

# WESTERN DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY RELAYS PORT GLASGOW 17TH OCTOBER 1981

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## Athletes run into dilemma

By RON MARSHALL

ATHLETES will have to decide this weekend whether to opt for the relative canter at the Western District relay championships or the more testing Glasgow international marathon on Sunday.

Law and District will be defending the relay title at Port Glasgow tomorrow on what I am told is a wind-swept course high above the town. Their team entry looks weaker than last time and that should open the door for the Greenock club, Spango Valley.

Judging by their victory in the Renfrewshire relay championship last week, it seems that the line-up of Hamilton Cox, Lachie Stewart, Chris Leck, and Cameron Spence could be a winning one.

The increase in membership at the club is quite staggering — they have submitted the names of eight four-man teams among the 79 entered.

The young athletes' race has been won these last

five years by Springburn Harriers but again a less formidable line-up could open the door for Cambuslang Harriers.

Glasgow's city centre will become the preserve of nearly 200 runners on Sunday morning when the third Glasgow marathon gets under way. Catching the attention as usual will be the women in the field, five in number this time, and in particular Lesley Watson, the former Marhill runner who now makes a habit of completing the 26 miles 385 yards without apparently breaking sweat.

### Cross country

EVEN with Northern Ireland internationalist Rod Stone, Cambuslang Harriers were strong enough to gain their first-ever senior title in the Western District cross country relay championships at Port Glasgow.

Over a heavy, muddy, two-and-a-half mile tour of the local farmland, Cambuslang moved into a narrow one second lead on the final changeover thanks to hill running champion Colin Donnelly. On the final lap Eddie Stewart ran a splendid race to bring his club home with a 27 second margin over the pre-race favourite Spango Valley AC.

Scottish champion Nat Muir of Shettleston Harriers was again out on his own and recording the fastest lap time of 13 minutes 19 seconds.

### Athletics

A LAST leg of 13 min. 40 secs. by Eddie Stewart sealed victory for Cambuslang Harriers in Saturday's Western District Relay Championships at Port Glasgow.

Having started off on level terms with Cameron Spence of the more fancied Spango Valley Club, Stewart proceeded to build up a 27-second gap to give Cambuslang their first senior title in this event. The fastest individual was Nat Muir (Shettleston Harriers) with 13 min. 19 sec.

**Western District CC Relay Champs (October 17th).** 1, Cambuslang (R. Anderson 14:48, R. Lynch 14:16, C. Donnelly 13:49, E. Stewart 13:40) 56:33; 2, Spango Valley (H. Cox 14:11, S. Brownlie 14:53; C. Leck 13:50, C. Spence 14:06) 57:00; 3, Bellahouston (A. Daly 14:36, P. Fleming 14:45, G. Getty 14:42, G. Braidwood 13:55) 57:58. Fastest: N. Muir (Shett) 13:19; Stewart 13:40; Donnelly 13:49.