

# Palo Alto Times

Section II

PALO ALTO TIMES, MONDAY, JAN. 1, 1979

Page 9

## A big run at the new year

Running can be fun, as well as good for you, seemed to be the message in Los Altos Sunday night as thousands of runners and spectators massed for the annual New year's Eve Midnight Run.

The photos, running clockwise from upper right, show Len Wallach, author of "The Human Race," lining up the runners for the start of the race, then the mad scramble of elbows and knees as they took off while spectators watched intently.

Runners were offered encouragement and material help, such as the towel handed to the runner at lower right and the champagne poured by Buddy Carroll at lower left. Not all the runners made it without mishap; some tripped and fell. But almost all seemed to have a good time as the champagne-drinking man and elaborately costumed woman at top illustrate. (Photos by Charles Finlay.)

## RUNNERS

Continued from Page 1

siastic New Year's bunch imaginable.

It was clearly more fun to run than to watch, and several observers said when it was over, that their first New Year's resolution was to start training for next year's run.

The first mile was easy, the second was tougher, and "then it was a pain after that," said fifth-place finisher Tony Munoz, 23. The most disturbing thing, said Munoz, of Watsonville, was trying to pass the

slower joggers on the second lap around the triangular course.

Nevertheless his criticism seemed to hide an inescapable feeling of satisfaction of finishing in 26:02.

John Hoch, 16, of Atherton, was pleased he finished 66th in the men's invitational at 11 p.m., in which 125 runners competed. Hoch admitted, though, that "I never saw the really fast guys."

Those were photo-finishers Craig Virgin and Alberto Salazar, with 22:13. First place was given to Vir-

gin on the basis of observed body lean, and third place went to Rudy Chapa, with 22:30. Brendon Foster, of England, placed fourth.

Runners World officials believe the winning time set a new world record for the five-mile.

In the women's invitational, Greta Waitz, of Norway, placed first, with 25:28. She holds the world's marathon record. Julie Brown came in second, with 26:19, and Marty Cooksey finished third, with 27:23.







