

NORTHERN DISTRICT CC CHAMPS

At Fort William, January 22nd

1, B. Finlayson (Loch) 36:55; 2, I. McKenzie (Forres) 37:07; 3, R. Campbell (Loch) 37:16. **Teams:** 1, Lochaber 15; 2, Forres 26; 3, Inverness 64. **(Junior Men):** R. Macdonald (Inv) 42:13. **(Youths):** 1, D. Taylor (Caith) 23:29; 2, T. Peden (Mill HS) 23:35; 3, J. Cunningham (Caith) 23:38. **Teams:** 1, Caithness 9; 2, Lochaber 18; 3, Gordonston 32. **(Senior Boys):** 1, C. Voice (Caith) 17:27; 2, J. McMaster (Loch) 18:07; 3, J. McNiven (Gord) 18:29. **Teams:** 1, Caithness 16; 2, Lochaber 20; 3, Gordonston 29. **(Junior Boys):** 1, J. Watson (Loch) 12:03; 2, G. Morgan (Mill HS) 13:12; 3, C. Gunn (Caith) 13:13. **Teams:** 1, Lochaber 11; 2, Caithness 17; 3, Millburn HS 23.

North Championships at Fort William

One of Scotland's foremost hill runners, Brian Finlayson, Lochaber Athletic Club, won the senior cross-country championship of the Scottish Cross Country Union's North District, at their annual championships on Saturday, at Fort William. The near-seven mile course at the base of Ben Nevis, which included some severe ascents and descents over ground made heavy by melting snow and rain, was admirably suitable to Brian Finlayson, who tracked former champion, Iain Mackenzie, **Perce Harrison**, until late in the race when he took the lead to finish 17 seconds ahead of Mackenzie in a time of 35 minutes 55 seconds with team mate Ron Campbell in third place. Lochaber Athletic Club also won the team championship from the strongly favoured Forres Harriers team which has dominated this event for many years.

By far the most successful club, however, was Cathness Amateur Athletic Club which won four individual and four team championships. The prize-giving ceremony, at which the chairman was Mr Walter Banks, chairman of the North District of the Scottish Cross Country Union, was held at Lochaber High School and the trophies were presented by Mr Colin Nelson, chairman of the Lochaber District Council's Leisure and Recreation Committee. The full results were as follows:—

MEN

Senior — 1 Brian Finlayson, Lochaber Athletic Club, 35 mins. 55 secs.; 2 Iain Mackenzie, **Perce Harrison**, 37 mins. 7 secs.; 3 Ron Campbell, Lochaber Athletic Club, 37 mins. 38 secs. **Team** — 1 Lochaber Athletic Club, 15 points; 2 **Perce Harrison**, 28 points; 3 Inverness **Perce Harrison**, 64 points.

Junior — 1 E. MacDonald, Inverness **Perce Harrison**, 42 mins. 13 secs.; 2 A. Miller, Gordonsdon, 42 mins. 14 secs.; 3 M. Suck, Gordonsdon, 46 mins. 22 secs. **Team** — Gordonsdon.

Youths — 1 Derek Taylor, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 23 mins. 13 secs.; 2 Tommy Pedan, Milne's High School, Portabera, 23 mins. 25 secs.; 3 Gordon Cunningham, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 23 mins. 38 secs. **Team** — 1 Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 9 points; 2 Lochaber Athletic Club, 18 points; 3 Gordonsdon, 22 points.

Boys (13 - 15 years) — 1 Chris Vane, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 17 mins. 27 secs.; 2 Jeffrey MacMaster, Lochaber Athletic Club, 18 mins. 7 secs.; 3 John Macneil, Gordonsdon, 18 mins. 29 secs. **Team** — 1 Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 18 points; 2 Lochaber Athletic Club, 20 points; 3 Gordonsdon, 29 points. **Juniors (16 - 18 years)** — 1 James Watson, Lochaber Athletic Club, 12 mins. 3 secs.; 2 Guy Morgan, Milburn School, Inverness, 13 mins. 12 secs.; 3 Colin Dean, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 13 mins. 13 secs. **Team** — 1 Lochaber Athletic Club, 11 points; 2 Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 7 points; 3 Milburn School, 23 points.

WOMEN

Intermediate (16 - 17 years) — 1 Diane Taylor, Portrose Academy, 24 mins. 23 secs.; 2 Shona Bellon, Portrose Academy, 25 mins. 44 secs.; 3 Hwaaland McLennan, Inverness Royal Academy, 26 mins. 1 sec. **Team** — 1 Portrose Academy, 7 points.

Junior (18 - 19 years) — 1 Alison Taylor, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 14 mins. 7 secs.; 2 Andrea Mitchell, Inverness Royal Academy, 15 mins. exactly; 3 Moira Spence, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 15 mins. 5 secs. **Team** — 1 Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 9 points; 2 Inverness Royal Academy, 20 points; 3 Milburn School, 28 points.

Girls (11 - 15 years) — 1 Linda Haggarth, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 6 mins. 43 secs.; 2 Catherine Maxwell, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 6 mins. 53 secs.; 3 Tracy Briers, Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 6 mins. 58 secs. **Team** — 1 Cathness Amateur Athletic Club, 6 points; 2 Portrose Academy, 23 points; 3 Lochaber High School, 24 points.