

SHETTLESTON WIN EDINBURGH - GLASGOW ROAD RELAY

BRIGHT, crisp weather greeted the starters in the 28th annual Edinburgh-Glasgow Road Relay sponsored by "The News of the World" on November 16th. As usual the opening stage of 5½ miles was very hotly contested with Strathclyde University's John Myatt opening up a decisive 100 yards lead in the final mile from Springburn and Shettleston. **Fastest times:** Myatt 26.50 (record), J. Raeburn (Tev) 27.14, M. McMahon (Shett) 27.15.

Stage 2: (6M) After half the stage had been covered Albert Smith still clung doggedly to twenty yards of the Strathclyde lead over John McGrow (Spring) and Norman Morrison (Shett). In the final half-mile however it was Alastair Wood who shot to the front to bring Aberdeen AC in first for the second stage record of the day. **Fastest time:** Wood 28.32 (rec).

Stage 3: (4M) Peter Stewart kept Aberdeen nearly 200 yards in front of Tom Paterson who had moved Shettleston up to second. Springburn were third, Edinburgh Southern fourth and EAC fifth. **Fastest times:** Paterson 21.07, Stewart 21.13, E. Coyle 21.53, A. McLellan (Spring) 22.10.

Stage 4: Dick Wedlock gave Shettleston the lead after only two of the 5½ miles and came in over 300 yards ahead of Aberdeen man J. Clare. Don Macgregor moved ESH up to third as Springburn slipped to fifth and Edinburgh University improved to ninth. Last year's winners, the University had a disastrous start and lay 17th after the first leg. **Fastest times:** Wedlock 28.08, Macgregor 28.52, Clare 29.49.

Stage 5: (5½M) Bill Scally improved Shettleston's advantage to something in the region of 600 yards from Aberdeen AC's Steve Taylor and ESH's Graham Stark. EAC were fourth and Edinburgh fifth, the latter thanks to a record-breaking effort by Ian Young. **Fastest times:** Young 26.19 (rec), Scally 26.42, Taylor 27.10, Stark 27.53.

Stage 6: With Lachie Stewart running for Shettleston on this the longest stage (7M) of the race the event looked sewn up and indeed his time for the distance was not bettered, although Gareth Bryan-Jones equalled it in retaining third for Edinburgh Southern. Aberdeen maintained second while Edinburgh University moved into fourth

through the efforts of Alastair Blamire. **Fastest times:** Stewart & Bryan-Jones 31.46, Blamire 32.07.

Stage 7: (5½M) With Les Meneely running the fastest individual leg Shettleston, now getting on for 700 yards in front, were almost certain winners. Aberdeen retained second 300 yards ahead of third-placed ESH. The Edinburgh University challenge faded as Victoria Park went up to fourth and Springburn into fifth. **Fastest times:** Meneely 28.57, D. Ritchie (AAC) 29.05.

Stage 8: (4½M) Henry Summerhill coasted home to give Shettleston a very decisive win in a time just two seconds outside Edinburgh University's three-year-old race record. Summerhill's time clipped 14 seconds off the stage record but he held it only for scant minutes as Bill Ewing ran a new best to ensure Aberdeen gained second. In winning, Shettleston scored their seventh success in the event thus equalling Victoria Park's record of wins. **Fastest times:** Ewing 22.54 (rec), Summerhill 23.04.

1, Shettleston 3:36.34; 2, Aberdeen AC 3:38.40; 3, ESH 3:40.54; 4, Victoria Park 3:43.25; 5, Edinburgh AC 3:43.53; 6, Springburn Un. 3:44.11; 7, Edinburgh Un. 3:45.10; 8, Hawkhill 3:51.14; 9, Strathclyde Univ. 3:53.14; 10, Bellahouston 3:53.51; 11, Garscube 3:54.52; 12, Aberdeen Un. 3:56.20; 13, Glasgow Un. 3:56.46; 14, Clydesdale 3:56.49; 15, Glenpark 3:57.56; 16, Teviotsdale 3:59.38; 17, Dumbarton 4:01.59; 18, Wellpark 4:02.33; 19, Motherwell YMCA 4:10.06; 20, Maryhill 4:10.51.

Willie Diverty

(Other Scottish news on page 11)

"AW" FILM SHOW

Members of the "AW" Club, or those who went on our trip to Mexico City, who would like to attend the "AW" Club Film Show at which highlights of the 1968 Olympic Games will be shown, should send a stamped, addressed envelope to Athletics Weekly, 344 High Street, Rochester, Kent, for a ticket. The Film Show is being held at Bowater House Cinema, Knightsbridge, London, SW. on Friday evening, December 6th. at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Admission by ticket only. Tea and biscuits served from

SHETTLESTON WIN BUT STUDENTS' RELAY RECORD STILL STANDS

By RON MARSHALL

Shettleston Harriers went out not only to win the Edinburgh to Glasgow relay on Saturday. They were chasing records, best performances, anything to show they are as good as any of the winning teams of late. But the course record slipped even so marginally out of their grasp after more than 44 miles.

Arithmetic shows that if each of their eight runners had speeded up by a little over a quarter of a second the record would have been theirs. As it was, Edinburgh University's time of 3hr. 36min. 32sec., set three years ago, was a tantalising two seconds away from them as Henry Summerhill met the camera flashlights at the finishing point in Ingram Street.

He had the disappointing experience of setting a record on that last stretch from Barrachnie, only to see it whisked away from him as Bill Ewing crossed the line for Aberdeen A.A.C. just over two minutes later. Ewing's time — 22min. 54sec. — took the staggering margin of 23 seconds off the previous record, and Summerhill was timed at 23min. 4sec.

Shettleston were never flustered. An indication of their strength is shown by four of their runners — Tom Patterson, Dick Wedlock, Lachie Stewart, and Les Meneely — running the fastest of their respective stages. Backing up close behind came Summerhill and Bill Scally, both second fastest on their stints.

Martin McMahon, looking more like ye ancient Sheriff of Nottingham every week as that

beard flourishes nobly, gave Shettleston a comfortable send-off by being placed fourth on the opening leg. Norman Morrison slipped one position next, but then the fair-haired, boyish-looking Patterson forged past the representatives of Edinburgh A.C., Springburn, and Strathclyde University, and left Wedlock with a token deficit behind only Aberdeen A.A.C.

On the outskirts of Bathgate, Wedlock put his club into the niche reserved for them before the race began and from there to the finish Shettleston's lead over Aberdeen increased on all but the last leg, by which time the result was ironcast.

One pleasing feature of their win was the absence from their team of any "imported" runners from England. The mutterings about this practice have been growing louder each year, so much so that the Cross-country Union have ruled that these "non-Scots" must have competed for the clubs in other races than the Edinburgh to Glasgow relay.

Marvellous run

Throughout the day a good number of the 20 clubs and many of the individuals were alternating between suffering and rejoicing. Aberdeen's cause for delight came when Alistair Wood, the Scottish marathon champion, took them from seventh place after the opening leg to first position. He had a marvellous run, picking off opponents nearly half his age and setting a record of 28min. 32sec. for the distance, not much short

to an seventh place after the opening leg to first position. He had a marvellous run, picking off opponents nearly half his age and setting a record of 28min. 32sec. for the distance not much short of six miles.

Strathclyde, twelfth last year, knew improvement would be more difficult this time but they still managed to knock three more clubs behind them. John Myatt, maturing into one of our best prospects for the forthcoming International championship, gave them the ideal start by knocking four seconds off Jim Alder's record set last year.

Ian Young, Edinburgh University's stalwart on the fifth leg, seemed reluctant to concede that his club's days of glory were past, so frantically was he eating up the distance on those ahead. And it was no surprise to learn that his time, 26min. 19sec., had beaten the previous best. The students eventually finished in seventh position after three years in the van.

Mild surprise

The long seventh leg, one of seven miles, always encourages a club to put out its best man on it, and it was mildly surprising that no one beat the record. Lachie Stewart and the Mexican-tanned Gareth Bryan-Jones shared the best time, 31min. 46sec., more than half a minute slower than Fergus Murray's three-year-old record.

There was some prolonged discussion among officials about which club deserved the award for the most meritorious performance. Garscube, who finished eleventh after having been out of the race for many years, got the verdict, but it must have been narrowly over Glasgow University. They moved up six places from last year's nineteenth position.

Results:—

1. Shettleston Harriers (M. McMahon 27-15, N. Morrison 29-34, T. Patterson 21-7, R. Wedlock 28-9, W. Scally 26-42), 1. L. Stewart 31-46, L. Meneely 28-57, H. Summerhill 23-4, 3hr. 36min. 34sec.; 2. Aberdeen A.A.C. (I. MacKenzie 27-41, A. Wood 28-32, P. Stewart 21-13, I. Clare 29-44, S. Taylor 27-30, I. Stewart 32-1, D. Ritchie 29-5, W. Ewing 22-54), 3-38-40; 3. Edinburgh Southern (W. Allan 27-47, K. Ballantyne 29-23, T. Coyle 21-52, D. McGregor 28-36, G. Stark 27-53, G. Bryan-Jones 31-46, A. Matson 29-20; W. Lyall 24-17), 3-40-54; 4. Victoria Park, 3-43-25; 5. Edinburgh A.C., 3-43-53; 6. Springburn Harriers, 3-44-11; 7. Edinburgh University, 3-45-10; 8. Dundee Hawkhill Harriers, 3-51-14; 9. Strathclyde University, 3-53-14; 10. Bellahouston, 3-53-61.

—Fastest stage times. First leg (5½ miles)—J. Myatt (Strathclyde), 26-50 (record). Second (6 miles)—A. Wood (Aberdeen) 28-32 (record). Third (4 miles)—T. Patterson (Shettleston), 21-7. Fourth (5½ miles)—R. Wedlock (Shettleston), 28-9. Fifth (5½ miles)—I. Young (Edinburgh University), 26-19 (record). Sixth (7 miles)—J. L. Stewart (Shettleston) and G. Bryan-Jones (Edinburgh Southern), both 31-46. Seventh (5½ miles)—L. Meneely (Shettleston), 28-57. Eighth (5 miles)—W. Ewing (Aberdeen), 22-54 (record). H. Summerhill (Shettleston),