

SHETTLESTON HARRIERS failed in their attempt to win their own relay promotion in the 12th running of the 'Allan Scally' Memorial 4x5M Road Relay. However, after a gallant fightback for three laps after a disastrous start, they eventually finished only 18 sec down on Scottish Relay Champions Clyde Valley AAC, who won for the first time.

Shettleston's problems started on lap 1 when Jim Evans finished 2 mins behind the leaders in 30th position in the record field of 88 teams. Junior international Alastair Douglas was first home for Victoria Park in 22:55, followed by Nigel Jones (EAC) and Colin Farquharson (Clyde Valley). On lap 2 Brian McSloy moved Clyde Valley into a narrow 1 sec lead, just ahead of Graham Laing, and Shettleston started their comeback as Stewart Easton clawed in 16 places. Lawrie Spence, on lap 3, showing renewed zest after a month's rest from a hard track season, raised his club to 6th position, but still 64 secs behind Clyde Valley, who retained a 15 sec lead from Aberdeen.

SCOTTISH NEWS

From Colin Shields

Jim Brown carefully nursed his lead all the way round the rainswept, exposed course to win by 100m, with Nat Muir breaking his own course record by 8 sec with the fastest time of 21:44 — almost 40 secs faster than his closest rival.

Edinburgh University retained their Scottish Universities Road Relay title, held in conjunction with the open race, when they finished 11th overall, beating rivals Glasgow by almost 3½ minutes.

1, Clyde Valley (C. Farquharson 23:08, B. McSloy 22:36, E. Devlin 24:09, J. Brown 22:33) 1:32:26

2, Shettleston (J. Evans 24:47; S. Easton 23:30, L. Spence 22:40, N. Muir 21:44) 1:32:44

3, Edinburgh AC (N. Jones 23:05, A. Gourlay 23:52, D. Hunter 23:20, D. Gunstone 23:13) 1:33:34

4, Aberdeen (F. Clyne 23:23, G. Laing 22:22, I. McKenzie 24:23, G. Milne 23:39) 1:33:48

5, Edinburgh Southern (A. Robertson 23:31, I. Elliot 22:55, E. Cameron 23:45, I. Orton 23:55) 1:34:06

6, Falkirk Victoria (D. Gibson 24:16, M. Logue 23:52, J. Dingwall 22:53, W. Day 23:55) 1:34:56.

7, Victoria Park 1:35:13; 8, Spango Valley 1:35:29; 9, E. Kilbride 1:35:51; 10, Bellahouston 1:36:48; 11, Edinburgh Univ. 1:36:49; 12, Cambuslang 1:37:12; 13, Edinburgh Southern 'B'

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1:37:33; 14, Teviotdale 1:37:40; 15, Edinburgh AC 'B' 1:37:44; 16, Fife 1:39:04; 17, Falkirk Victoria 'B' 1:39:38; 18, Clyde Valley 'B' 1:39:49; 19, Glasgow Univ. 1:40:18; 20, Victoria Park 'B' 1:40:34; 21, Edinburgh Southern 'C' 1:40:54; 22, Cambuslang 'B' 1:41:01; 23, Lochaber 1:41:14; 24, St. Andrew's Univ. 1:41:25; 25, Greenock Wellpark 1:41:51; 26, Kilbarchan 1:42:05; 27, Strathclyde Univ. 1:42:18; 28, Ayrshire 1:42:26; 29, Springburn 1:42:28; 30, Strathclyde Police 1:42:29.

Fastest laps: Muir 21:44 (rec); Laing 22:22; Brown 22:33; G. Clark (SV) 22:35; McSloy 22:36; L. Spence 22:40; C. Spence (SV) 22:51; Dingwall 22:53; A. Douglas (VP) & Elliot 22:55.

Scottish Universities Champs (held in conjunction): 1, Edinburgh (C. White 24:00, S. Gibson 23:33, C. Cottam 24:36, R. Thomas 24:40) 1:36:49; 2, Glasgow 1:40:18; 3, St. Andrew's 1:41:25; 4, Strathclyde 1:42:18; 5, Edinburgh 'B' 1:42:50; 6, Dundee 1:44:29.
Fastest laps: C. Donnelly (A'deen) 23:13; Gibson 23:33; White 24:00.

McSloy sets Clyde on road to victory

By RON MARSHALL

Clyde Valley followed up their national relay victory the previous week by winning the Ailan Scally Memorial relay on Saturday round a rainswept trail at Ballyeston.

The runners-up, Shettleston Harriers, whose middle-distance coach, the late Mr Scally was, gambled by putting John Evans on the opening leg, hoping that any deficit he bore could be wiped out on the three remaining stages. In the event, thirtieth place almost two minutes behind the leaders was much more than his team-mates could absorb.

Stewart Easton hacked a chunk out of that gap by moving Shettleston to fourteenth place. Lawrie Spence ran manfully to jump to sixth place, but by that time his anchor man, Nat Muir, was setting off more than a minute behind Jim Brown, whose team, Clyde Valley, had taken and maintained the lead thanks to Brian McSloy's fine run on the second stage.

Brown's time for the four-and-a-half mile leg, 22 min. 33sec., proved third fastest of the day, so the value of Muir's record run, 21-44, is further enhanced, and he was only 18 seconds adrift of Brown at the finish.

Edinburgh AC took third place while their city rivals, Edinburgh Southern, expressed themselves happy with fifth place. Their manager, Ian McKenzie, insisted that the race was being treated as a trial for Sunday's Edinburgh-Glasgow relay which Southern are defending.

He was even in a position to nominate the team for next week, not necessarily in this running order but one that will be extremely difficult to beat — Robertson, Elton, Cameron, Orton, Youngston, Craven, Hutton and Gladwin. Saturday's results:

1. Clyde Valley (C. Farguharson 23min. 8sec., B. McSloy 22-36, E. Devlin 24-9, J. Brown 22-33), 1hr. 30min. 26sec.; 2. Shettleston (J. Evans 24-47, S. Easton 23-30, L. Spence 22-43, N. Muir 21-44), 1-32-44; 3. Edinburgh AC 1-33-56; 4. Aberdeen AAC 1-33-48; 5. Edinburgh Southern 1-34-6; 6. Falkirk Victoria 1-34-56.

Fastest individuals — 1. Muir 21-44; 2. G. Laing (Aberdeen) 22-22; 3. Brown 22-33.