

Lachie Stewart Revives Old Memories

By COLIN SHIELDS

IT was just like the old days when Lachie Stewart led in the field on the first lap of the Western District Senior 4 x 2½M cross-country relay championship at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow on November 1st. A resurgent Lachie, in a new-found surge of enthusiasm, recalled the palmy days of his cross-country dominance as he established a lead of 60y from Roy McCrone with Victoria Park third and Clyde Valley sixth.

John Graham, running the second fastest lap of the day, pulled Clyde Valley into a surprise 9sec lead from Victoria Park (Dave McMeekin) with Lawrie Spence doing his usual fast lap to rescue Strathclyde University from 13th to 3rd. David Lang had a poor run (two of his Shettleston 'B' team colleagues were faster) to slip back to 4th, 24sec behind the leaders. This lapse from the lead was short-lived as steeplechaser Jim Burns overtook Clyde Valley and built up a lead of 13sec at the final change-over. Hugh Barrow (13:08) kept Victoria Park in an isolated third place some 150y behind while back in the pack another of the multitudinous Spence brothers, Cameron of Spango Valley, lifted his club from 24th to 13th with a fast 12:27 lap.

The last lap looked a thriller as Nat Muir, knowing he had to withstand a challenge from Ron MacDonald, set off fast to preserve his lead. Hard as MacDonald tried in the first mile he could make no appreciable gain on Muir and both "blasted" into the first of two hills with gusto. Again MacDonald's challenge failed and he relaxed on the last hill and let Muir go on to establish a lead of over 150y. MacDonald finished his lap at considerably less than racing speed but nothing can detract from the fine performance of the diminutive Muir who recorded the fastest

individual lap of 12:01 in his first year as an eligible Junior.

This was the first year of the new Western District, formed by the amalgamation of the former Midland and South Western Districts, and the large entry of 70 Senior teams and 68 Young Athletes teams foretell a bright future for the new district.

Springburn's victory in the young athletes race was a triumph of team running, for despite failing to provide the fastest individual in any of the three age groups, they provided the runner-up on each occasion and went on to win by over 200y from Clyde Valley with Shettleston in third place.

1, Shettleston (L. Stewart 12:17, D. Lang 12:54, J. Burns 12:14, N. Muir 12:01) 49:26; 2, Clyde Valley (E. Devlin 12:44, J. Graham 12:03, J. Small 12:51, R. MacDonald 12:17) 49:55; 3, Victoria Park (F. Brown 12:28, D. McMeekin 12:28, H. Barrow 13:08, I. Mitchell 12:50) 50:54; 4, Strathclyde Univ (D. Burt 13:04, L. Spence 12:03, A. McMaster 12:57, J. McLean 12:59) 51:42; 5, Bellahouston (R. McCrone 12:26, C. Joss 12:57, M. Fidgett 13:17, H. Scott 13:21) 52:01; 6, Shettleston 'B' (J. Evans 12:43, A. Marshall 12:47, H. Summerhill 13:00, K. McKenzie 13:39) 52:09; 7, Law & Dist 52:16; 8, Clydesdale 52:26; 9, East Kilbride 52:47; 10, Springburn 52:50; 11, Clyde Valley 'B' 53:18; 12, Ayrshire 53:22; 13, Cambuslang 53:30; 14, Glasgow Univ 53:51; 15, Bellahouston 'B' 53:56; 16, Paisley 54:03; 17, Victoria Park 'B' 54:22; 18, Spango Valley 54:28; 19, Greenock Wellpark 54:35; 20, Strathclyde Univ 'B' 54:47.

Fastest: Muir 12:01, Graham & Spence 12:03. Burns 12:14, Stewart & MacDonald 12:17, McCrone 12:26, C. Spence (Spango) 12:27, Brown 12:28, McMeekin 12:28.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S LEAGUE continued

(Vic P) 15:45; 7, E. Trotter (Vic P) 15:55; 8, E. Gemmell (Ayr) 16:00; 9, A. Clarkson (ESH) 16:08; 10, L. Roy (Vic P) 16:17. **Teams:** 1, Victoria Park 23; 2, Border 31; 3, EAC 33; 4, ESH 38. (**Juniors:**) 1, F. McQueen (Vic P) 8:34; 2, S. McLaren (Aber) 8:42; 3, V. Hutton (EAC) 8:46; 4, J. Pullar (Pit) 8:50; 5, L. McDermid (VoL) 8:55; 6, F. Nixon (ESH) 9:00. **Teams:** 1, Pitreavie 24; 2, Victoria Park 28; 3, Border 32. (**Girls:**) 1, D. Christie (ESH) 5:15; 2, J. Grealley (Pit) 5:22; 3, H. McDonald (CV) 5:28; 4, M. McMillan (EAC) 5:34; 5, L. Rutter (EAC) 5:35; 6, E. Hand (Bord) 5:36. **Teams:** 1, EAC 16; 2, Pitreavie 25; 3, Border 42. (**Minor Girls:**) 1, L. Brownlie (Liv) 3:16; 2, J. Mitchell (Pais) 3:20; 3, S. Adams (Pit) 3:22. **Team:** Pitreavie 17.

Young Athletes Relay (Junior Boy, Senior Boy, Youth)

1, Springburn (P. McIntyre 8:10, G. Williamson 7:33, I. Murray 7:24) 23:07; 2, Clyde Valley (J. Martin 8:06, D. Marshall 8:14, B. McSloy 7:27) 23:47; 3, Shettleston (T. Treanor 8:53, E. Martin 7:49, A. Smith 7:11) 23:53; 4, Victoria Park 24:18; 5, St Columbas HS 24:18; 6, Vale of Leven 24:43; 7, Bellahouston 24:45; 8, Clydesdale 24:47; 9, Springburn 'B' 24:58; 10, Victoria Park 'C' 24:59; 11, East Kilbride 25:06; 12, Springburn 'C' 25:08; 13, Larkhall YMCA 25:09; 14, Clyde Valley 'B' 25:15; 15, Victoria Park 'B' 25:19. **Fastest:** (Youths) Smith 7:11, Murray 7:24, McSloy 7:27 (Senior Boys) G. Adams (Vic P) 7:31, Williamson 7:33, D. Kirk (Dumb) & A. Douglas (Vic Pk 'C') 7:47 (Junior Boys) Martin 8:06, McIntyre 8:10, A. Callan (Spring 'B') 8:15.

WEST DISTRICT RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP
BELLAHOUSTON PARK, GLASGOW
1 NOVEMBER, 1975.

SENIORS

1. Shettleston (J.L.Stewart 12.17;
D.Lang 12.54; J.Burns 12.14; N.Muir
12.00), 49.26.
2. Clyde Valley (E.Devlin 12.44;
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3. Victoria Park (F.Brown 12.28;
D.McMeekin 12.28; H.Barrow 13.08;
I.Mitchell 12.50), 50.54.

YOUNG ATHLETES

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|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Springburn H. | 23.07 |
| 2. Clyde V. | 23.47 |
| 3. Shettleston H. | 23.55 |