

SCOTLAND

SHETTLESTON WIN EDINBURGH-GLASGOW

THE thirtieth Edinburgh to Glasgow relay race on November 21st, sponsored by "The News of the World", was not the fastest of the series because of strong headwinds but from the beginning it was a classic duel between two teams evenly balanced in talent and experience.

Craig Douglas put Edinburgh Southern ahead of Shettleston by 8 seconds on the first stage and although Dick Wedlock made early inroads on Fergus Murray on the second leg, the Edinburgh man drew away again to keep the gap at 7 seconds at the changeover. Shettleston's Tom Patterson pulled in his man within a mile but Southern's Coyle refused to go behind, and Gareth Bryan-Jones and Norman Morrison took off together, matched stride for stride throughout stage four and passed over the batons with a nominal one second in Southern's favour.

But on stage 5 Henry Summerhill, a great servant to Shettleston, swung the balance, racing away from former Scottish mile record-holder Graham Stark and handing over a lead of nearly a minute to Lachie Stewart. It looked decisive, but 10,000 metres hero Stewart was surprised on this 7 miles-and-a-bit stage by marathon man Don Macgregor, who made up ground on his formidable opponent. Southern's Martin Craven cut the arrears still further to send Ken Ballantyne away just 17 sec. behind Bill Scally. A terrific comeback for Southern was in prospect when Ballantyne bridged the gap but the effort was too much and Scally drew away again to cross the line 80 yards ahead.

The battle for the bronze was another tale of two cities, with the issue clearly between Victoria Park and Edinburgh AC by stage two. The Glasgow club painstakingly built up a lead of over a minute by stage six and then saw Jim Alder not only wipe this out but put Edinburgh AC ahead by a similar margin. Schoolboy David McMeekin, making his bow in this event, was understandably tentative at first but later swooped on his man and caught him at the last changeover. EAC's Fairgrieve and Victoria Park's Meredith ran shoulder to shoulder until Alexandria Parade, where the Glasgow man opened a gap which he steadily increased to 100 yards at the finish.

That club of ancient lineage, Clydesdale Harriers, were fifth and won the award for the most meritorious performance of the day.

James Logan

1. Shettleston (T. Grubb 27.20, R. Wedlock 30.37, T. Patterson 22.36, N. Morrison 30.00, H. Summerhill 31.39, L. Stewart 35.50, L. Meneely 26.56, W. Scally 28.41) 3:53.39.

2. Edinburgh SH (J. Douglas 27.12, F. Murray 30.38, T. Coyle 22.43, G. Bryan-Jones 29.59, G. Stark 33.03, D. Macgregor 35.13, M. Craven 26.26, K. Ballantyne 28.38) 3:53.52.

3. Victoria Park (A. Johnston 27.24, H. Barrow 31.14, A. Smith 23.02, D. Austin 32.26, W. Kerr 31.44, J. Reilly 36.51, D. McMeekin 27.06, G. Meredith 29.28) 3:59.15.

4. Edinburgh AC (J. Wight 27.48, I. McMillan 30.53, F. Gribben 24.16, J. Wright 32.49, J. Milne 32.21, J. Alder 34.46, D. Taylor 27.50, J. Fairgrieve 29.46) 3:59.29.

5. Clydesdale (I. Donald 28.17, D. Gemmell 31.40, I. Leggatt 23.47, R. Shields 33.38, B. McAusland 32.37, A. Faulds 36.11, S. McNeill 29.24, P. Dolan 30.15) 4:05.49.

6. Bellahouston (B. Goodwin 27.22, S. Irvine 32.12, J. Irvine 23.53, J. Adair 34.16, J. McMillan 32.35, I. Kerr 37.32, M. MacLean 27.39, R. Black 30.50) 4:06.19.

7. Strathclyde Univ. (M. Hall 27.55, F. Clement 32.01, J. Ross 23.41, I. Mitchell 32.04, R. Quayle 35.34, J. Myatt 38.19, E. Devlin 28.06, R. Paton 29.53) 4:07.33.

8. Springburn (A. McLellan 28.54, H. Gorman 31.24, T. O'Reilly 24.10, M. Bardley 36.21, A. Picken 32.52, E. Knox 36.29, W. Ramage 29.29, J. Keenan 33.34) 4:09.13.

9. Aberdeen Univ. (D. MacIntosh 29.04, C. Youngson 31.31, C. Aithie 25.35, C. MacCavlay 32.49, J. Rough 33.24, D. Ritchie 36.59, R. Orr 29.49, M. MacIntyre 31.49) 4:11.00.

10. Dundee Hawkhill (I. Graves 29.09, D. Gunstone 30.46, R. Oliver 24.12, P. Kearns 34.25, D. MacLean 36.36, R. Robertson 40.23, K. Grant 27.33, R. Heron 30.52) 4:13.56.

11. Dumbarton 4:16.13; 12. Greenock Wellpark 4:16.49; 13. Glasgow Univ. 4:17.02; 14. Edinburgh Univ. 4:18.39; 15. East Kilbride 4:19.53; 16. Aberdeen AAC 4:21.21; 17. Law & Dist. 4:22.35; 18. Teviotdale 4:24.54; 19. Garscube 4:27.17. (Cambuslang H. disqualified for falling behind time limit on stage 6.)

Fastest: (Stage 1) Douglas (ESH) 27.12, (2) Wedlock 30.37, (3) Patterson 22.36, (4) Bryan-Jones 29.59, (5) Summerhill 31.39, (6) Alder 34.46, (7) Craven 26.26, (8) Ballantyne 28.38.

MARYHILL HARRIERS RELAY

November 21st

Davie Wyper (28.56) led for West of Scotland on the first leg, but after Willie Sharp (28.42) took Falkirk Victoria into the lead on the second lap, they were never headed. Willie Day (27.15) continued his recent brilliant form by taking 11 sec. off Allan Faulds' record of last year. The race, which is for clubs not involved in the Edinburgh to Glasgow, was organised in Maryhill's usual efficient manner with results and times issued within minutes of the finish.

1. Falkirk Victoria (W. Wyllie 30.33, W. Sharp 28.42, D. Shields 30.04, A. Pender 29.45, D. Wilson 30.53, W. Day 27.15) 2:57.12.

2. Maryhill (K. Savva 30.15, J. Mahon 31.06, R. Ball 30.14, R. Stevenson 30.16, S. Watson 30.03, N. Singh 31.06) 3:03.00.

3. Glasgow Police (G. Boyes 32.43, D. Lang 28.34, N. Hill 32.03, J. Allan 34.02, N. Scott 32.27, W. Armour 32.09) 3:11.58.

Fastest: Day 27.15, Lang 28.34, Sharp 28.42, Wyper 28.56.