

21st Annual American Legion Veterans' Day Race

Tuesday, 11 Nov 1958 at Legion Hall in Uptown Butte -- Butte High Retires Pachico Cup

Dr. V.O. Ungherini was the Legion's attending physician, and he gave all race contestants passing marks in their pre-race medical examinations.

The Montana Standard estimated that more than 300 people were on hand to watch the race start, and that the number of spectators had swelled to more than 500 by the time the runners looped the course.

Of the 43 who started the race (31 from Butte High plus 12 from Central), the Standard reported "Only six of the entries failed to go the full distance and only one of those dropping-out was in need of transportation back to the start point. Following a medical examination the contestants were all reported to be in excellent condition."

Runners were paced by police lieutenant George Stanich. Another police car followed the runners, and several other police vehicles were dispatched to control traffic at street intersections along the route. Butte Fire Department Chief Jack McCarthy and Assistant Chief William Duffy also stood by with emergency equipment.

Butte High's Geoffrey Chance won his second consecutive Vets' Day Race with a finish time of 16:25, leading his Bulldog team to a winning total of 13 out of 21 possible team points. Additionally, Butte High took permanent possession of the large golden Jack Pachico Memorial Cup with an 11-year grand total score of 132 to 99. Pachico won this race in 1935 and was later killed in action in World War II in 1944.

Team Scores: Butte High, 13; Butte Central, 8.

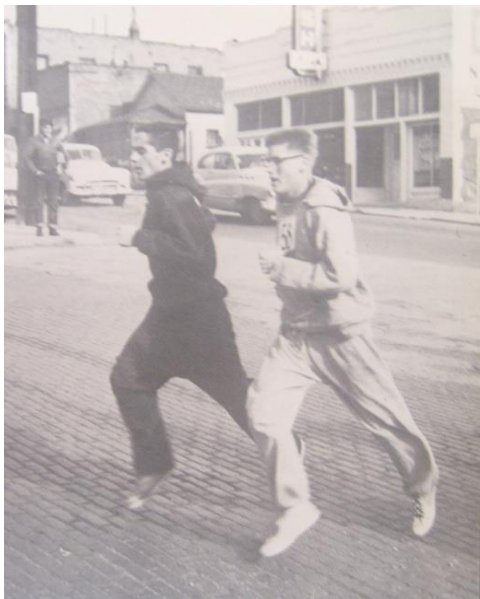


Above: 'The calm before the storm.'



Right: The starter fires his rifle in the background, unleashing a mad scramble of sneakers and sweat suits.

A Bulldog and a Maroon running in step across the brick-laid street surface.



Two Maroons find their way through the crowded onlookers, as they race toward the finish line.



Butte High's Geoffrey Chance won his second consecutive Vets' Day Race



Awards Ceremony for the 2.7 mile race placers.

Pictured from left:

An unidentified Legionnaire holding the Pachico Cup, a team award which was retired by Butte High after a tightly contested 11-year scoring competition between the two Butte schools;

- 1, Geoffrey Chance, BH, 16:25;
- 2, Andy Hovan, BC;
- 3, Padraic Carmody, BH;
- 4, Robert Kingsbury, BH;
- 5, Jerry Downey, BC;
- 6, Mike Lowney, BC;

and Race Co-Founder C. Owen Smithers (partial photo) on the far right.

No additional finishers were listed.