

# East Crush West in Edinburgh-Glasgow

— by JIM LOGAN

SHORT of commandeering a helicopter, it is beyond the contrivance of anyone to capture all the drama of this marvellous race last Saturday: how else, but from an aerial view, commanding the whole range of the field, could one capture the heroic individual feats that took Edinburgh Southern from 12th on the first stage to second on the fourth, or even more remarkable, if less significant from a race point of view, Strathclyde's surge through the field from a long last to eighth on the same stages. One man's view was fragmentary: he had to sit fuming in a snarl-up of traffic, and then rush to the scene of action, to find that important twists in the plot had been missed. But even a Shakespeare had to lament the inadequacies of his medium, and appeal to his audience: "Piece out our imperfections with your thoughts".

**Stage 1:** Jim Alder (26:43), of Edinburgh AC, still trailing clouds of glory, shook the field out from the start, forcing fighting performances from Gerry Price (26:51), Achilles (Belfast); Gordon Milne (26:54), Aberdeen; Ian Gilmour (27:06), Monkland; Bill Sheridan (27:15), Glasgow University; and Alasdair Reid (27:17), Victoria Park, which were to have a significant bearing on these clubs' future fortunes. Shettleston, in 15th position and nearly 2½ min down, were doomed from the start, although Edinburgh Southern, 12th and 1½ minutes down were also in a sticky position, yet by development of strength and individual inspiration were able to drag themselves from the slough by half-way.

**Stage 2:** Expatriates stole the glory on this stage. Jim Brown (29:16), back in Scotland for the first time since he went to Borough Road College, put Monkland in the lead, and Laurence Reilly (29:14), hero of the previous week's Waterloo '8', brought Victoria Park to second. Fastest on the stage, however, was another Anglo, Colin Falconer (28:57), who took Springburn from 7th to 3rd. Edinburgh AC, Aberdeen and Achilles, although dropping places kept in contention in 4th, 5th and 6th. Ian Elliott (29:19) began Southern's fight back by coming up to 7th and Lachie Stewart (29:22) took Shettleston to 9th. Lawrie Spence again did his salvage operation on this lap, just two seconds behind Colin Falconer's time, to hoist Strathclyde from a long last to 13th spot.

**Stage 3:** First year Junior Frank Brown, in the sport only since the spring of this year, put Victoria Park in front with the fastest leg of the stage (21:51), John Convery (21:52) and Ian Mackenzie (21:58) lifted Edinburgh AC and Aberdeen two places respectively to 2nd and 3rd, Monkland dropping to 4th and 5th, while seasoned campaigner Craig Douglas (21:55) slotted Southern into 6th while Shettleston dropped a place to 10th.

**Stage 4:** Three generations of athletes were concerned at the head of the race. Twenty-year-old David McMeekin (28:54), booked for Christ-

church, ran a trackman's typical road effort—cruising speed with a watchful eye on fuel supplies—but still managed to consolidate Victoria Park's lead at nearly a minute. Former Olympian Fergus Murray (28:31), with peak individual performances probably behind him, showed his power in a team context by bringing Southern to second, just ahead of Aberdeen's wonderful veteran Alastair Wood (29:05). Edinburgh AC dropped to 4th, Springburn to 5th and Achilles picked up a place again to 6th. Man of the stage, Frank Clement, was buried in the field, bringing Strathclyde from 12th to 8th in the fastest run of 28:15, which gives one a new respect for Andy Brown's stage record of 27:37!

**Stage 5:** This was a decisive phase as far as the premier position was concerned. Martin Craven's sharp cadence was in contrast to Bill Kerr's long stride, and there was no doubt which was the more effective. Martin (26:35), fastest on the stage, turned a 57 seconds deficit into a 58 seconds lead, and Aberdeen, Edinburgh AC, Springburn and Achilles retained their 4th, 5th and 6th places, with Shettleston's Dick Wedlock (27:07) gaining two places to 7th, but a long way back.

**Stage 6:** The thought at this stage was "Could Ian Stewart do it?" However, the big name was Andy McKean, with a record breaking leg of 31 minutes dead, a 7 seconds beating of Fergus Murray's 1965 figures. This won one place to lift Edinburgh AC into 3rd but Stewart's 31:21 was good enough to take Aberdeen into the lead over marathon champion Don Macgregor (32:22). Victoria Park dropped to 4th, Achilles were 5th and Shettleston gained another place to be 6th.

**Stage 7:** Southern hit back through Hutton (25:02) to regain the lead over Aberdeen's marathon man Donald Ritchie (25:41); and Edinburgh AC's grizzled super-marathoner Jim Milne (26:06), who has run the whole route in the past, maintained third place, with Victoria Park now resigned to 4th. Achilles (Greg Hannon, 24:52, with fastest leg) kept 5th place for the Belfast boys ahead of Shettleston.

**Stage 8:** Gareth Bryan-Jones made it a decisive victory for Southern by running the fastest leg (27:02), and showed his pleasure all the way down Ingam Street through a lane of applauding spectators. Daniel (27:53), second Knowles twin in Edinburgh AC's squad, made the Capital's dominance complete by pushing Aberdeen back into third place. Victoria Park salvaged something for Glasgow by heading off Belfast's Achilles, and Shettleston looked crestfallen in sixth spot.

Monkland, who narrowly missed the honour two years ago, took the medals for the most meritorious performance, but Achilles of Belfast took a metaphorical medal for bravery. With road training and racing virtually proscribed in Northern

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**Jacket:** Nylon/Cotton with roll collar, chest pocket with zip, contrast collar and cuffs.

**Trousers:** Flareline with sewn-in creases and contrast stripe. Colours: Navy/Canary trim, Navy/Scarlet trim, Scarlet/Black trim, Sky Top/ Navy Trousers with contrast trim, Light Green Top/Olive Green Trousers with contrast trim.

| Small | Medium | Large |
|-------|--------|-------|
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| 30in./32in. | 34in./36in. | 38in. | 40in. |
|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| 95p         | £1.30       | £1.50 | £1.70 |

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Please enclose part postage, i.e. 12p for tracksuits, 10p shoes, 3p shorts, vests, etc.

## THE SPORTS CENTRE

8 Medway Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4HD  
Telephone: Medway 47055

Ireland, they have to run in safer confined areas. They travelled by boat and train to Glasgow on the day before the race, the entire party of 11 slept in two private homes and yet they managed to finish fifth in their first visit to Scotland with one of their number achieving a fastest stage time: a really meritorious performance in the wider meaning.

### Provisional Results

(pending enquiries into eligibility of an Aberdeen runner).

1, Edinburgh Southern (G. Brown 28:28, I. Elliott 29:19, C. Douglas 21:55, F. Murray 28:31, M. Craven 26:35, D. Macgregor 32:22, A. Hutton 25:02, G. Bryan-Jones 27:02) 3:39:14.

2, Edinburgh AC (J. Alder 26:43, R. Knowles 30:25, J. Convery 21:52, A. Wight 29:36, P. Hay 27:48, A. McKean 31:00, J. Milne 26:06, D. Knowles 27:53) 3:41:23.

3, Aberdeen AAC (G. Milne 26:54, A. Keith 30:17, I. Mackenzie 21:58, A. Wood 29:05, R. Heron 27:33, I. Stewart 31:21, D. Ritchie 25:41, T. McCook 28:44) 3:41:33.

4, Victoria Park (A. Reid 27:17, L. Reilly 29:14, F. Brown 21:51, D. McMeekin 28:54, W. Kerr 28:30, A. Johnston 32:30, H. Barrow 26:00, A. Smith 28:14) 3:42:30.

5, Achilles AC, Belfast (G. Price 26:51, J. McLaughlin 30:27, P. McGouran 22:34, J. McGuinness 29:22, R. Durack 28:01, Gerry Hannon 32:42, Greg. Hannon 24:52, B. Gregory 28:53) 3:43:42.

6, Shettleston (L. Meneely 29:06, J. L. Stewart 29:22, R. Morrison 23:07, D. Wright 29:01, R. Wedlock 27:07, N. Morrison 32:24, S. Easton 25:19, H. Summerhill 28:43) 3:44:09.

7, Springburn (S. Gillespie 27:42, C. Falconer 28:57, J. McLean 22:39, C. Lennox 29:55, H. Gorman 27:22, E. Knox 33:33, A. MacFarlane 26:26, J. Lawson 28:18) 3:44:52.

8, Monkland (I. Gilmour 27:06, J. Brown 29:16; T. Callaghan 23:17, J. Davidson 30:06, E. Devlin 28:36, R. MacDonald 32:06, J. Small 26:32, W. Devlin 28:07) 3:45:06.

9, Glasgow Univ (W. Sheridan 27:15, J. Gunstone 31:08, R. McCrone 22:38, I. Mitchell 30:12, C. Bruce 29:46, D. Logue 31:16, S. Crawford 27:07, W. Fothergill 28:17) 3:47:39.

10, Edinburgh Univ (N. Blackley 28:20, J. Walker 30:30, I. Orton 22:23, I. Malcolm 31:27, D. Menzies 28:45, J. Dingwall 33:06, G. Millar 27:08, I. Kiltie 29:37) 3:51:16.

11, Strathclyde Univ (S. Snekkvik 30:02, L. Spence 28:59, A. McAngus 22:57, F. Clement 28:15, A. Coutts 28:53, P. MacLagan 33:30, P. Preston 27:30, G. McGregor 32:54) 3:53:00.

12, Glasgow Police (W. Lowe 27:49, D. Lang 30:42, N. Chisholm 24:36, J. McMillan 30:53, N. Scott 29:55, R. Blair 34:34, D. McBain 27:25, S. Irvine 29:37) 3:55:31.

13, Clydesdale (B. McAusland 28:55, D. Gemmell 30:01, C. O'Boyle 24:07, I. Donald 31:18, A. Faulds 29:46, P. Dolan 34:36, S. McNeil 28:30, R. Shields 29:32) 3:56:45.

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14, Law & District (G. McIvor 29:16, J. Myatt 30:10, D. Fairweather 22:27, T. McCann 31:23, J. Thomson 28:11, D. Simpson 37:26, A. Miller 27:09, J. King 31:04) 3:57:06.

15, Bellahouston (B. Goodwin 27:51, C. Joss 31:55, M. McNaught 23:03, B. Kerr 31:11, R. Marshall 29:32, J. Irvine 35:37, H. Scott 27:36, I. Kerr 30:27) 3:57:12.

16, Cambuslang (F. Cooney 28:44, G. Eadie 30:02, J. Wilson 24:00, G. Skinner 31:54, C. Jarvie 31:02, D. Cooney 36:37, R. Inglis 27:01, R. Anderson 29:14) 3:59:24.

17, East Kilbride (J. Little 29:58, A. Partridge 30:42, I. Sinclair 24:27, H. Wilson 31:17, D. Hartley 30:20, A. Neal 35:03, A. Trench 27:59, D. Will 31:09) 4:00:55.

18, Dumbarton (H. Elder 28:05, W. Cairns 34:04, M. Lidwell 24:38, H. Martin 32:18, A. Lawson 30:53, C. Martin 33:18, I. McWatt 27:46, R. Chapman 30:10) 4:01:12.

19, Greenock Glenpark (J. Smith 29:17, R. Hodelet 31:08, D. Gormley 24:16, R. Cox 34:40, J. Hoey 32:52, D. Childs 38:29, D. Kennedy 29:07, T. McDougall 33:28) 4:13:17.

## **EDINBURGH-GLASGOW RELAY**

Jim Logan writes: In addition to Andy McKean's stage 6 record of 31:00, Jim Alder set new figures on Stage 1 with 26:43, beating the joint record of 26:50 set by John Myatt (Strathclyde University, now Law & District) and Mike Bradley (Springburn) in 1968 and 1969 respectively; and Gareth Bryan-Jones' 27:02 on Stage 8 beat the joint record of 27:31 set in 1971 and 1972 respectively by Henry Summerhill and Albert Smith. The remaining stage records are as follows: Stage 2, 27:14, Ian Stewart, 1972; Stage 3, 21:05, Ian Hathorn, 1966; Stage 4, 27:37, Andy Brown, 1965; Stage 5, 25:58, Dick Wedlock, 1972; Stage 7, 23:53, Gareth Bryan-Jones, 1972. The race, as usual was sponsored by 'The News of the World'.