18th Annual American Legion Veterans' Day Race

Friday, 11 Nov 1955 at Legion Hall in Uptown Butte

The race started 11 a.m, after Army doctor Captain Frank Siddell had examined the runners and found them fit for the event.

The 11 a.m. start also came after the traditional eleven minute salute of mortar shots fired on the minute. The usual troop of at least fifteen Legionnaires carried out the start and finish line procedures, and Police Chief Bart J. Riley detailed the lead vehicle and traffic control under hazardous weather conditions.

The Montana Standard reported that "A thick snowfall shortly before the race thinned out at starting time and the sun broke through the gray clouds, but the pavements were slippery under foot and the air was chilly as the 40 contestants, 26 from Central and 14 from Butte, crowded up to the starting line at Broadway and Dakota."

Butte Central's Tom Monaghan handled the snowpack best, winning in a time of 16:23. Monaghan's victory was not enough to stop Butte High from, once again, escaping with the team victory.

For the third consecutive year, Butte High won the team competition over Butte Central by the narrowest possible margin of 11 to 10, with points scored by the first six finishers on a 6-5-4-3-2-1 format. The Bulldogs also use that one-point difference to edge slightly more ahead of the Maroons' in the eighth year of the two teams' ongoing 11-year contest to decide final ownership of the Jack Pachico Cup. The Bulldogs now lead the evenly matched series by a combined score of 87-81

Team Scores: Butte High, 11; Butte Central, 10.

HS Boy's 2.7 mile awards ceremony pictured at right: Race Chairman C. Owen Smithers (with Pachico Cup); 1, Tom Monaghan, BC, 16:23; 2, Wendell Glenn, BH; 3, Stan Lode, BH; 4, Ed Canty, BC; 5, Bob Morgan, BH; 6, Mickey Maloughney, BC; Co-Chairman Martin Kearney.
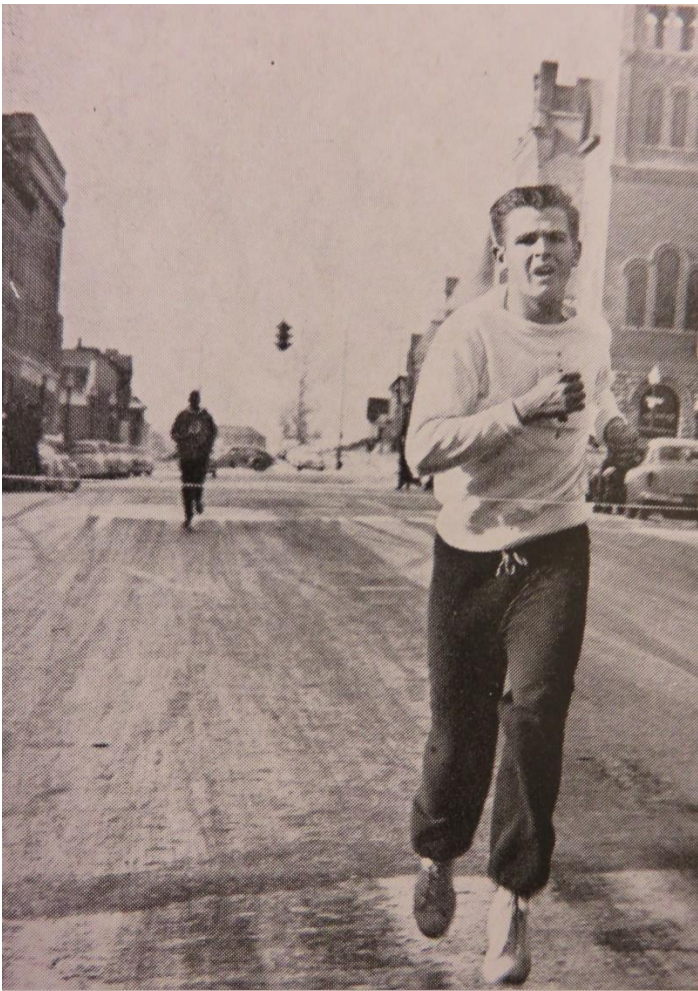

The Butte High Bulldogs Veterans' Race team (pictured above)
Back row from left: Jerry Kneebone, Joe McMannon, Daryl Pratt, Bob Morgan, Joe Kangus, Stan Lode, Doug Brown, Bob Hauck, Ned Burns.
Front: Wayne Marshall, Bill Spurrier, Wendell Glenn, Ed Skubitz, Will Saam.

Additional Entrants:

BC: Duane Pacheco, Steve LaHood, Mike Buckley, Jim Freebourne, George Hogan, Len Vainio, Ted McElhenny, Dan Crowley, John Kingston, Jim O'Donnell, Bernie Harrington, Tom Bugni, Tom Albright, Mark O'Neill, Ray Martinich, Jack Mack, Tim Opie, Bob Neary, Pete Starin, Jim Hannifin, Bob Hanley, Michael Garvey, Jack Healy.

BH (16 total of which apparently two did not finish): Ned Burns, Ed Skubitz, Joel Kangas, Will Saam, Daryl Pratt, Bob Hauck, Doug Brown, Joe McMannon, Jerry Kneebone, Bill Spurrier, Ned Burns, Wayne Marshall, John Wulf [yes, *that* John Wulf – **the Wulfman**! He was in ninth grade, but apparently he did not make it to the starting line for the race.]

SENIOR TOM MONAGHAN, after placing in the Cross Country for two years in a row, ends his high school racing career in fine fashion by winning the event, well ahead of the rest of the field.

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