

OUTSTANDING ATHLETES IN

Griffith will host one of the greatest long distance races in Australia over the

Easter period.

The annual Whinnaker's Bacchus 12,000 will be held.

New Zealander Bruce Jones and American Dennis Nee are two of the favourites for this year's event.

Jones is highly fancied because he won the National 10,000 metre cross country championship in Adelaide recently, and Nee won the 1975 "City to Surf" event in Sydney. But they are just two to the many outstanding athletes entered for the

event. There are at least 10 top runners from New South Wales, Victoria and the ACT with a

The result is anyone's guess, as the following performances by entrants illustrate.

John Stanley - 1975 winner of the Bacchus 12,000 in record time of 35.42, finished fifth in the "Bay to Breakers" last year with a time of 39.04, ran sixth in the Sydney "City to Surf", and was third in the 10 mile cross country in Eugene, Oregon, U.S.A., last year.

Top runners' numbers

- 30 - Bruce Jones (New Zealand)
- 66 - John Stanley (Armidale)
- 165 - Bill Scott (Melbourne)
- 63 - Chris Wardlaw (Melbourne)
- 152 - Dennis Nee (Sydney)
- 35 - Max Little (Melbourne)
- 65 - Mike Little (Sydney)
- 11 Rob de Castella (Melbourne)
- 68 - Keith Mayhew (Sydney)
- 169 - Rob Talay (Sydney)
- 157 - Geoff Martin (Griffith)
- 106 - Bob Barbaro (Yanco)
- 124 - Granley Hodge (Griffith)
- 458 - Elizabeth Richards (Sydney)
- 815 - Lyn Golden (Griffith)
- 352 - Jack Pennington (ACT)
- 351 - Reg Paltraman (Griffith)
- 117 - Peter Fuller (Melbourne)
- 57 - Dennis Smith (ACT)
- 33 - Mike Kennedy (ACT)
- 103 - Bruce Adams (Sydney)
- 301 - Jim Lee
- 353 - Jack Ryan (Melbourne)

Max Little - twice winner of the Wagga "Lake" run, first in this year's Victorian 10,000 metres track championship with a time of 28.30, third in this year's national 10,000 metre cross country championship.

Dennis Nee - first in last year's "City to Surf" State 5000 and 10,000 metre champion this year, finished first in the Waketown Dozen, was the Distance Running News runner of the year and is a former member of Griffith Athletic Club.

Bruce Jones - from New Zealand and an Australian resident, finished first in the 1975 national 10,000 metre cross country championship with a time of 30.54.

Rob Talay - member of the national cross country team which competed at Morocco last year, former State 5000 metre champion, has represented N.S.W. on many occasions. His latest win was the Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club run this year, and he finished second in the Sutherland half marathon last year.

Bill Scott - last year placed 13th in the world rankings for 10,000 metres, recorded 28.00

for 10,000 metres in Stockholm last year, is over that distance since Ron Clarke and was unlucky to miss Australian team for Montreal.

Chris Wardlaw - second to David Fitzsimons in 10,000 metre Olympic trial this year, selected for Montreal in 5000 and 10,000 metres. Won Victorian 16,000 metres last year, finished second in Victorian marathon recently and is running well at the moment.

Mike Kennedy - champion ACT runner with outstanding record over many years, second in 1974 "City to Surf", and competed in "Bay to Breakers" when first place getter John Farrington was unable to make the trip. He won the recent Canberra "Two Bridges" event in which 1,000 runners took part.

Elizabeth Richards - won this year's State 3000 metre title, a member of the Australian cross country team which went to Morocco last year, and was the first Australian woman home in that event. She was fourth in the five mile

road race held in Peru last year.

Geoff Martin - first local runner home in last year's event. Favorite to take out the Wade Shire resident prize again this year.

SATURDAY'S BACCHUS RUN

Top prizes are offered

First prize in the Bacchus 12,000 is a trip to San Francisco to compete in the "Bay to Breakers" race, valued at \$1040.

There are also numerous prizes donated by sponsors.

The sponsors for the race are - San Bernardino Wines, De Bortolis Wines, Wickham Hill Wines, Rossetos Wines, Sergis Wines, Miranda Wines, Penfolds Wines, McWilliams Wines, Calabra Wines, Slaminade, Tiger Shoes, Ultraprini, Kendall's Footwear, Mackay's

Furniture and Salvo's Floorcovering. The race will be held Easter Saturday, starting at 2 p.m. sharp, at a point in Blumer Avenue between the Ex-Servicemen's Oval and the cemetery. Prizes will be awarded at the oval at 4 p.m. sharp. Athletic Club officials appeal to the public not to follow runners by car. Police will be on hand to enforce this.