



## THE AREA NEWS SPORTS SECTION

ABOVE: Mr. Al Grassby was the official starter for the hundreds of runners who took part in the Vintage Festival Bacchus 12000 long distance run ..... and, 12km later John Stanley (Right) was still showing signs of wear as he headed for the Ex-Servicemen's Oval and the winner's sash.



# RUNNING HIS WAY TO SAN FRANCISCO

John Stanley of New England University, Armidale, won the inaugural Bacchus 12000 by approximately 400 metres in the fast time of 35 minutes 12 seconds on Easter Saturday.

Stanley covered the hilly course with an incredible average time of four minutes 47 seconds per mile, and has won the opportunity of competing in San Francisco's famous "Bay to Breakers" event.

Second place went to M. Little of Randwick, Botany with a time of 37.04.

Third place went to a Canberra runner, M. Beeson with a time of 37.47.

More than 200 runners of all ages started in the race.

At the two mile peg Stanley had a break of 150 metres.

The first Griffith runner home was Geoff Martin, a member of the Griffith Joggers' Club team.

Geoff was placed 14 with a smart time of 43.05. Organisers of the event were pleased with the results.

The winner, John Stanley, is amongst the best long distance runners in Australia.

He is a leading marathon runner and was recently placed 23 out of 180 starters in an international marathon in Czechoslovakia.

Marathons are run over 26 miles.

Following are the results of prize winners in the individual and team sections.

A full list of results, giving places and times will appear in a future issue of the Area News.

### INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES

First outright, John Stanley (University of New England); 2nd outright Michael Little; 3rd outright, Nigel Beeson.

Primary student boy, Wayne Alpen; girl, Judy Davoren.

Secondary student, boy,

Lionel Ayoub; girl, Julie Permezel.

Tertiary student boy, Jeff Collins; girl, Heather McGowan.

40-50 years, male Bert Benne.

50 years and over male, Frank McCaffrey.

Wade Shire resident male, Geoff Martin, female Heather MacGowan.

Secret time, Mike Leigh.

Secret place, Frank McCaffrey.

### TEAM TROPHIES

Service club, Wade Apex (S. Di Fiore, B. Mee, R. Lloyd, B. O'Donnell).

Female team, Griffith High School (R. Brown, L. Golden, M. Forrest, J. Andrew).

Mixed team, Trinity High School, Wagga.

Work team, W.C. and I.C. (A. Van der Lelij, G. Sainty, P. Pratt, D. Smyth).

Primary School team, The Grapes (G. Wood, M. Peisley, S. Olivero, G. Ashton).

Secondary school team, Griffith High School (P. McNeilly, R. Perry, F. Scarfone, D. McInnes).

Tertiary institution team, Macquarie University (P. Wood, N. Palfreman, M. McWilliam, J. Wardlaw).

Sporting club team, A.C.T. Cross Country Club (N. Beeson, G. Moore, B. Leeton, P. Rodkin).

## Weather upsets Jockey Club meeting

Officials of the Griffith Jockey Club are pleased with the success of their Vintage Festival Cup Meeting on Monday despite one of their worst racing days in memory.

The crowd was kept down to about half expectations due to heavy rain.

However, officials announced last night that the gate was approximately \$1400.

Racing opened with the Sappelt Wines Maiden Handicap, which was run in blinding rain.

Major's Legacy was ridden a treat by Narrandera apprentice, Robbie Watt, to upset a big plunge on the Griffith trained Rash Joy, who never got warm at any stage.

Racegoers witnessed one of the easiest of wins in the Improvers Handicap when Tudor Vain steeled the opposition to score by eight lengths.

Tudor Vain, formerly trained by Ray Guy at Rosehill, is bred in the purple being by Vain from Lady Shyly.

Although the track was rain effected, Tudor Vain covered the distance in the smart time of 59 seconds.

Followers of John Shoards stables received a setback in the Rural Stakes when Escapee Mark Gorman of led all the way to win by Berrigan.

five lengths from Tudor Vains stablemate Blue Print, who had been of the best races of the day.

The Griffith Leagues Club Cup proved to be one of the best races of the day.

All three horses Araluen, Funny Me and Noble Count raced three abreast for the first six hundred metres.

This made the race for the hot favorite, Saccade, who was parked in on the rails running fourth.

Approaching the home turn Funny Me and Noble Count ran out of petrol and Araluen was left to fight it out with Saccade. Araluen's run ended quickly and Saccade dashed clear and appeared set for an easy win until Mr. In Between came with a late burst to get within a length of Saccade at the finish.

Mr Graham Watkins presented the trophy on behalf of the Leagues Club to Mr. and Mrs. Mark Gorman of Berrigan.

The Jockey Club is indebted for the donation of such a fine trophy, which was admired by all patrons.

A poor field of four greeted the starter in the two year old handicap.

Spanish Mint earned the easiest \$750 of the day when she scored by seven lengths on the bit.

Despite a holding track Miss Gloaming smashed the course record in the final event and provided trainer, Peter Clancy, with his first Griffith winner.

Clancy, a former top amateur jockey had five rides for five wins at Griffith, but has taken five seasons to break through for a win as a trainer.

Jan Sweeney topped a big day for the Sweeney family when his lucky number presented him with a color television set.

Minor prizes were won by A. Crapp of Wagga and W. Kletter of Griffith.

See results page 27.

## TROTTING OFF TO A BIG START

The 1975 trotting season at Griffith commenced in a big way on Easter Saturday when the Vintage Festival Cup meeting was conducted.

Principal event on the program, the Vintage Festival Cup, went to the Cobram trained Murray Belle who started second favorite at two to one.

Favorite in the event was the David Jack trained Oakhill Road who finished second last after leaving his gear in the back straight on the final circuit.

The win by Murray Belle was a just reward as her recent efforts have

been most consistent and included a second in fast time to the brilliant Silver Echo at Leeton several weeks ago.

New Surprise (David Eurell) finished second and Ebony Prince (Lance Stevens) third.

The only hard luck story came from Griffith driver Bert Carlisle who piloted Joyful Kudos into fourth place.

Joyful Kudos was unable to get a clear run

over the final two furlongs and was full of running with nowhere to go when the judge called a halt.

This horse has been sold and will do his future racing in the care of Annandale trainer Charlie Pearce.

Punters on the day generally got the better of bookmakers with Merla Byrd (Jack Williams) 6-4 favorite, Excellent Lady.

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