38th Annual American Legion Veterans' Day Race

Tuesday, 11 Nov 1975 - One last time around the Naranche Stadium race loop in Uptown Butte as recapped, in part, by Pat Kearney

This was the ninth and final year when the Veterans' Day race was held at Naranche Stadium. The sports complex had been closed a couple of years earlier because of unsafe bleachers in the complex.



Liza Merrifield (picture at right) became the first female to win the race three years in a row. Merrifield captured the high school girls' event in a time of 9:31. The two previous years Merrifield had won the girls' junior high race.

HS Girls' 1.5 mile: 1, Liza Merrifield, BH, 9:31; 2, Jan Downey, BC, 10:15; 3, Mary Whalen, BC 10:17.9; 4, Shannon Houlihan, BH, 10:17.9; 5, Wanda Matteson, BH; No additional finishers were listed.



Left: Butte High's **Mike Houlihan** warming up before the boys' high school race.

Below: Butte High's Carl Burgman, Mike Houlihan and Glen Metz blast away from the starting line.



Houlihan won the race for the second consecutive year in a time of 12:54.

No Team scores were kept in what would otherwise have been the third year of five in the C. Owen Smithers trophy challenge.



HS Boys' 2.5 mile:

- 1, Mike Houlihan, BH, 12:54;
- 2, Rich Quinn, BC, 13:25;
- 3, Carl Burgman, BH, 13:29;
- 4, Bill Kearney, BC;
- 5, Jerry Downey, BC;
- No additional finishers were listed.

The junior high boys' champion was Mike Williams of West Junior High in a time of 6:12, while Jenny Pascoe of West Junior High took first in the girls' division with a time of 7:01.

7th and 8th Grade Boys' 1 mile: 1, Mike "Bud" Williams, East, 6:12, 2, Larry Menghini, 6:23; 3, Pat Downey; 4, Jim Murray; 5, Henry Chapman; No additional finishers were listed.

7th and 8th Girls' 1 mile: 1, Jenny Pascoe, West, 7:01; 2, Kay Johnston; 3, Lorraine Hairston; 4, Bernadette Curry; 5, Jean Johnston; No additional finishers were listed.