

SPORTS

Deadline for stories is Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. Sports Desk 453-4983

UNB 3rd in weekend meet

by Frank Denis

Heading into last Saturday's AUSA Cross Country meet at Odell Park, UNB coach Rick Hull believed that Dalhousie would be the team to beat in both the women's and men's field and he was right. The Tigers from Dalhousie captured the women's division while in the men's race, the University of Maine at Orono edged out Dalhousie by a mere couple of points.

Under bright sunshine and cool weather the women's race got underway at noon. The 5 km race attracted just less than 40 participants and proved to be an exciting race throughout. Two independent runners, Patty Blanchard and Annick Degoyer led for most of the race and opened up at one point a two minute lead. Blanchard managed to pull away and won in a time of 17 minutes, 7 seconds

for an average speed of 17 km/hr. Degoyer finished second followed by Shari Boyle of Dalhousie. Boyle completed the mostly flat course in 18 minutes, 54 seconds. By finishing first amongst AUSA runners, Boyle was named the top runner of the women's meet. Felicia Greer was UNB's top finisher in fifth place overall. Rounding out the top five finishers for UNB were Tracy Shanks, Marney Brae, Heather Eagle, and Nicole Leblanc.

In the final team standings, Dalhousie finished on top with 24 points. The University of Maine at Orono was second with 39 points, UNB third with 69 and St. Francis Xavier fourth with 109 points. Seven schools competed in the men's 8 km race with approximately 70 runners. Rorri Currie who was declared eligible to run for UNB, did not join the team last weekend because of

the National Timex Series in Ottawa.

Currie's absence was no doubt felt, but the Harriers still managed to put together a very respectable performance.

The UNB spread was led by a group of three runners who stuck together throughout the race. Keith Fahey, Ian Washburn and Bill Sheel all completed the race within 3 seconds of each other. Fahey crossed the finish line in a time of 26 minutes 33 seconds, good for eleventh place overall, followed by Washburn and Sheel in twelfth and thirteenth respectively.

A University of Maine at Orono runner, Jamie Lachance, was the winner in a time of 25 minutes 49 seconds for an average pace of just less than 20 km/hr. Lachance was followed by Dan Hennigar an independent and Charlie Violette from Maine at Presque Isle.

Rounding out the top five UNB runners were Garn Pomeroy and Rod Clarke.

Orono captured the overall men's title by registering 44 points two fewer than second place finisher the Dalhousie Tigers. UNB placed third with 62 points. In fourth place was Presque Isle and St. Thomas was fifth.

The Harriers compete tomorrow at the University of Moncton on the same course that the AUSA championships will be run in a month's time. It should be a good preview for Coach Rick Hull and his runners as they gear up to defend their AUSA title of last year.



Michael David Smith photo

Red Sticks impressive in win

by Allison Clark

It was all Red Sticks at Chapman field last Friday when our red and white players slaughtered the UdeM Blue Angels 9-0. The win brings their record to 3-0-0 on the season. UNB beat SMU last weekend with a 4-0 victory and SMU went on to upset the previously ranked number one UPEI Lady Panthers 1-0 in AUSA action this week. It is beginning to look like another cake walk to the AUSA's for UNB this year.

The Red Sticks dominated play from the outset of their bout with Moncton. The more they scored; the hungrier they got. The ball hardly made it out of the Moncton end the entire game. If it did make it over the fifty, UNB's defenders were right there sweeping the ball back up to the half backs and forwards.

Scoring began about 25 minutes into the first half with a nice pass from Joan Robere to Darlin Walsh who popped it in to take the sticks a ninth of the way. Immediately following, Nancy Pepler drew a penalty stroke and managed her first of three for the day. Kelly McCormack, a second team all-Canadian from Chatham,

slammed a hard drive into the net taking UNB to 3-0 with time still remaining in the first half. There was lots of scrambling for the ball in Moncton's circle as UNB applied pressure to the Angels goal keeper. Joan Robere capitalized on this pressure finding the ball and putting

it in with a nice flick of the wrist.

Moncton was worn into the ground by the second half, unable to keep up with UNB's level of fitness. McCormack dribbled up the sideline and drove a hard pass across the Moncton net to Natasha Connell

who was able to deflect it in. There were no breaks for UdeM as Nancy Pepler met their goal keeper one on one for her second goal of the day on a penalty stroke. Pepler, relentlessly finished off her hat trick with a backboard smacking shot by the Angels goalie, taking UNB to a 7-0 lead.

UNB maintained an offensive game by taking free hits accurately and quickly; advancing up the field at the blink of an eye. Josette Babineau's tremendous ball control and dribbling ability paid off, as she made her contribution to the score late in the second half. To round out the scoring, Tanya Whalen, an extremely fast half back from Chatham, added a single. That was all she wrote

for Moncton as UNB boasted their second win over UdeM this season.

It may sound boring to watch a team that never loses but it's quite the opposite. The swift, smooth plays made by UNB could entice anyone. They are dedicated workers and provide entertaining, hard-nosed field hockey. I overheard a group of guys discussing the game as it was being played on Friday. They said, "Whoa! Those chicks are tough" as McCormack ploughed over a UdeM player. UNB is tough and they will be the team to beat for the rest of the season. The Red Sticks travel to Saint Mary's in Halifax this weekend to meet the Belles in a double header. Good Luck UNB!



David Smith photo

Red Sticks Tanya Whalen

Athletes of The Week

UNB's female athlete of the week honours go to Nancy Pepler, a fifth year B.Ed. student from Hanover, Ont. Nancy scored her first ever hat trick as a member of the Red Stick's in their 9-0 decimation of UdeM. Her first goal was a penalty stroke - a skill she has perfected. Despite playing a halfback position, she would respond with two more goals. Her experience has been a positive influence on the team this season.

Keith Fahey of the Red Harriers receives male athlete of the week. A 2nd year Phys. Ed. student from Labrador, Nfld., Keith was an AUSA All-Star member last year, despite being only in his first year. Keith was the first Harrier and ninth competitor to cross the finish line in Saturday's UNB invitational. His even pace allowed two other teammates to race with him and finish tenth and eleventh.