

15th Annual American Legion Armistice Day Race

Tuesday, 11 Nov 1952 at Legion Hall in Uptown Butte

Butte Central runners shown warming up for race.

From left: John Courtney, Mike Perko, Chuck Smith, V Barry, J McCarthy, & Emmett Quinn.



Awards ceremony pictured from left: Ronald Coleman, BH, 6th; Jay Sullivan, BC, 5th; Mike Perko, BC, 4th; Dick Roche, BC, 3rd; Wendell Glenn, BH, 2nd; Chuck Smith, BC, 1st, holding the Pachico Cup with race co-chair Martin Kearney.

C. Owen Smithers was general race chairman and he was assisted by Martin Kearney and a host of other Legionnaires including those who

fired the traditional volley of 11 areal bombs in the 11 minutes leading up to the 11 a.m. race start.

Leonard “Chuck” Smith of Butte Central defended his individual title in dominating fashion by smashing his own course record from last year by 50 seconds with a finish time of 15:57 for the three-year old route which is likely 2.7 miles in length, because it is two city blocks shorter than the “2.9 mile” course that was run previously.

Smith took an early lead and held it the entire race, finishing a full block ahead of Butte High’s Wendell Glenn who finished second.

Large crowds of cheering students gathered outside both Butte High and Butte Central as runners passed by.

Smith’s effort also led Central to a lop-sided team victory over Butte High. The team score was 15 to 6 in the Maroon’s favor, earning them the right to hold the Jack Pachico Memorial Cup for another year, and it slashed the Bulldogs’ overall lead to just three points (54-51) in the 11-year competition to claim final ownership of the trophy. There are six years remaining in that extended competition.

Twenty Central students ran the race and they were joined by seven from Public.

Team Scores: Butte Central, 15; Butte High, 6.

HS Boy’s 2.7 mile: 1, Leonard “Chuck” Smith, BC, 15:57 Course Record (old record 16:47, Smith, 1951); 2, Wendell Glenn, BH; 3, Dick Roche, BC; 4, Mike Perko, BC; 5, Jay Sullivan, BC; 6, Ronald Colman, BH; No additional finishers listed.