

cutting edge

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The Unity Maine competition (which UNB attended a few weeks ago) "generally provides a warm-up for the UNB competition" states Carol Sessenwein (a UNB women's team member). Because it is less competitive than the UNB event, it also provides an opportunity for the UNB teams to appraise the skills of potential competitors in more highly touted UNB event.

This week saw the final stages of preparing the site (parking lot below Chapman field) underway. Alumni foresters Doug Prosser and Gizz assisted in the selection and felling of poles/logs; the ranger school aided in skidding; a local contractor provided a flatbed for transferring materials to the site and NB Power placed the poles for felling/climbing events in the ground.

Saturday am begins at 6:30 with breakfast in the SUB cafeteria. Competitors will then venture up to the site to locate their logs etc (based on numbers drawn by captains on the previous evening), check equipment and ready themselves for an 8:00 start.

Thirteen events are scheduled throughout the day, encompassing skills of chopping, sawing, axe throwing, pulp toss and water boil. A new addition this year is the pole climb; in which competitors, upon judges signal, will climb a pole (with spurs and belt) to reach the bell at the top.

"Good response", says Neil Morehouse in reference to faculty and graduate students who are assisting as judges for the daylong competition. Assistant Dean of Forestry, Art Van Slyke has participated as a judge for many years and is one of the many faculty members who have provided unbiased judgement, boosting the credibility and reputation of the competition. At each event the timer and judge will make measurements of diameters of logs (if required) to compensate for deviations in diameter sizes and include these with resultant times. Upon completion of events, scores are transferred by John Deal and Blair Sullivan to the IBM mainframe for analysis and summary. Acting Dean of Forestry, Jeremy Rickards will serve in the capacity of Head Judge, (based at the CIHI van) should any disputes arise in any of the events.

By 5:00, co-ordinators hope that all events will be completed. With results being transferred to computer throughout the day, the individual and team winners should be known by early evening.

The 1987-88 UNB Intercollegiate Woodsmen's Competition is open to all students and the general public. Admission to the site is free.



Rollin, Rollin, Rollin, Keep those doggies rollin. . .



And if you don't believe, just axe me!