

Going, going, gone...



Chris Stoney

'It was grand to see that mountain horseman ride...'

THERE were plenty of thrills and spills at the recent Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria annual "round-up" at Gibbo Park, near Benambra.

Nearly 4000 people turned out for the two-day get-together, which culminated in the running of the Cattlemen's Cup, won by Chris Stoney and his horse Philly.

The Mansfield pair are certainly no strangers to the bush or the dare-devil races that resemble the famous Man from Snowy River descent. This was Chris' fourth ride in the event and his familiarity with the mountains is the legacy of having spent most of his life riding them.

The Cup sends competitors up hills, down dales, across country and through rivers and is open only to the "real" cattlemen — MCAV members or their families.

The bash was initiated by the cattlemen for the cattlemen, but the weekend's popularity sees plenty of the "yuppies" from town taking the dust with the best of them just to savor bushlife for a weekend.



John "Froggy" McMahon comes to grief in the river section of the Stockmen's Dash at Gibbo Park.



Lynley Miners of Adaminaby and Ray Roberts of Sale, both MCAV associate members, became "strappers" for Robert Dodwell's horse Viscount for the packhorse race.



It was a hot day, but the swim that Nick Cook and Sailor took during the stockmen's dash was entirely unintentional.



This bag of salt used in the packhorse race made a good seat for David Oissen and Kristen Theille of Hinnomunjie. With them are Graeme Rozynski