



VIVA TRADITION-- Running marathons is an old Greek custom. Dimitrios Vouros, left, is a highly-regarded entry in the April 21 Boston race. He's a five-time Greek National Marathon champion. The man with him, Stylianos Kyriakides, made Marathon history in 1946 becoming the first man outside North America to capture the race.

Greek Champ in BAA

By BILL KIPOURAS

Dimitrios "Jimmy Vouros, a 30-year-old government clerk from Athens, arrived in Boston last night, expressing a wish to bring Greece its first Boston Marathon championship since 1946.

Appropriately enough, accompanying Vouros here was 59-year-old Stylianos Kyriakides, the Boston winner 23 years ago. The pair arrived after a 12-hour journey stopping in Paris and New York.

"This boy, is a five-time national marathon champion of Greece," Kyriakides, speaking English very well, explained. "He broke my record April 6 and the Greek Amateur Athletic Association thought he deserved to compete in Boston—the first boy we've had here since I ran."

Kyriakides won the '46 classic in 2:29:37. Time flies. He retired March 19 as an electronics company treasurer.

Vouros, who will wear No. 18, did 2:23:33.8 finishing 1 th in the International Marathon Championship in Athens, ear-

lier this month. It was a combined international and national meet. Bill Adcocks of Great Britain led the field in 2:1:07.2. Vouros is a veteran of eight marathons and holds all the Greek records from 5000 meters to the marathon distance.

"The Athens course is much tougher than Boston. It's one of the toughest in the world," Kyriakides said. "Almost half the distance is uphill. I'd say Jimmy is capable of doing a 2:20 here, but it is tough to predict about a marathon. The weather always is a factor. I do know this boy is very capable."

Vouros, who represents the Panathinakos A.C. in Athens, was slated to run the 10,000 meters at the Mexico Olympiad but was scratched. He had stomach trouble and missed the trip to Mexico City. The 5-10, 130-pounder has been a track competitor for 13 years.

Advised by Jock Semple that 1350 entries had been received for the April 21 grind, Vouros said, "That is good, when there are many and you win, it is being a champion of a large delegation." Are the Mexicans here? the Greek runner wanted to know. He also was curious about the Japanese.

Asked about his 1 th place

Athens finish, Vouros showed a sense of humor, replying, "I kept some of my strength for Boston."

This marks his first visit to the United States.