

## Scottish News

From Colin Shields

# Laurie Spence holds off reinstated Terry Mitchell

ON A DAY WHEN cross country running was virtually the only outdoor sport to survive in a snow-blanketed Scotland, runners found that speed was not the only essential needed to win the race in the Quadrangular International at Stirling University on December 12th. Agility, balance and a good skating action were also important, and Laurie Spence proved he had them all when he won from Terry Mitchell, a reinstated professional from Fife, whose application for full international clearance was being considered by the IAAF at their Rome conference that weekend. Mitchell has had outstanding success since being reinstated for domestic competition, winning many events on road, track and country and has been undefeated this winter in the East of Scotland till meeting Spence.

After a fast start Spence broke clear with only Mitchell for company. His experience told and Mitchell, though finishing strongly in the final half mile, had to be content with runner-up position.

Northern Ireland, despite finishing three in the first seven, failed to finish a complete team due to travelling difficulties from Belfast. With only five athletes available, manager, Jim Hayes, a noted hill runner, stripped to make up the team of six but, to his chagrin, after finishing 15th he found that one of his team had dropped out and they were still short of the counting six.

In the Young Athletes Inter-District races, Western District once again swept the board in all the team races, but their run of individual successes was broken when Colin Donald of Elgin gave the Northern District a surprise win in the Junior Boys race.

1, L. Spence (SCCU)..... 32:44  
2, T. Mitchell (SCCU) ..... 32:51  
3, J. McGarva (SCCU) ..... 33:25  
4, C. Spence (NI) 33:39; 5, T. Fieldsend (CS) 33:46; 6, R. Stone (NI) 33:48; 7, R. Curran (NI) 34:01; 8, P. Dolan (SB) 34:10; 9, C. Leck (SCCU) 34:14; 10, E. Stewart (SCCU) 34:17; 11, A. Girling (SU) 34:26; 12, G. Matheson (SB) 34:29; 13, G. McMillan (SCCU) 34:40; 14, P. Sigmundsson (SU) 34:47; 15, A. Mackay (SCCU) 34:51; 16, J. Hayes (NI) 34:58; 17, A. Daly (CS) 35:09; 18, A. Robertson (CS) 35:10; 19, R. Arbuckle (SCCU) 35:12; 20, P. McCaffrey (NI) 35:20. **Teams:** 1, SCCU 38; 2, Scottish Univs. 116; Scottish Banks, Civil Service & N. Ireland failed to close in.

### Inter-District Races

(Youths): 1, D. Russell (W) 25:00; 2, I. Matheson (E) 25:23; 3, A. Currie (W) 25:37; 4, J. McNeil (W) 25:37; 5, D. Marr (E) 25:40; 6, S.

Reid (W) 25:55; 7, F. Boyne (E) 26:00; 8, K. Maxwell (E) 26:08; 9, R. McKirdy (W) 26:12; 10, T. Ritchie (E) 26:12; 11, S. Kenny (W) 26:42; 12, C. Thomson (W) 26:58. **Teams:** 1, West 34; 2, East 45; 3, North 115. (**Snr. Boys:**) 1, R. Skilling (W) 15:04; 2, P. Morris (W) 15:07; 3, G. Phillip (E) 15:10; 4, G. Walker (W) 15:14; 5, T. Hanlon (E) 15:15; 6, G. Mason (E) 15:19; 7, S. Holden (E) 15:19; 8, P. Burns (W) 15:29; 9, P. Henderson (E) 15:33; 10, K. Smith (E) 15:34. **Teams:** 1, West 39; 2, East 40; 3, North 122. (**Jnr. Boys:**) 1, C. Donald (N) 12:03; 2, A. Russell (W) 12:05; 3, R. Donnelly (W) 12:22; 4, I. Ritchie (E) 12:40; 5, B. Tyrrie (W) 12:55; 6, V. Hughes (E) 12:58; 7, K. Idessane (E) 13:03; 8, J. Cavanagh (W) 13:07; 9, G. McCallum (W) 13:18; 10, S. Wallace (W) 13:28. **Teams:** 1, West 37; 2, East 57; 3, North 94.

**SWCCU East v West Match, at Rosyth (December 13th).** 1, E. Lynch (E) 23:38; 2, K. Mearns (E) 23:49; 3, V. Blair (E) 23:54; 4, A. Everett (W) 24:07; 5, J. Lordon (E) 24:25; 6, M. Gray (E) 24:27. **Teams:** 1, East 26; 2, West 52. (**Inters:**) 1, Y. Murray (E) 17:40; 2, L. MacDougall (W) 17:44; 3, A. Ridley (W) 18:25. **Teams:** 1, East 35; 2, West 43. (**Juniors:**) 1, L. Docherty (W) 13:03; 2, J. Stewart (W) 13:04; 3, M. Sprang (W) 13:08. **Teams:** 1, West 26; 2, East 61. (**Girls:**) 1, L. Rankin (W) 10:00; 2, C. Barclay (W) 10:16; 3, G. Doig (E) 10:23. **Teams:** 1, West 25; 2, East 57. (U/11): 1, P. McDaid (W) 7:36; 2, J. Barclay (W) 7:51; 3, C. Bowie (W) 7:52. **Teams:** 1, West 27; 2, East 57. **Total points:** 1, West 173; 2, East 236.

**Inter-County Champs, at Houston (December 19th).** 1, C. Leck (Ren) 26:42; 2, E. Stewart (Lan) 26:50; 3, C. Donnelly (Lan) 27:41; 4, A. Daley (Ren) 27:48; 5, S. Miller (Lan) 27:49; 6, D. McFadyen (Ren) 27:52. **Teams:** 1, Renfrewshire 38; 2, Lanarkshire 40. (**Youths:**) 1, J. McNeil (Lan) 18:24; 2, S. Kenny (Lan) 18:29; 3, S. Reid (Dumb) 18:36; 4, A. Currie (Dumb) 18:44; 5, S. Marshall (Lan) 18:48; 6, P. McManus (Lan) 18:53. **Teams:** 1, Lanarkshire 32; 2, Dumbartonshire 67. (**Snr. Boys:**) 1, B. Hawkins (Ren) 13:25; 2, B. Scally (Lan) 13:27; 3, S. Begen (Lan) 13:41; 4, P. Morris (Lan) 13:56; 5, R. McColl (Lan) 14:01. **Teams:** 1, Lanarkshire 7; 2, Dumbartonshire 95. (**Jnr. Boys:**) 1, A. Russell (Lan) 9:42; 2, S. Wallace (Lan) 10:05; 3, A. Ramage (Lan) 10:22; 4, A. Walsh (Ren) 10:25. **Teams:** 1, Lanarkshire 29; 2, Renfrewshire 73.

**Forres Handicap CC Races, at Forres (December 19th).** **Fastest:** G. Milne (A'deen) 27:26; D. Lang (Elg) 27:44; I. Moncur (Forr) 28:10. **Team:** Elgin.