

Scottish Women's Championships**At Edinburgh, February 10th****COMPLETELY NEW SET OF CHAMPIONS**

ALL the holders lost their titles in the Scottish Women's Cross-Country Championships, held on firm, undulating grassland surrounding the Heriot-Watt University Playing Fields, Edinburgh, last Saturday. First to fall, in bright winter sunshine, with snow covering the nearby Pentland Hills, was Kerry Williams, but inevitably her conquerors were from her own amazing Pitreavie club; in fact, Pitreavie girls occupied the first five places in the Girls race. In the Junior race, Anne Cherry was bidding for her third title in a row, but could not shake off Penny Gunstone, who finally broke the 'Fauldhouse Flyer' in the run-in to win by four seconds. Anne revealed afterwards that she had only resumed training five days before the championship after ten days lay-off with 'flu. Mary Stewart did not appear to defend her Intermediate title, thus robbing the meeting of its expected highlight—the clash of Mary and bang-on-form Moira O'Boyle. In the absence of her most formidable rival, Moira beat another Anglo Scot, Shiela Barrass, by over a minute.

In the senior race, Christine Haskett—now training in social science in England and entered from Stretford AC—broke away from holder Margaret Coomber and Ann Barrass in the last quarter of the race to win impressively by nearly half-a-minute. With Mary Chambers fourth, Palm Gunstone—top of the domestic scene all season—was the first home Scot in fifth position. Dale Greig, with eyes on the Boston Marathon in

April, was happy with her finishing position in the first dozen.

A feature of the championships was the family participation. Penny Gunstone, shock Junior champion, is sister-in-law to Palm Gunstone; Moira O'Boyle is daughter of Noreen, an astounding thirteenth in the senior event, and there were **three** Barrass girls from Aldershot—Sheila, second in the Intermediate; Ann, third in the Senior; and Jean, seventh in the Junior.

Seniors

1, C. Haskett (Stret) 22.53; 2, M. Coomber (Camb H) 23.24; 3, A. Barrass (AFD) 23.34; 4, M. Chambers (Blaydon) 24.02; 5, P. Gunstone (Dundee Hawk) 24.05; 6, E. McCulloch (Bella) 25.23. **Teams:** 1, Edinburgh SH 65; 2, Edinburgh AC 76; 3, Greenock Rankin Park 78.

Intermediates

1, M. O'Boyle (VP) 15.48; 2, S. Barrass (AFD) 16.53; 3, L. Inglis (EAC) 17.18; 4, J. Kane (ESH) 17.43; 5, E. Fleming (ASV) 17.46; 6, K. Roberts (EAC) 17.46. **Teams:** 1, Edinburgh AC 39; 2, Victoria Park 59; 3, Edinburgh SH 101.

Juniors

1, Penny Gunstone (Dundee H) 9.13; 2, A. Cherry (F'house MW) 9.17; 3, L. Todd (G'mouth Oly) 9.30; 4, P. Thomas (F'house V) 9.38; 5, S. Livingston (Pitreavie) 9.42; 6, J. Will (Dundee H) 9.46. **Teams:** 1, Edinburgh SH 49; 2, Pitreavie 62; 3, Edinburgh AC 82.

Girls

1, K. Robinson (Pitreavie) 6.30; 2, F. McKenzie (Pit) 6.46; 3, K. Williams (Pit) 6.53; 4, J. Devlin (Pit) 6.55; 5, L. Hodge (Pit) 6.56; 6, L. Roy (VP) 7.04. **Teams:** 1, Pitreavie 10; 2, Victoria Park 54; 3, Edinburgh AC 65.

(Fuller results to follow)

NORTHERN CHAMPS. continued

Teams: 1, Bolton UH (2,5,11,16,29,46) 109; 2, Airedale & SV (8,12,25,32,39,40) 156; 3, Gateshead (1,13,24,27,35,72) 172; 4, Sale 192; 5, Liverpool H. 247; 6, Manchester & D. 325; 7, Blackburn 433; 8, Wirral 447; 9, Holmfirth 561; 10, Blackpool & F. 577; 11, Sheffield 579; 12, Liv.

Cross-country title for Miss Haskett

Anglo-Scottish runners took the leading places when the Scottish Women's Cross Country championships were decided over a new course at Colinton. The winner was the former Dundee Hawkhill girl, Christine Haskett, who is now a member of Stretford Harriers. She came away strongly in the second leg to beat the holder, Margaret Coomber, by almost 100 yards.

Edinburgh Southern Harriers retained the team title.

The Scotland international team will be named on Wednesday.

Senior race (3.75 miles)—Individuals—
1. C. Haskett (Stretford), 22min 53sec;
2. M. Coomber (Cambridge), 23-24; 3. A. Barrass (Aldershot), 23-34. **Team—**1. Edinburgh Southern Harriers (W. Sosinka 9, M. Munro 16, N. Cherry 18, E. Gibling 22), 65 pts.; 2. Edinburgh AC, 76 pts.; 3. Greenock Rankin Park, 78 pts.

Intermediate Race (2.75 miles)—Individuals—1. M. O'Boyle (Victoria Park), 15-48; 2. S. Barrass (Aldershot), 16-53; 3. L. Inglis (Edin. AC), 17-18. **Team—**1. Edinburgh AC, 39 pts.; 2. Victoria Park, 59; 3. Edinburgh Southern Harriers, 101.

Junior Race (1.60 miles)—Individual—1. M. Gunstone (Dundee Hawkhill), 9-13; 2. A. Cherry (Fauldhouse), 9-17; 3. L. Todd (Grangemouth), 9-30. **Team—**1. Edinburgh Southern Harriers, 49 pts.; 2. Pitreavie, 62; 3. Edinburgh AC, 82.

Girls Race (one mile)—Individual—1. J. Robinson (Pitreavie), 6-30; 2. F. Mackenzie (Pitreavie), 6-46; 3. K. Williams (Pitreavie), 6-53. **Team—**1. Pitreavie, 10 pts.; 2. Victoria Park, 54; 3. Edinburgh AC, 65.