE MERCURY 11/8/94

By JOHN BRIGGS

EMOTIONS ran hot in the cold weather of the Cradle Valley yesterday as Greek star Yiannis Kouroos revealed he feared death on the fifth stage of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

When Kouroos arrived at Cradle Mountain Lodge, 37 minutes astern of new race leader, Russian Anatoly Kruglikov, his voice trembled with emotion as he revealed what had been going through his mind on the gruelling 86 kilometres up gut-busting hills with the roadside lined with snow.

"This is a dangerous and dramatic race and there is nothing more dear than your own life and your family and friends," Kouroos said.

"That's what I thought of today and I didn't want to leave my bones in those hills."

England's Erik Seedhouse was another runner devastated by the tough conditions but determined to finish. "I've only been reduced to tears once before in my career but I was crying out there today," said Seedhouse, who finished fourth overall.

Kouroos refused to make any further comment, but his conqueror was having plenty to say through his manager Nail Bairmgallin, the only member of the Russian team to speak English.

"The race is over — this was our plan to win it in the mountains," said Kruglikov, who was third overnight but profited from the withdrawal of Hungarian race leader Janos Bogar and his domination of Kouroos.

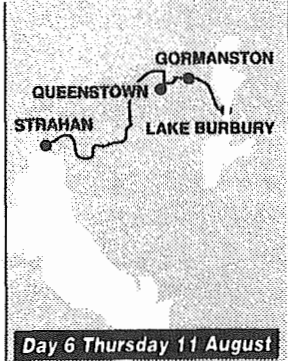
## Protect

"All I have to do is protect my lead and run alongside Kouroos for two days," said Kruglikov.

"I'm going to be like Miguel Indurain in the Tour de France, taking it easy on the last two days."

While Kruglikov, who was 20 years a Nordic skier before taking on ultra-distance running four years ago, looks unbeatable, there is a classic hare-and-tortoise race looming in the women's section.

English woman Eleanor Robinson, who has trailed young Russian Irina Petrova for four days, is back in the race after a comprehensive stage victory.



**Day 6 Thursday 11 August**

**TELECOM TASMANIA RUN**

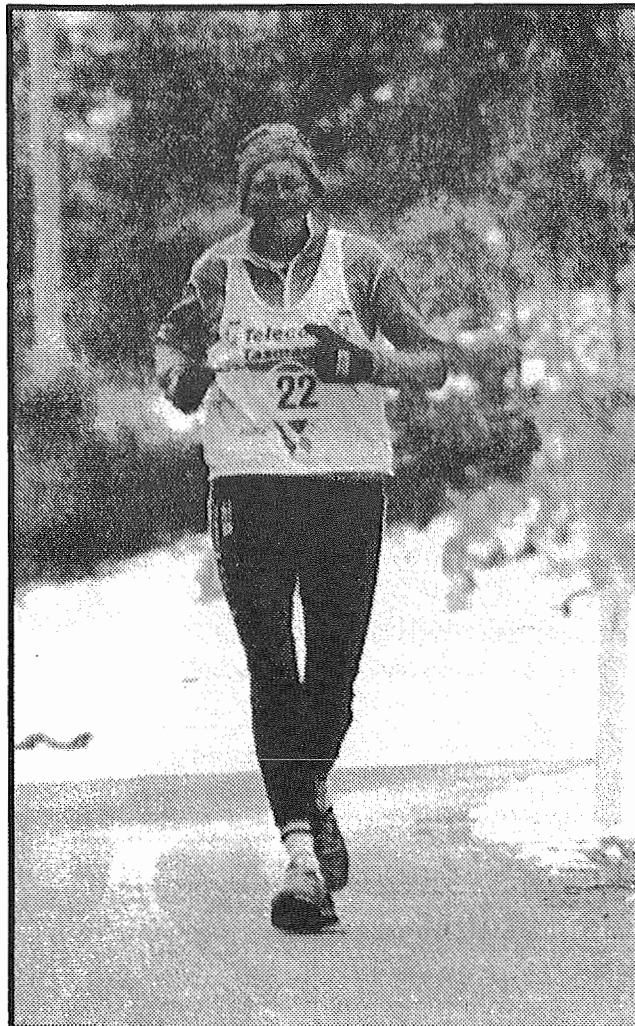
**START STRAHAN WHARF 7.00am**

**Leaders expected:**

Queenstown 10.00am  
Gormanston 11.00am  
Lake Burbury 12.00am  
Gormanston 1.00pm

**FINISH QUEENSTOWN (Town Hall) 2.00pm**

\* All times approximate only



**Still persevering, Briton Eleanor Robinson chews up the kilometres to keep herself within challenging range of women's race-leader, Russian Irina Petrova.**

Trailing the 20-year-old Petrova by 2h25m45 seconds overnight, Robinson finished full of running to claw her way back into the race, reducing the lead by 13m48s.

Meanwhile, the man who publicly predicted his own downfall, Janos Bogar, hob-

bled into Sheffield haunted by his words.

A crippling quadriceps injury had halted his challenge and the overnight leader was watching his dreams disappear into the distance as Kruglikov and Kouroos continued their two-man adventure.

As Bogar was climbing into a car outside Sheffield, the field in the gruelling 620-kilometre race was being thinned by injury and exhaustion as the harsh Tasmanian environment claimed one victim after another.

But Kruglikov pressed onwards with a passionate and almost masochistic pleasure, destroying the hopes, at least for the day, of his Greek rival.

The Russian refused to be beaten by the elements or Kouroos as he ploughed through the sleet above Daisy Bell and onwards to the stage finish at Cradle Mountain Lodge.

As Kouroos struggled it was left to virtual unknown German Valery Klement to run into second place yesterday, a mere 24 minutes behind.

Kruglikov recorded 7h30m34s, which gives him an overall break of 30m40s over Kouroos.

Frenchman Christophe Rochotte called it quits within three hours of the start at Devonport and was joined by Australian James Rooney moments later.



# Greek god feels the pain

‘  
I didn’t want to  
leave my bones  
in those hills  
,

World ultra-marathon champion Yiannis Kouros yesterday feared for his life and thought only of family and friends as Tasmania’s icy weather and endless mountains began to take their toll, casting doubts over the last two days of the Telecom Tasmania Run.

Handler Eddie Westburgh feeds the distressed Greek champion during the punishing 85km leg from Devonport to Cradle Mountain.

Picture: PETER LORD

■ Is this race just  
too tough? PAGE 36



# 1994 Telecom Tasmania Run — Day 5

THE EXAMINER, Thursday, August 11, 1994

## The daily routine of an ultra marathoner

Reports: **MATTHEW ROGERS**  
Pictures: **PETER LORD**

When a thermos of boiling hot water is tipped over your hands and you don't feel a thing, you know it's cold.

That's what happened to Pat Farmer as he trudged through the snow near Oatlands on Sunday, his extremities frozen, but his mind focussed on finishing.

Nerve endings in the New South Welshman's hands were badly damaged by the cold in the Snowy Mountains during the 1989 Sydney to Melbourne.

In order to protect himself from further damage, Farmer, like many competitors in the Telecom Tasmania Run, has developed his own survival system.

When it's cold, Farmer pops on a pair of ski gloves with a sprinkling of cajin pepper inside.

He's the first to admit it probably doesn't help, but any psychological advantage you can gain over the Tasmanian cold is welcome when you're chasing a white line for almost 100km a day.

While some runners, like Greek star Yiannis Kourous, refuse to reveal their daily routines for fear of losing an edge over the opposition, Farmer is quite up front.

"I try to get to bed as soon as I can — the more sleep you have the longer your recovery period is," Farmer said tucking into some yoghurt.

"I usually end up in bed by about nine o'clock after I've had a stretch, a rub, a bath and something to eat."

Farmer said the most difficult part about running in a multi-day event like the Telecom Run was balancing food intake against downtime for toilet stops.

And if you reckon life on a seven-day trot around Tasmania isn't just as regimented as the 64-day Trans-America race, think again.

"This race only goes for a week, but I have to go through exactly the same system as



LEFT: NSW runner Pat Farmer shows some of the fruit he eats each day during the ultra run. "You have to balance your intake so as you get all the energy out of your food with no waste at all."

when I ran the Trans-America," said Farmer, second placegetter in this year's million dollar event.

"You have to balance your intake so as you get all the energy out of your food with no waste at all.

"You have to eat food with low residue, red meat is a no-no."

### **PAT FARMER'S DAILY ROUTINE**

☐ 5.30am — Four Weet-Bix or a bowl of Corn Flakes and one litre of water.

☐ 7am — A glass of orange juice, a banana and a piece of toast or a croissant.

☐ Apply tape to nipples to stop chafing with running shirt. Apply Vaseline to tops of legs and underarms to avoid chafing.

☐ 8am — Start racing.

☐ 9am (or after first 10km) — A mouthful of Gatorade or a sugary drink like Ribena or Pepsi every 5km.

☐ Feed stations along the route, alternating between peanut butter and Vegemite sandwich quarters and bananas.

☐ Apricots and other fruits in last 30km for finishing energy.

☐ A milkshake, yoghurt or some other dairy product straight after finish.

☐ Apply ice to knees as soon as possible, then a warm bath to relieve soreness.

☐ 6pm — Evening meal of vegetarian lasagna or spaghetti carbonara with plenty of vegetables for minerals.

☐ Stretching and massage.

☐ 9pm — Bed.

RIGHT: Runners prepare for the start of the fourth stage from Devonport.



# Nail can't contain excitement

Anatoli Kruglikov's handler Nail Baumgarin was like the proud father of a newborn at the end of yesterday's stage. The animated Russian jumped out of his car near the finish line and began shaking hands with anyone he could find, such as his excitement.

□ □ □

Slovenian runner Dusan Mralvje loves a beer after his race and after only a few days in the country, he's already picking up Australianisms. After yesterday's racing he was seen disappearing to the masseurs room with a six pack under his arm.

□ □ □

The Cradle Mountain currawong population looked set to outnumber finishers in yesterday's tough fifth stage. A hardened

bunch of seven scavengers took up residence near the finish line, obviously hoping somebody would throw them food. One spectator believed the birds could sense death in the air and labelled them "vultures waiting for the runners to die."

□ □ □

The windsock at the Cradle Mountain air strip told the story of yesterday's weather. It was frozen solid and drooped over, much how the runners themselves felt.

□ □ □

Forget about the TV ratings battle since aggregation, it was all out war between ABC and Southern Cross camera crews in a snow fight yesterday. The ABC initiated the campaign, sneaking up on an unsuspecting Southern Cross crew and

landing several direct hits as they went by. In a rare departure from his usually sedate manner, ABC presenter Julian Ridgers appeared to have masterminded the road grinning sneakily behind the steering wheel, but Southern Cross had its revenge after joining forces with The Examiner and the ABC was seldom seen for the rest of the day.

□ □ □

A snowman hastily constructed to greet runners at the stage finish kept growing as the time went by.

Sam the snowman started as an ill defined blob of snow, but passers by kept donating bits and pieces until he had eyes, a scarf and even a stubby of beer (empty, of course!).

## When and where the runners will be today and tomorrow

Day 6 Thursday 11 August



### TELECOM TASMANIA RUN

**START STRAHAN WHARF**  
7.00am

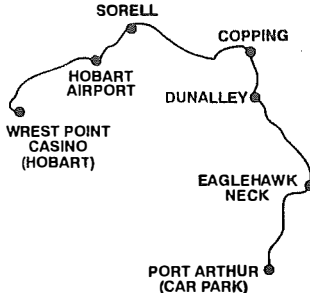
**Leaders expected:**

Queenstown 10.00am  
Gormanston 11.00am  
Lake Burbury 12 noon  
Gormanston 1.00pm

**FINISH QUEENSTOWN**  
(Town Hall) 2.00pm

\*All times approximate only

Day 7 Friday 12 August



### TELECOM TASMANIA RUN

**START PORT ARTHUR**  
(Car Park) 8.00am

**Leaders expected:**

Eaglehawk Neck 10.00am  
Dunalley 11.30am  
Copping 12 noon  
Sorell 2.00pm

Hobart Airport 3.00pm

**FINISH HOBART**  
(Wrest Point Casino) 4.30pm

\*All times approximate only



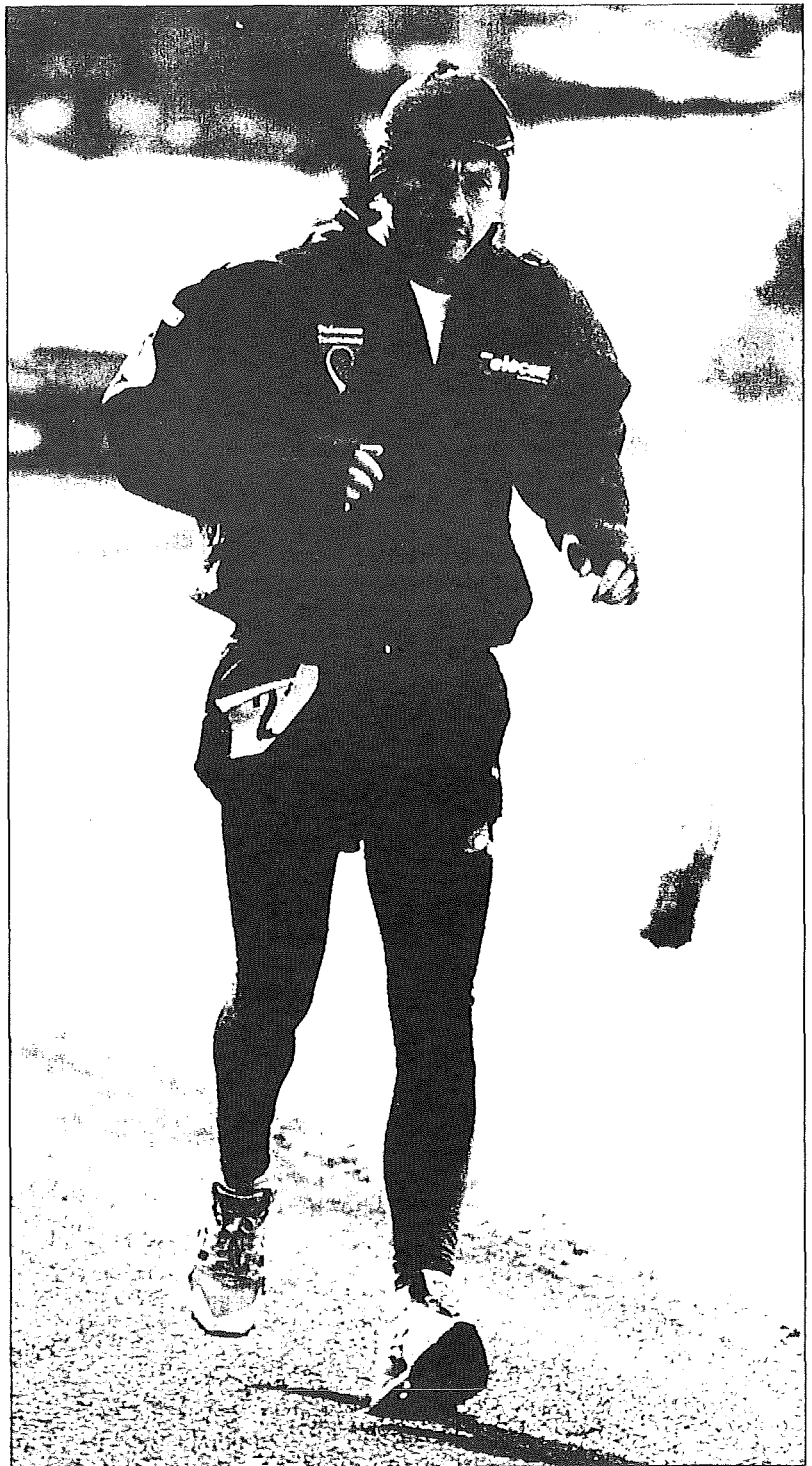
## YESTERDAY'S PLACINGS

1. Anatoli Kruglikov ..... 7h30m34secs
2. Valery Klement..... 7:54.06
3. Yiannis Kouros..... 8:07.43
4. Bryan Smith ..... 8:12.41
5. Dusan Mravlje..... 8:21.27
6. Erick Seedhouse..... 8:22.28
7. Pat Farmer..... 8:24.55
8. Lucien Taelman ..... 8:35.04
9. Eleanor Robinson ..... 8:39.32
10. Irina Petrova..... 8:53.20
11. Gennady Groshev..... 8:53.21
12. Helen Stanger..... 9:27.48
13. Kovalan Moodley..... 9:35.10
14. Georges Jermolajevs ..... 9:35.50
15. Ross Parker ..... 10:16.08
16. Sigrid Lomsky ..... 10:35.02
17. Roland Vuilleminot..... 10:45.50
18. Georgina McConnell..... 10:50.00

## OVERALL

1. Anatoli Kruglikov .....
2. Yiannis Kouros..... @31mins 40secs
3. Lucien Taelman ..... @2h31m47s
4. Erik Seedhouse..... @3:17.35
5. Dusan Mravlje..... @4:04.44
6. Gennady Groshev..... @4:29.15
7. Bryan Smith ..... @4:38.31
8. Irina Petrova ..... @5:12.03
9. Pat Farmer..... @5:36.40
10. Valery Klement..... @7:00.03
11. Eleanor Robinson ..... @7:24.00
12. Kovalan Moodley..... @9:29.48
13. Roland Vuilleminot..... @9:36.02
14. Helen Stanger..... @11:50.39
15. Georges Jermolajevs ..... @12:52.55
16. Sigrid Lomsky ..... @13:19.41
17. Ross Parker ..... @14:30.50
18. Georgina McConnell..... @19:32.55

Withdrawals: Janos Bogar, Don Wallace, Charles Mattheus, Christophe Rochotte, James Rooney, Konstantin Santalov, Andrew Law, Andrew Lucas, Harry Clements.



Russian ultra-distance runner Anatoli Kruglikov strides out as he extends his lead in the Telecom Tasmania Run yesterday. Kruglikov is now more than 37 minutes ahead of Greek Yiannis Kouros

## THE WITHDRAWALS

Don Wallace  
Charles Mattheus  
Konstantin Santalov  
Andrew Law  
Andrew Lucas  
Harry Clements  
Janos Bogar,  
Christophe Rochotte, James Rooney.

# Russian leads by 31 mins

THE EXAMINER 11/8/94

By MATTHEW ROGERS

The Telecom Tasmania Run has its fourth leader in five days after Russian Anatoli Kruglikov decimated the field in the Devonport to Cradle Mountain stage yesterday.

Kruglikov leads Yiannis Kouros by 31mins 40secs and is beginning to look unbeatable.

In a day of drama in the snow, previous leader Janos Bogar pulled out of the race just two hours into the stage with an injury to his right knee.

And race favourite Kouros faltered badly, losing more than 37 minutes to Kruglikov after the Greek was reduced to walking.

Kouros all but conceded defeat, but vowed he will be back to fight another day.

"There is nothing more important than your life, your family, your friends," Kouros said. "That's what I thought about in those hills. I didn't want to leave my bones in those hills."

Kruglikov said that even before he came to Tasmania he believed the winner of yesterday's stage would be unbeatable.

Now the man who did 18,000km in preparation for the event has unhidden confidence and said he will simply pace alongside Kouros for the remaining two days.

"Kouros is a great runner but is not a threat anymore," Kruglikov said through an interpreter.

Everybody is now tiring and this is where I wanted to do the damage.

"I knew the cold would not be a problem for me because I train in temperatures of minus 25 to minus 30 in the Russian winter." The women's section also yielded an upset, with Britain's Eleanor Robinson taking almost 20 minutes out of Russia's Irina Petrova.

Petrova had won the first four stages but signs of fatigue were obvious on the 20-year-old's face yesterday.

Bogar disappeared after his shock withdrawal and could not be located by race organisers.

Australian James Rooney and Frenchman Christophe Rochette also pulled out on a day in which the event lived up to its dubious catch phrase: "Hell in Paradise".

Those following the race had believed Kouros was merely toying with his opponents and would stamp his true class on the event in its latter stages.

But yesterday his guard dropped and beyond his usual poker-faced expression was a balaclava clad man battling to survive the stage.

"I couldn't eat and drink — my stomach was full of cold wind," Kouros explained.

"I haven't done anything like that in my life. But I never thought I would pull out. I just slowed down."

Kouros trailed Kruglikov by 8½ minutes at the Cethana dam yesterday morning and five kilometres further on at Moina the gap had widened to 17¾ minutes.

The Greek legend was struggling so badly a virtual unknown in German Valery Klement overtook him for second place.

Within being caught a few kilometres from the finish Kouros lost almost 14 minutes to Klement.

The injury-riddled field spreads wider as the days draw on and Britain's Erik Seedhouse, who had been beginning to pick up form, is also in danger of abandoning.

Seedhouse is running with an infected bladder and has been passing blood but bravely promises to finish.

"I have only burst into tears on a run twice in my life — today was the second," said a sore and shattered Seedhouse.

"But this race won't beat me. I am going to finish."

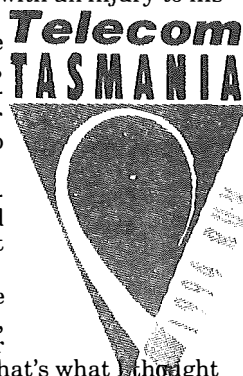
Race director Alan Rider fought off speculation the event was too tough for even a world-class field.

He said runners would now know what to expect next time and could train accordingly.

"Less than 50 per cent of competitors finished the first Sydney to Melbourne," Rider said.

"Within five years, 80 per cent were finishing."

"I'm surprised some of them got this far. Most of them haven't trained for seven days of specialised sustained pace running."



## Telecom Tasmania Run

# NW trek takes toll on athletes

► From Page 36

Kruglikov tore the heart out of the field, winning in 7:30.34, more than 20 minutes ahead of second placegetter Valery Klement, of Germany.

Klement set the early pace out of Devonport and through Lower Barrington, winning the crowd over with his charismatic smile and antics.

Race favourite Greek Yiannis Kouros had a disappointing day, finishing third but more than 37 minutes behind Kruglikov.

Kouros now trails the Russian by 28.30, with only a 76 km West Coast stage today and a 99 km stage from Port Arthur to Hobart tomorrow remaining.

"I wasn't going to leave my bones in those hills," was Kouros' classic statement after yesterday's grueling stage.

"All I could think of was my health, my family and my life.

"It was the toughest stage of the run," he said, blissfully unaware that today could be even tougher.

In the women's race, Englishwoman Eleanor Robinson picked up 13.48 on leader Irina Petrova.

Petrova gained considerable ground on Robinson during closing stages and still maintains a lead of more than two hours.

Other withdrawals yesterday included Frenchman Christophe Rochotte, who struggled early, and New South Welshman James Rooney.

Rochotte took almost 40 minutes to run from the Devonport City Mall to the Spreyton Primary School — just more than 7 km — and was in obvious pain.

Powerful Russian juggernaut Kruglikov believes he is already the winner.

"I had no problems with the cold weather," he said.

"I have trained in Russia where the weather is around 25 to 30 degrees below zero."

Kruglikov said he lifted his own tempo when the news of Bogar's withdrawal was relayed via his support crew.

His increase in speed also put Kouros under pressure, which the Greek admitted he found difficult to maintain.

"I have never raced in conditions like that before in my life and I'm not sure whether I can catch Kruglikov or not," he said.

As a lead-up to this race, Kruglikov trained between 800 and 1000 km a month in the Russian summer — now he has experienced four seasons in one in the tough Tasmanian "Hell in Paradise" run.

# Run of torture

By Rod Morris

THE FIFTH day of the Telecom Tasmania Run was the toughest by far.

Says who?

Yiannis Kouros, that's who!

Winner of six Sydney to Melbourne ultra-marathons, Kouros should know what he's talking about.

"I have never experienced anything like this in my life," he said.

When the race started in Hobart last Saturday, there were 26 world class runners, now there are just 18 and no guarantees of them all finishing the closing stages on the West Coast and Port Arthur to Hobart.

From Devonport to Cradle Mountain yesterday, a hike of 85 km, the runners were required to climb a steady 950 m and that in itself took its toll.

The field was treated to all sorts of weather.

When they left Devonport at 8 a.m., it was fine, although slightly chilly.

At Sheffield, the sun was still out, but by now it was colder.

When the field hit Cethana, it was time for mittens, scarves and beanies.

And it was even colder at Cradle Mountain!

Flamboyant Slovenian runner, Dusan Mravlje summed it up quite succinctly when he



**CHILLY START:** Helen Stanger, of Sydney, attempts to keep warm while awaiting the 8 a.m. start in Devonport.

crossed the finish line, "We're all ... crazy."

Yesterday's stage winner, Anatoli Kruglikov handled the conditions best of all, but it must be remembered he has been training in weather at 25 to 30 degrees below zero.

# Where, when and how you can see the 'hell' runners

## STAGE 6

Day 6, Thursday 11 August.

Start: Strahan wharf: 7 a.m.

Queens- town: 10 a.m.

Gorman- ston: 11 a.m.

Lake Burbury: 12.15 p.m.

Gorman- ston: 1 p.m.

Finish: Queenstown Town Hall: 2 p.m.

• All times are approximate only.

## STAGE 7

Day 7, Friday, August 12.

Start: Port Arthur (car park): 8 a.m.

Eaglehawk Neck: 10 a.m.

Dunalley: 11.30 a.m.

Copping: midday.

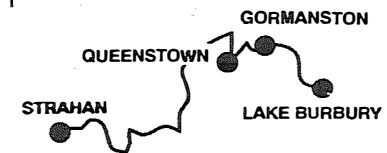
Sorell: 2 p.m.

Hobart Air- port: 3 p.m.

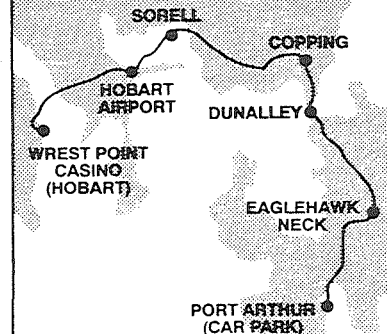
Wrest Point Casino: 4.30 p.m.

• All times are approximate only.

## Day 6 Thursday 11 August



## Day 7 Friday 12 August





# Telecom runners 'most hardened'

THE ADVOCATE 11/8/94

COMPETITORS in the Telecom Tasmania Run have to be the most hardened athletes I have encountered.

I watched these men and women wind their way from Richmond to Ross on Sunday and it was hell alright — forget the paradise.

The runners endured subzero temperatures and an ill wind of 50-60 km which provided hail, sleet and snow.

There was so much ice and snow on the road they were unable to get a secure footing, but they ploughed on regardless, some for 11 hours.

This is a special breed of athlete.

To get real satisfaction you have got to conquer the pain and these runners realise the punishment their bodies must

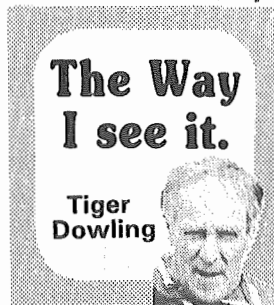
endure to compete at this level.

I attended breakfast with the runners at the Burnie Civic Centre before the start of stage four of the run in Burnie yesterday morning. Being in their presence for even a short time was inspirational.

A Russian woman at my table was applying cream to blisters on her feet — blisters, they were tombowlers!

It wasn't a foot, it was a mass of plaster she was applying the treatment to.

Runners were carried down



the stairs from the Bass and Flinders Room at the civic centre toward the starting line and I watched Queenslander and one-time race leader Don Wallace being

"chaired" by his support crew toward the start.

Wallace had been fitted with splints during the breakfast after breaking down badly the day before — and this was a man setting out to run 92 km.

If I was a football coach, I would have had every player

at the start yesterday morning to admire the commitment to the task at hand of the athletes.

They were an object lesson to anyone who wants to succeed in life, not just sport.

By the time Hungarian Janos Bogar led the field through Cooe, there was 11 minutes between first and last which was a fair indication of how stiff and sore some were that they had been reduced to a hobble.

However, nothing will ever take the place of persistence. Persistence and determination stand alone and the

runners reflected the old catch-cry of "press on regardless".

You can't tell me the ultradistance runners don't hit the wall more than once, that there is not the moment or time they want to quit, that there is not the temptation to toss it in.

It would have gone through their minds yesterday after "climbing" to Yolla, back through Wynyard and along the Coast to Devonport.

However, they must have great imagination and mental tenacity to survive those critical moments, otherwise the penalty is defeat.

These people are not defeated by losing a race, they are let down only by falling short of their own ambitions and expectations.

They don't run for the money, it is the challenge and, while some will say with tongue in cheek they are mad, I have nothing but admiration for them.

It is this bunch of athletes that remind and prove to us that if you want to, you can do anything.

They are strong because their minds overcome critical situations.

Did I hear you say you were finding it tough preparing for the Burnie Ten this year? — As told to Danny Clark

# Trek taking its toll

THE ADVOCATE 11/8/94



**LULL FOR THE LEADER:** Stage four winner Anatoli Kruglikov relaxes after continuing his Russian onslaught on the 620 km Telecom Tasmania Run yesterday.

By Rod Morris

AROUND the world in 80 days seems like a piece of cake compared to "Hell in Paradise", the 620 km Telecom Tasmania Run.

Yesterday's fifth stage, an 85 km trek from Devonport to Cradle Mountain, took its toll on the field.

Three more withdrawals from the original field of 26 fit world-class athletes proved that the run is everything it was cracked up to be.

The field has now been reduced to just 18 and yesterday's stragglers only just made the 7 p.m. cut-off deadline.

Among the withdrawals was overnight leader Janos Bogar, of Hungary.

Bogar was forced out at the 25 km mark of yesterday's stage by inflamed leg muscles and a strained groin.

Stage four winner Anatoli Kruglikov continued his Russian onslaught on the run, repeating Tuesday's performance yesterday.

# Aussie beats race legend

THE MERCURY Friday, August 12, 1994

By JOHN BRIGGS

AUSTRALIAN Pat Farmer ran the race of his life for a stage win in yesterday's Telecom Tasmania Run, beating legendary Yiannis Kourous.

But Russian Irina Petrova experienced one of the worst days of her young life as she dropped out of the big race and forfeited the \$8000 women's first prize to England's Eleanor Robinson.

Farmer, 10th overnight and an ultra-marathon scene battler, had too much hill class for race leaders Anatoly Kruglikov and Kourous.

"That was a very tough day, but I'm feeling good to have finally beaten Yiannis," the New South Wales runner said.

"I've raced him four times in the Sydney to Melbourne, but I've always been a day behind him."

Farmer went to the front from the start in Strahan and was joined by Kourous and Kruglikov midway through the 76-kilometre stage to Lake Burbury and back to Queenstown.

After opening up an early three-minute break, Farmer was rounded up by the Greek and Russian champions.

He made a second bold bid between Gormanston and Queenstown on the return.

When in sight of Queens-town, he flew down the hills and won by 45 seconds from Kruglikov, who had a mere second to spare from Kourous.

Farmer ran the stage in 6h27m58s, but Kruglikov takes a 31m41s advantage into today's final stage from Port Arthur to Wrest Point Casino in Sandy Bay.

However, some observers have not written off Kourous.

The race was all over with-

in two hours of the start yesterday for 20-year-old Petrova, who was forced out with chronic shin splints.

Petrova made a pathetic roadside sight, weeping and in great pain, and could hardly walk when the decision to quit became obvious.

She was ninth overall and led Robinson in the women's race by 2h11m57s after wins on the first four days.

But Robinson has predictably improved each day and the 46-year-old Briton looks unbeatable with more than a four-hour advantage on Aussie Helen Stanger, who is followed by German Sigrid Lomsky and Australian Georgina McConnell.

Robinson, ninth overall yesterday, ran the distance in 7h54m31s and is well aware she could walk the 99 kilometres from Port Arthur today and still win.

The loss of Petrova reduced the field of 27 starters to 17, but all 17 are likely to make the starting line today.

Englishman Erik Seedhouse, fourth overnight, has been in distress and was in trouble yesterday.

Third-placed Lucien Taelman, of Belgium, beat only four runners home.

## Battling on despite the blisters

LIFE for the battlers of the Telecom Tasmania Run is without the glamour or adulation of frontrunners like Yiannis Kourous but they find their own source of satisfaction.

As a medical officer worked on the blisters on Helen Stanger's feet last night she wondered — not for the first time — why she was putting herself through "hell in paradise" as the race is dubbed.

"Every time I finish a long race like this I say 'never

again' but I know I'll be back," said Stanger, a 42-year-old mother of two from New South Wales.

"When I'm in a dark hole out there on the road I just keep going and I know I'll climb out of it and find the strength to continue."

She is part of the team coached by Bill Collis, of Cronulla, who call themselves "Billy's Bushies" but this week Stanger is the star of their travelling show.

With fellow runners Barbara Robinson and Anne Telfer in the support crew, Stanger is fighting a daily battle with the five women and averaging nine hours a day on the road.

"At least we get a chance to rest up each night — that makes it better than the

Sydney to Melbourne, which I ran in 1991," Stanger said.

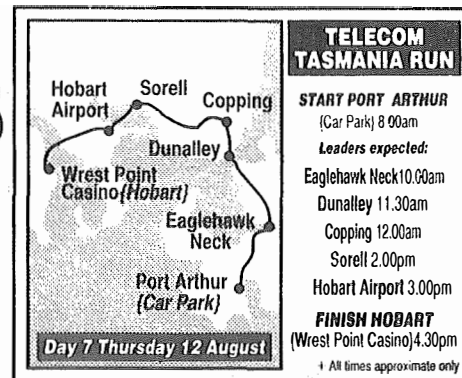
"But sometimes I'm so tired I can't sleep properly."

A typical day for Stanger starts about 6am in preparing for the race start at 8am and she is usually flat on her back after the race getting massages and medical treatment 12 hours later.

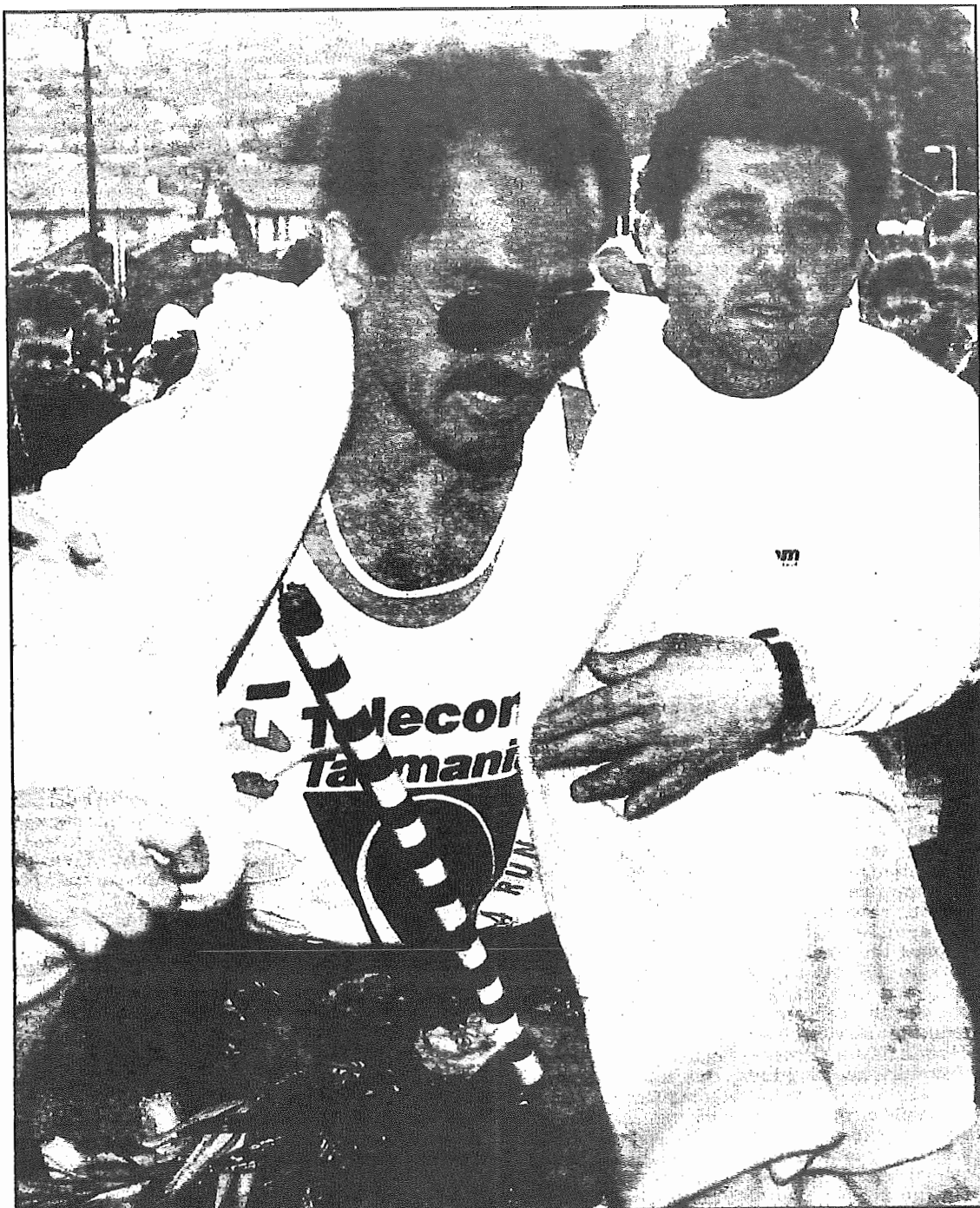
"I'm used to the blisters," she says, bracing herself for painful treatment from the medic.

"I just have to keep going and it's one day at a time, that's the motto."

Her fortunes took a turn for the better with the withdrawal of Irina Petrova yesterday. Stanger is now in second place behind Eleanor Robinson.



**Helen Stanger in the Telecom Tasmania Run: "When I'm in a dark hole on the road . . . I just keep going."**



Kouros with a supporter after finishing second in the Telecom Tasmania Run.

# Paradise lost for legend

THE MERCURY 13/8/94

By JOHN BRIGGS

YIANNIS Kourou will not be back for a second helping of "Hell in Paradise" - he says the Telecom Tasmania Run is too dangerous.

The Greek ultra-marathon legend, not previously beaten in a multi-stage race in Australia, licked his wounds after conceding defeat to Russian Anatoly Kruglikov yesterday in the final run from Port Arthur to West Point.

The 99-kilometre stage in strong winds was the final straw for Kourou, who trailed the Russian by 31 minutes overnight before losing a further 13 minutes yesterday.

"I won't be back, certainly not to race in conditions like this - it is very dangerous for running."

In a lighter moment, Kourou said the only way to see Tasmania was in a car.

The Tasmanian weather threw everything at the runners who started seven days ago - from snowstorms last Monday to freezing cold in the Cradle Valley and winds that blew them off their feet on the Tasman Bridge six kilometres from the finish.

But director Alan Rider said the race was designed to live up to its "Hell in Paradise" tag.

"If they want something easier, they can stick to a traditional marathon," he said. "The bottom line of ultra-running is man against the elements - that's what it's all about."

Rider was supported by International Association of Ultra-Runners president Malcolm Campbell, who said: "It's a great event and one of the best in the world."

Russian dances: Back page



Kruglikov hangs on in strong winds on the Tasman Bridge.



# Russian dances after ultra rout

By JOHN BRIGGS

AS Anatoly Kruglikov delivered the finishing touches to his demolition of the great Yiannis Kouros, one race official quipped, "how much can a Russian bear".

The Russian champion pocketed the winner's prize of \$8000 and had the energy to dance for joy after winning the inaugural Telecom Tasmania Run, completed in gale force winds.

Kruglikov came from 20 minutes behind on the first of seven days to gradually destroy his rivals and the domination was never so great as in yesterday's 99-kilometres haul from Port Arthur to Wrest Point Casino.

The runners were buffeted by winds so strong that Kruglikov had to grab the walking rail as he was stopped in his tracks running over the Tasman Bridge.

The shocking conditions claimed overnight third placegetter Lucien Taelman, of Belgium, who hobbled into his support vehicle with about 20 kilometres to go.

Kruglikov had 44m14s to spare from Kouros, who had trailed by 31 minutes overnight and Victorian Bryan Smith who finished full of running to grab third place in both the final stage and overall standings.

"I felt very delicate when running across the bridge but I'm fine now," said the Russian, doused in champagne and enjoying the spoils of victory.

"I came here to meet Kouros and now I have beaten him."

As a "reward" Kruglikov gets free entry into the 64-day Trans-America Run next year but he hopes to be back in Australia for the Melbourne to Colac race in November.

Kruglikov, who runs 500 kilometres a week in training, brushed off speculation the race was too tough.

"I run in conditions like this often in Russia and through the mountains," he said.

He was disappointed for his fellow Russian Irina Petrova, who pulled out on the sixth day on the West Coast with chronic shin splints.

That made England's

## Win climaxes decade-long ultra career

THE woman who has dominated ultra-distance racing for a decade is hanging up her running shoes.

Eleanor Robinson said last night a win in the Telecom Tasmania Run seemed the ideal time to retire.

"I've been running for 32 years and 12 years in ultras — this seems like time to call it quits," she said.

"I'm looking forward to 10 days' holiday in Australia and some rest and recuperation," said Robinson.

She has achieved everything possible in ultra-marathon running and will not be taking up an invitation to race in the Trans-America 64-day race next year.

Eleanor Robinson the new women's leader and she completed her domination yesterday, taking the race by more than six hours overall from Australian Helen Stanger, German Sigrid Lomsky and Georgina McConnell, of New South Wales.

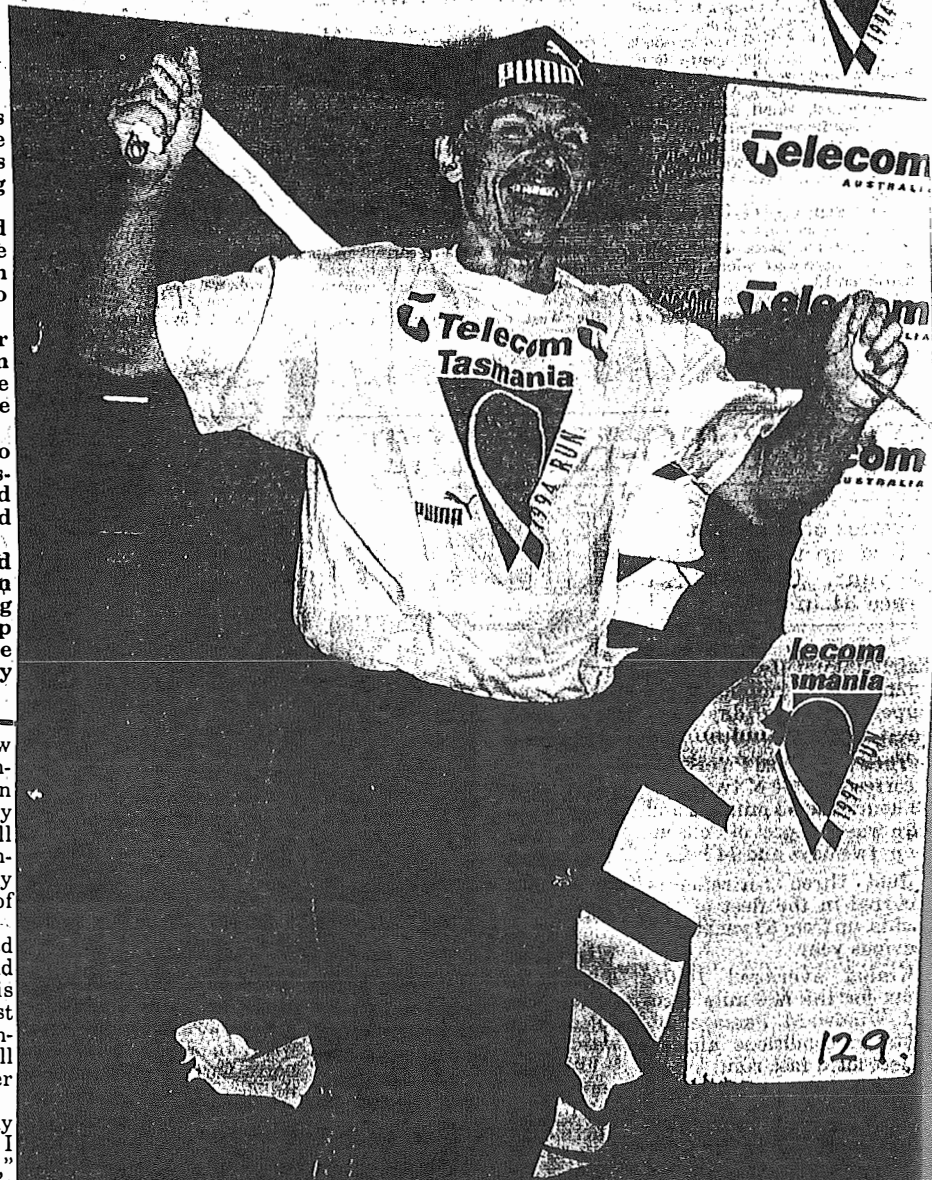
Although Smith finished more than five hours behind the winner he relished his third placing and the first male Australian and managed to pick up a small amount from bookmaker Wayne Monaghan.

"I backed myself each way at 20-1 but somebody said I was 80-1 the night before," said a happy Smith, who picked up \$1000 prizemoney for third placing.

THE MERCURY 13/8/94

# FINISH

Telecom  
Tasmania  
1994 RUN



End of the road: Russian Anatoly Kruglikov elatedly carries the sponsor's flag over the finishing line in the Telecom Tasmanian Run yesterday.

# Anatoly wins, but all may not return for '95

THE ADVOCATE 13/8/94

By Peter Dwyer

THE calculated mountain running tactics of Russia's Anatoly Kruglikov pushed him to victory yesterday in the first Telecom Tasmania Run.

After finishing in Hobart 44 minutes overall ahead of Greek champion Yiannis Kouros, Kruglikov vowed he would be back to defend his title.

However Kouros, who ran a marvellously consistent race to finish second without winning one of the seven stages, said he may not return.

The testing and at times bitter weather conditions were not to his liking and he was critical of the amount of travel by car required between the stages.

Overall third in the event was Australian Brian Smith, while the inaugural women's winner was Eleanor Robinson, of England.

When yesterday's 99 km final stage from Port Arthur to Hobart began, Kouros needed to make up 31 minutes, 41 seconds on Kruglikov to take overall victory.

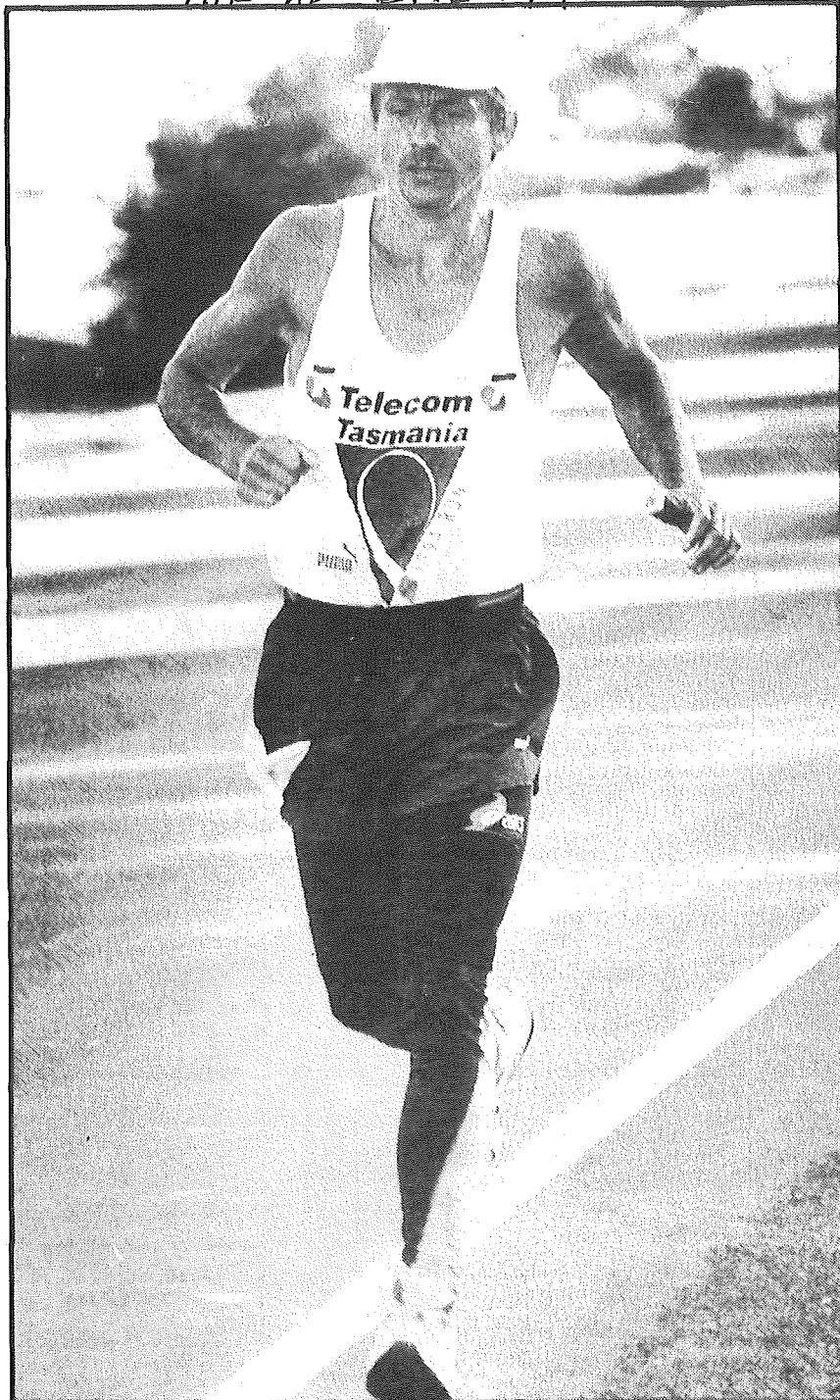
However, Kruglikov pushed further ahead, finishing the stage first in 8:13:03s to defeat Kouros by 13:33s on the day.

The two were running only 50 m apart earlier in the day when they reached the climb out of Eaglehawk Neck when Kruglikov made his final decisive move.

By the time both men had completed the 2 km climb, Kruglikov had broken three minutes clear and built on the margin throughout the day.

It was the same tactic Kruglikov adopted to shrug off Kouros in the earlier stages around Cradle Mountain and proved the critical difference between the two.

Kruglikov said through an interpreter after the race he had prepared for the conditions.



**CALCULATED MAN:** Russian runner Anatoly Kruglikov ... vowed to return to defend his title.

"I had known what to expect and I trained in the mountains of Russia to be ready for this race and I am not a novice for the conditions," he said.

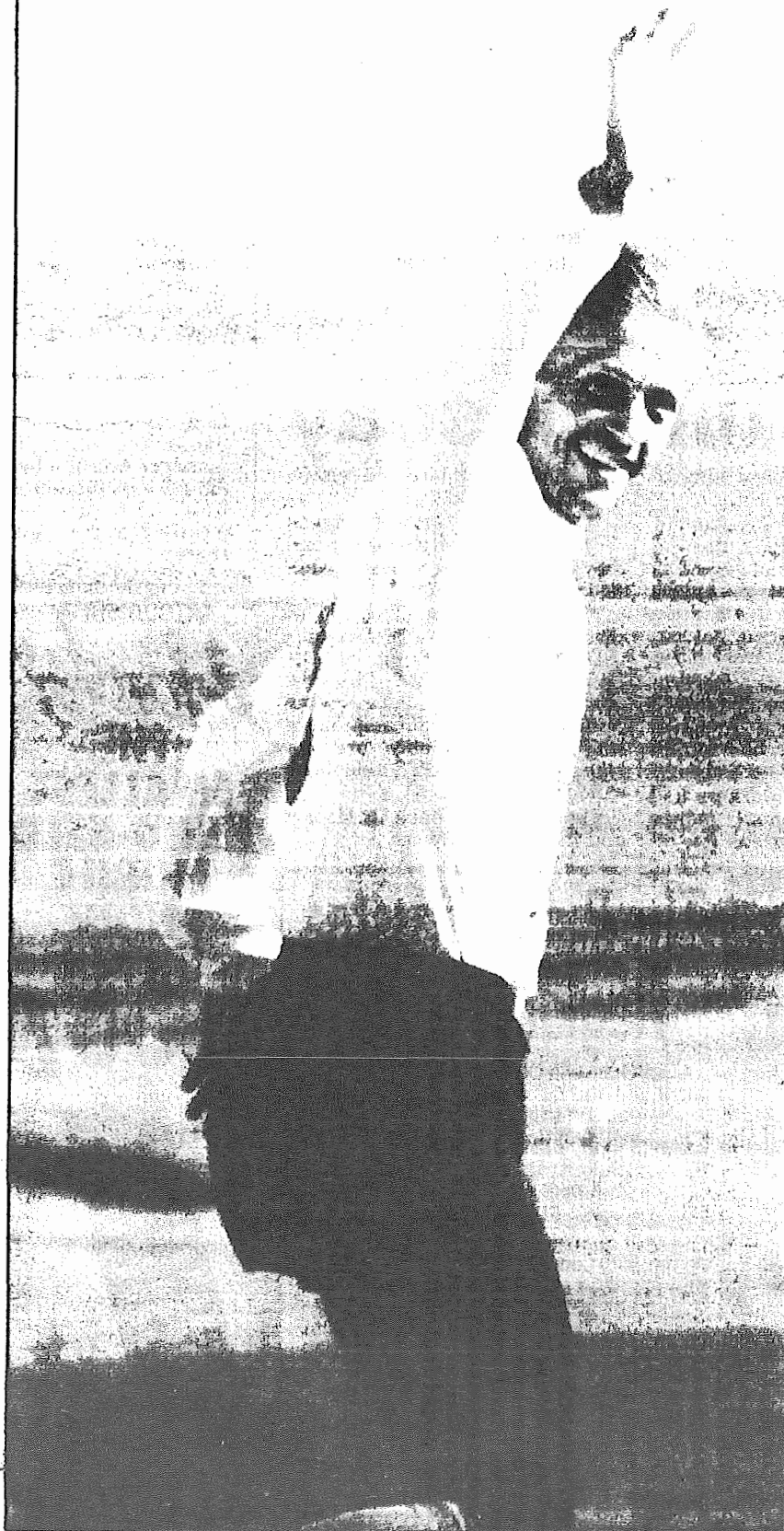
The South-East of the State was lashed with bitter and gale force

winds throughout yesterday, adding a further dramatic element to the run. Kouros said the conditions were terrible and he would not return for the race again if he knew it would be the same. However, race organiser Alan Rider said while he

respected Kouros' view and would talk with all the runners, the event was billed as the toughest in the world.

"I don't believe it is too tough. It is something now that the athletes can set their references on and plan for," he said.

# Winner a grinner after all the pain



**ALMOST THERE!** Russian ultra marathon runner Anatoli Kruglikov has victory in his sights as he heads for the finish of the gruelling 620km Telecom Tasmania Run near Sorell yesterday. **Full report, BACK PAGE**

Picture: WILL SWAN

## Birds-eye view on Tassie Run

THE Telecom Tasmania Run, aptly sub-titled "Hell in Paradise", took on greater meaning during the gruelling 92-kilometre haul through the snow to Cradle Mountain Lodge on Wednesday.

Greek star Yiannis Kouros revealed he had contemplated death if he had pushed himself any more in attempting to match strides with Russian Anatoly Kruglikov.

But it was Russian manager Nail Bairmgallin who came up with the appropriate quip as the runners trudged to the finish line at Cradle Mountain.

A flock of squawking black jays had assembled right on the finish line in the hope of grabbing some food scraps.

Bairmgallin took a look at the birds and, perhaps believing them to be vultures, said: "They must be waiting to pick the bones of dead runners."



# 1994 TELECOM TASMANIA RUN — The Finish

## SIDELIGHTS FROM THE TASMANIA RUN

**OVERALL RESULTS: MEN:** Kruglikov 8:13.03 (@ 0.00); Kouros 8:26.56 (@ 45.34); Smith 8:40.32 (@ 5:46.21). **WOMEN** — Robinson 11:12.05; Stanger 11:13.59.

**LONELY ROAD:** Spare a thought for one of the bravest competitors in the Telecom Tasmania Run, Georgina McConnell, of NSW. McConnell, 51, ran alone for six days straight, often finishing last in stages and making cutoffs with just minutes to spare. After spending more time on the road than any other competitor, McConnell finished in darkness last night and didn't win a cent for her efforts.

**WINNER WITH BOOKIE:** Hobart bookmaker Wayne Monaghan was delighted with the outcome of the women's section. Irina Petrova started at 5-2 and became 6-4 favourite before pulling out. Helen Stanger moved from 12-1 to sixes, but surprisingly little

money was bet on the winner, Eleanor Robinson.

**OFF BEAT:** Yiannis Kouros was at it again near Dunalley yesterday morning. Dressed in blue lycra bike shorts, black socks and a fluoro orange top, Kouros was cursing his handlers in Greek as he stormed his way up the middle of the road. A translation revealed something as simple as the music his support crew was listening to was upsetting.

**RUBBED THE WRONG WAY:** MASSEUSES were in demand at Wrest Point last night as weary runners crossed the line. When an official asked if the Casino's house masseuse would be available, he was told his services were fully booked. "It's unbelievable. He has the opportunity to work on some of the best athletes in the world but would rather massage some plump maiden," the official said.

## Runners ready to slow down

Slipping back into everyday life is easy after an event like the Telecom Tasmania Run, according to Victorian Bryan Smith.

Easy, that is, if your everyday life revolves around pushing your body to its limits the same way 'normal' people brush their teeth.

In a sport of pain and solitude, there are several constants.

Smith said he went to the toilet seven or eight times a stage, the same as he would in seven hours sitting at home in front of the TV.

"Ultra distance runners need to eat a lot of high-fibre food, which also means they go to the toilet often," Smith said.

"I eat plenty of spaghetti and bananas as I run," at least every half hour, which means I don't lose weight."

Sleep requirements also go unchanged — eight hours a night is ideal.

Smith doesn't expect to sleep for 13 hours on end while recovering from the run because his body is accustomed to such stresses.

"It's not like the Sydney to Melbourne where you run through the night," Smith said.

The Victorian always rises around 7am ready for a bowl of cereal, two slices of toast and a cup of coffee whether competing or not.

"I deliberately try to stay in my usual routine so as my body stays adjusted," Smith said.

So for Smith and the others who did and didn't complete the around Tasmania trek, life will continue as usual.

Breakfast followed by hours of foot-slogging.

— MATTHEW ROGERS.

# Hobart welcomes Anatoli

By MATTHEW ROGERS

Hobart turned on a huge reception for race winner Anatoli Kruglikov as he crossed the line at the Wrest Point Casino at 4 pm, completing the 99 km run from Port Arthur in 8:13.03 hours.

In an emotional moment for the man who showed little expression during his six day, 620km conquest of Tasmania's roads, Kruglikov was greeted by fallen Russian team-mates Irina Petrova and Konstantin Santalov.

The Russian stayer now intends to return home in preparation for next year's 60-plus-day Trans-America Race.

He will train 2000 km a month in conditions which make the rain, wind and snow he encountered in Tasmania look mild.

Sipping a celebratory beer at the finish, Kruglikov said he thought it safer to defend his lead with aggression in the final stage.

"I thought it would be less risky to run ahead," said Kruglikov, who did 18,000km in preparation for the event.

"I had time on my hands and I was deciding whether to let Kouros go — it is a very risky business."

Despite downing the man regarded as the greatest male ultra distance runner ever, Kruglikov was modest about his achievement.

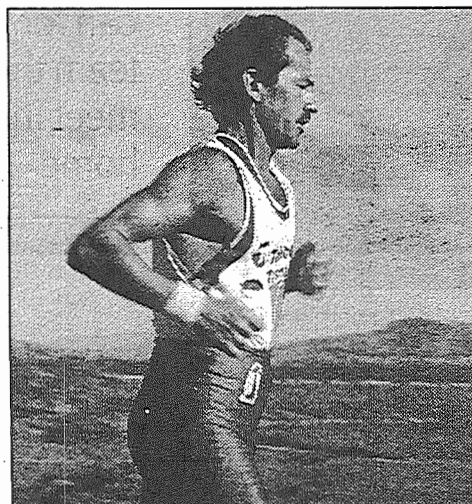
"I didn't beat Kouros, I won — I was ahead of him," Kruglikov said, believing a longer race may have suited the Greek star better.

Kouros also announced he would take a six-month rest from ultra distance running.

"I don't need time to recover, I just have other things to do," Kouros said before disappearing for a live interview with Melbourne's Hellenic Radio.



Tasmania Run winner Anatoli Kruglikov stretches his lead in yesterday's final stage into Hobart.



Yiannis Kouros fights on in second place yesterday.

## Hell — no place for the weak

Hell in Paradise. What a gross understatement.

Through snow, wind and rain only 16 runners from an original field of 27 finished the inaugural 620 km Telecom Tasmania Run.

Foreign competitors had no idea how harsh the Tasmanian terrain and climate would be.

The cracking space set by fresh-legged 100km specialists early in the race saw them crumble and fall.

The list of withdrawals is testament to the courage and conviction needed to complete the event, let alone win.

Most runners spent nine hours a day pounding Tasmanian roads, only to finish in darkness with little hope of winning prize-money.

Two race leaders were struck down by injury in a soul-searching contest of strength and determination.

Don Wallace, Janos Bogar and Irina

Petrova were shattered by their unceremonious dethroning.

They had spent months preparing for the race only to see injury follow leadership. But at least they had a taste of success.

Belgium's Lucien Taelman — who prepared for the race by running up and down a 30m mound — withdrew yesterday, narrowly failing in his bid to see the race out.

In a cruel twist, third placed Taelman was just kilometres from the finish when the pain became too much and even the comical Belgian could not go on.

Before the start of the race, female competitors were expected to have a high finishing rate because of their naturally higher pain thresholds.

But to have only one female — the race's youngest competitor — abandon as opposed to 10 males, proves the resilience of the female competitors.

— MATTHEW ROGERS.

# Anatoli storms to victory

By **MATTHEW ROGERS**

Russian powerhouse Anatoli Kruglikov stormed to victory in the Telecom Tasmania Run yesterday, winning the final stage to increase his overall winning margin to 44 minutes.

Not content to simply shadow Greek star Yiannis Kouros — who trailed by 32 minutes at the start of yesterday's stage — Kruglikov broke clear soon after the start and went unchallenged all day.

Victorian Bryan Smith made up four places overall yesterday to finish a distant third outright and third in the stage.

And although she finished in darkness several hours behind Kruglikov, Great Britain's Eleanor Robinson secured victory by more than five hours in the women's section over Australian Helen Stanger and German Sigrid Lomsky.

The 46-year-old holder of 42 world records coasted to victory after former race leader Irina Petrova of Russia, pulled out through injury on Thursday.

Still wiping the sweat from his brow, Kouros blasted the event for its long travelling times between stages and said he would not return next year.

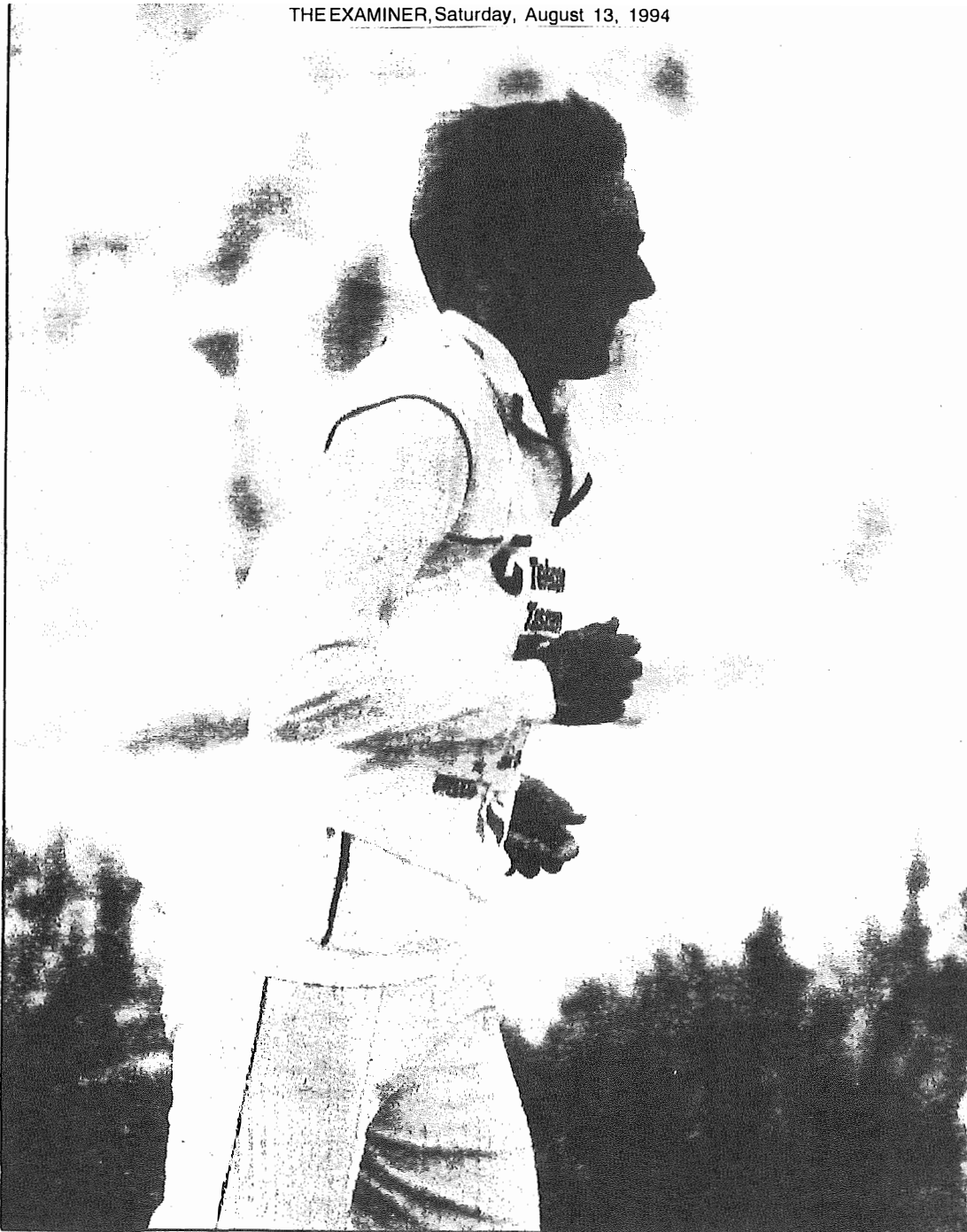
"It is too hard — the race is designed for cars, not runners," Kouros said.

"Too much time is spent travelling between stages."

Race director Alan Rider took Kouros' criticism on board and said organisers would listen to competitor's views before planning next year's event.

Mr Rider said despite having only 16 finishers from an original field of 27, the race had been an outstanding success.

THE EXAMINER, Saturday, August 13, 1994



Britain's Eleanor Robinson powers on toward the finish line in yesterday's final stage of the 620 km Telecom Tasmania Run. Robinson won the women's section of the race.

Picture: WILL SWAN.



# Tassie run wins over the legends

By JOHN BRIGGS

GREEK running legend Yiannis Kouros has changed his mind and says he may come back to run in the gruelling Telecom Tasmania Run and wants to represent Australia.

And the world's greatest female ultra-runner, Eleanor Robinson, who announced her retirement after winning the big race on Friday, is so impressed with Tasmania she wants to emigrate from Britain.

Kouros declared the race was "too tough and dangerous" after losing to Russian Anatoly Kruglikov in gale force winds on Friday

but had a change of heart yesterday after a good night's sleep.

"I still have some doubts about the course and believe it may be too dangerous but I'd like to come back and win it for Australia," said Kouros.

The Greek champion, never beaten in Australia before last week, is an Australian resident and plans to seek naturalisation this year.

He lives in Melbourne and is studying for an arts degree, specialising in Greek music.

"I would like to represent Australia — I haven't done anything for this country and the people have

been very good to me," said Kouros.

"They gave me a chance to live here and I can repay Australia by representing them in this race."

Kouros will have talks with race organisers about the course and said he believes some of the hills are too tough and the race could be re-routed without losing any of the "Hell in Paradise" tag.

Robinson, who has achieved everything possible in ultra-running, said she was very impressed with Tasmania and she was contemplating moving here with husband Nigel and son Myles.

Robinson would be declining future offers in major ultra-runs

but would continue to run shorter distances.

President of the World Ultra-runners Association, Mr Malcolm Campbell, in Tasmania to observe the race, said he had received information yesterday that the first three placegetters, male and female, would be invited to run in the Trans-America Run next year.

"It's a mark of respect for the Tasmania Run, which has grabbed attention all over the world," said Mr Campbell.

Many of the runners, including the beaten brigade who dropped out because of crippling injuries or the hot pace, have promised to come

back.

South African Charl Mattheus, who crashed out with a swollen knee on the third day said he would be back and may bring at least three other runners.

An announcement on future sponsorship is expected to come within weeks but the race seems certain to become an annual event.

Final results: A Kruglikov, 48h42m44s. 1: Y Kouros, 1h27m58s behind, 2: B Smith, 6.39.15, 3: D Mravljje, 7.23.3, 4: G Groshev, 8.22.07, 5: E Seedhouse, 8.50.47, 6: P Farmer, 9.17.41, 7: V Klement, 10.43.49, 8: E Robinson, 12.31.34, 9: G Jermolajevs, 16.43.28, 10: K Moodley, 17.11.32, 11: H Stanger, 17.37.47, 12: R Vuilleminot, 18.19.32, 13: S Lomsky, 19.53.31, 14: R Parker, 23.09.35, 15: G McConnell, 28.27.39.

THE SUNDAY TASMANIAN AUGUST 14



Most of the competitors in the first Telecom Tasmania Run.



# Ultras get the runs on the board

**BRIGGSIE**  
on  
Sunday



Russian running star Irina Petrova in Ulverstone: an unwavering gaze on the task in front of her, oblivious to the Tasmanian scenery.

THEY ran through the snow of the Cradle Valley like a dream sequence from a surreal movie – ghost-like, gaunt figures with eyes intent on the road ahead.

The men and women of the Telecom Tasmania Run have shared in a unique experience and they know it.

The ultra runners are not always poetic or eloquent speakers – they mostly let their race-hardened legs do the talking, if you'll forgive me the cliché.

I've seen some exotic and unusual sporting events but the inaugural run around Tasmania is the ultimate.

Don't be surprised if it grows into something even more special than the startling success of last week, which produced runners from a dozen nations with hope in their hearts and steel in their eyes.

The race had all the dramas one would expect of a torture test over seven days and 620 kilometres in the dead of Tasmanian winter.

There were runners who thought they were dying.

The ambulance people kept a nervous eye on blood pressures, stomach illness, hypothermia and blisters.

Yet it was not the human dramas as much as the lighter moments that remain in the memory.

Like Queensland "racehorse" Don Wallace, who dedicated his opening day win to taking advantage of a toilet break by rivals Yiannis Kourous and Janos Bogar.

There were cries of anguish that rent the mountain air on the damning climb to Cradle Mountain, with words we can't print here.

Some runners adopted a robotic style, like Russian prodigy Irina Petrova, whose gaze never left the few metres in front of her, oblivious to the surrounding terrain or her opponents.

In contrast, Victorian Bryan Smith, when trotting through Sheffield, admired the murals that have made the town famous.

There were acts of great sportsmanship, including Pat Farmer's offer to wait and run alongside a badly injured Wallace as he suffered on the roadside short of the Batman Bridge last Monday.

And Kourous, who could embrace his rivals and exchange kisses on both cheeks after they had seemed to be systematically destroying each other on the run along the North-West Coast.

We stumbled upon an angry Kourous arguing with his support team in a moment of misunderstanding on the road, followed by his emotional statement at the end of the Cradle Mountain stage, when he claimed to have felt in mortal danger.

There were mutters from almost every runner on the trek to Cradle Mountain that they must be crazy.

Crazy they may be, but they also share an heroic streak this old cynic found inspiring.

People along the route agreed they were magnificent men and women and fellow runners secretly shared the desire to be out there with them.

Those of us who have been runners and slumped into sloth felt a tinge of regret or guilt.

Like most observers, I've questioned where the run fits into the traditional sporting calendar and the answer is as yet unknown.

A multi-stage race is not a speed show, but then the same might be said of the greatest bike race of them all, the Tour de France.

My guess is the Telecom Tasmania Run will become a classic

endeavour of the human spirit that finds favour with everyday people.

It's a better race than the Sydney to Melbourne ones of the 1980s, with more genuine athletes at the front of the pack.

But the verdict must be with the public who come out to watch races like the Tassie run.

From grade 5 kids at Exeter Primary to ancient cow cockies near Sheffield, the verdict seems the same.

They cheered the road warriors on in the traditional way and I heard not a murmur of disinterest or mockery, except to say they must be crazy.

They may be, but we need such people in a world where most of us watch life on television and occasionally dream of adventure.

JOHN BRIGGS