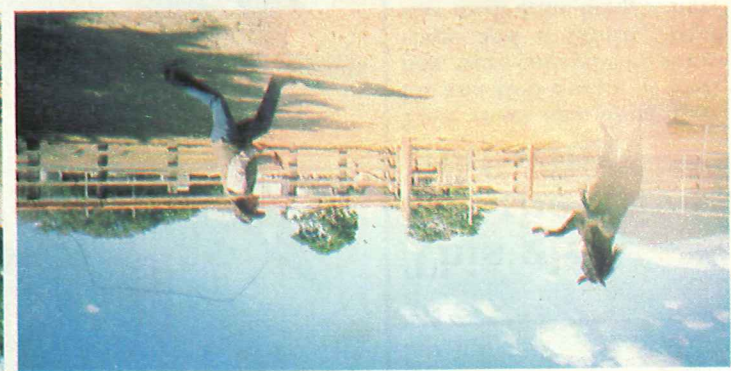


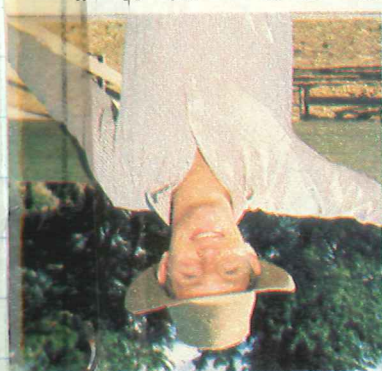
ON THE SET OF 'THE MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER'



Sigrid Thornton, heroine.



Horse trainer Denzel Cameron at work.



Tom Burlinson, "the Man."

A bush legend comes to life

"There was movement at the station' . . . the poem most Australians know is coming alive as a thrilling action film

Tom Burlinson, the actor cast in the title role of Banjo Paterson's legendary "The Man from Snowy River," fixes you with amazingly blue eyes and says softly, "I'm not trying to become the best rough rider in the country, I'm trying to LOOK as if I'm the best." He's gorgeous, blond, tanned and tough. Not particularly tall, but well-built, with broad shoulders and slim hips. He was born in Canada and arrived in Australia aged 12. Tom spent five weeks in the high country around Merrig, Victoria, learning to handle his horse Denny. "He's called after his birthplace, Denihquin. He's a 15 hands buckskin (black mane and tail, mottled hide). A great horse. Very intelligent." Tom was chosen from 400 aspiring actors. Producer Geoff Burrowes, and Jack's daughter Kerri. He, Simon and Trail Safari and also fell in love with Jack's daughter Kerri. He, Simon and George threw the idea around of making a movie of "The Man from Snowy River," building a script around Banjo Paterson's characters and using the epic ride as the climax of the film.

The Lovick farm is headquarters. This is where the pre-filming is in progress with the 40-odd horses required for the movie. Here imported Hollywood horse trainer Denzel Cameron is boss until George Miller takes over. "He's the best in the business," said Geoff, watching Denzel at work with "the colt from Old Regret." "I feel



strongly that this will be a good picture," Denzel said. Banjo Paterson's two granddaughters read a 50-page summary of the script and gave their approval; Kirk Douglas agreed to play the double roles of Spur and Harrison ("who made his pile when Pardon won the executive producer Simon Wincer and director George Miller screen-tested the final 40 with Sigrid Thornton, who had already been cast as Jessica Harrison, the grazier's daughter who falls in love with "the Man." "It was late on a Friday evening when Tom arrived to audition," said Geoff. "He collected the three scenes he was to read and asked for 15 minutes. In five he was back, without the script, a mixture of reserve and self-confidence, word perfect. "Within 10 seconds we knew. It was all there, the response to Sigrid, the



Squatter's homestead built for Kirk Douglas.

— BUNTY TURNER
Pictures by Kevin Brown