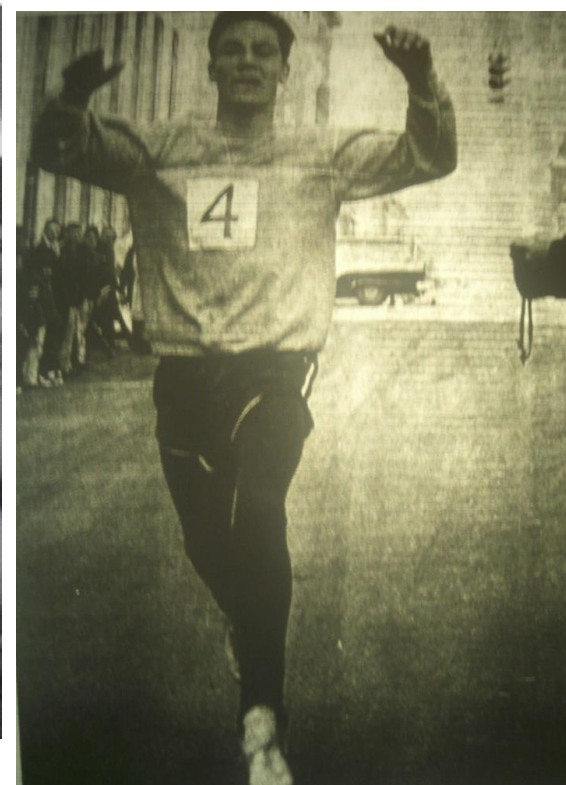


29th Annual American Legion Veterans' Day Race

Friday, 11 Nov 1966 at Legion Hall in Uptown Butte – Avoiding the Pit

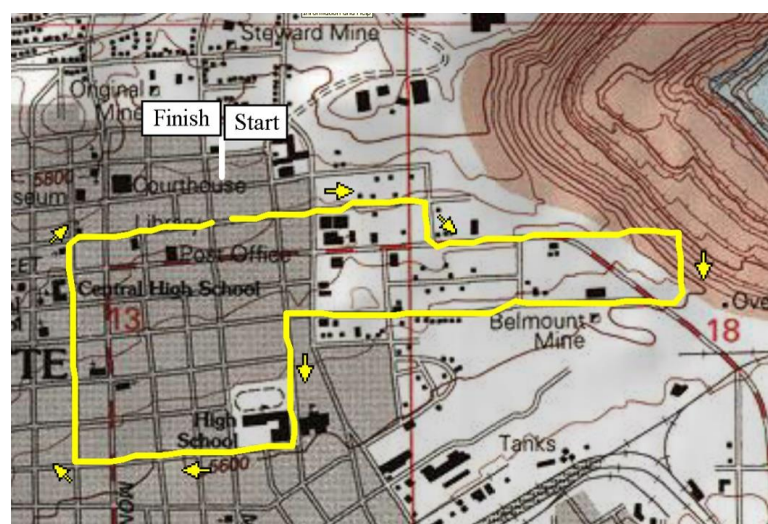


The race was preceded by 11 aerial bombs at 11 a.m. The bombs were set off by Jack Wulf's American Legion detail. Mayor Thomas F. Powers, Police Chief Jim Clark and other police officers escorted the lead runner through the race course. 31 of the 33 runners, who were entered, completed the race.

Butte High senior Gary Keltz (number 4) won the race in a time of 15:16. Keltz, who last year finished fourth place in this race, is the son of Butte High ski team coach, Dave Keltz. Keltz, who finished nearly two city blocks ahead of second place Dave Johnson of Anaconda, also won last springs' Interscholastic mile championship in a time of 4:32.4 on the cinder track in Missoula.

Modified Route: The race was again run through the Uptown business district, but because the ever expanding Berkeley Pit had swallowed northern Gaylord Street, race officials were forced to alter the course slightly. The race distance remained the same, but two additional corners were added. Instead of going all the way east on Broadway to Gaylord the runners were routed down Atlantic to Park, east on Park to Gaylord and then they continued the usual route.

Awards Ceremony pictured from left: Gary Rowe, BH, 5th; Tom O'Neill, BC, 4th; Race Co-Founder & Chairman C. Owen Smithers, Dave Johnson, Anaconda Public, 2nd; Gary Keltz, BH, 1st (holding small trophy); Serepia Baca, BH, 3rd; Mike Maloughney, BH, 6th; and former Butte High cross-country coach Harry "Swede" Dahlberg who is holding the team trophy that is named in his honor.



Dahlberg, who is a veteran of both World Wars, retired from coaching last spring after 44 years at Butte High. His Bulldog team sent him out in style with "one for the Swede" by winning the 1966 Interscholastic track & field championship on The University of Montana campus last May.

Butte High, with Charles Merrifield as the new head-coach, won the inaugural year of seven-year Dahlberg Trophy series by a 26 to 38 margin over Boys' Central.

Both previous team trophies in the long history of the race have been retired at Butte High. The first was an eleven-year trophy named the Jack Pachico Cup in honor of the 1935 race winner who was killed in WWII. Last year Butte High claimed the most recent seven-year trophy which was named after C. Owen Smithers, the man who originated the race in 1934, and who remains the race's official chairman.

This was the first time the race's team scoring system was based off the new rules set up by the National Federation of High Schools which assigns team points corresponding to each runner's finish rank. For example, first place scores one point, second place scores two points and so on. The total of each team's first five runners is then combined, and the lowest score wins. Anaconda with one entrant, and Anaconda Central with two finishers, were both ineligible for team scoring due to having fewer than the required number of five runners.

Under the previous scoring system, there were only 21 team points available, and the team that gathered the most points won. Points were assigned to the first six finishers on a 6-5-4-3-2-1 basis. Last year, Dahlberg's Dogs achieved the perfect score of 21 to 0.

HS Boys' Team Scores: 1, Butte High, 26; Boys' Central, 38.

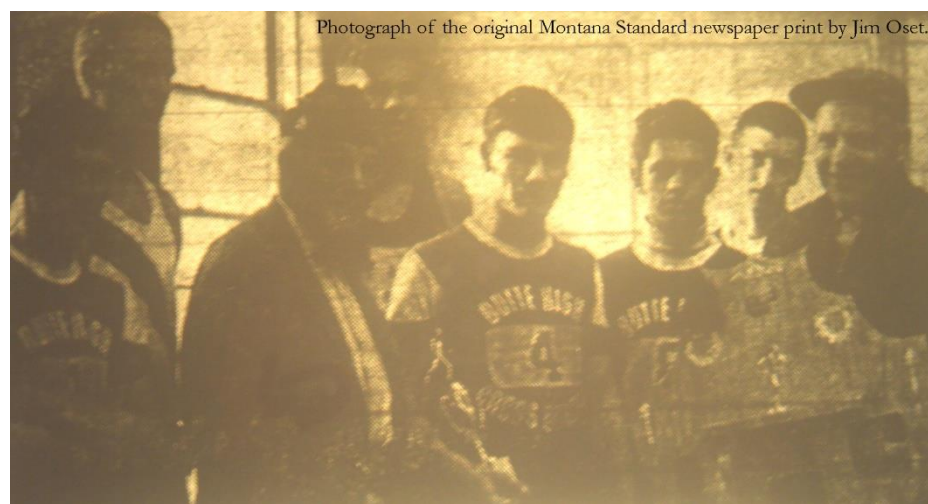
HS Boys' 2.7 mile: 1, Gary Keltz, BH, 16:16; 2, Dave Johnson, Anaconda; 3, Serepia Baca, BH; 4, Tom O'Neill, BC; 5, Gary Rowe, BH; 6, Mike Maloughney, BH; 7, Mike Hovan, BC; 8, Francis Franey, BC; 9, Mike Bowman, BC; 10, Joe Renouard, BC; 11, Dean Martin, BH.

Entries also included:

BH: Tom Staples, Jim Brennan, Ken Schelin, Jacques James, Dave Barker, Charles Perkins, Eric Grinde, Mike Zahn, Bill McGary, and Jerry Longest.

BC: Bernard Cassidy, Terry Driscoll, Joe Dennehy, John Dennehy, Mark Morin, Billy Harper, Randy Bagley, Tom Ortega, Dan Moriarity, Jack O'Neill, Dennis Walden, and Joe Antonietti.

Race finishers from **Anaconda Central:** Frank Palakovich and Rich Navarro.



Photograph of the original Montana Standard newspaper print by Jim Oset.