

SPORTS

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

Harriers host the best this weekend

By Frank Denis

Ever since winning the Atlantic University Athletic Association (AUAA) banner last year, the UNB cross country team, the Harriers have been on a roller coaster ride.

Just before the season started they learned that their top runner of last season, Roarri Currie, was ineligible to compete because of his decision to return to the Saint John campus of UNB. Obviously it was a big blow to the team led by coach Rick Hull, but he was still confident he had what it would take to repeat as AUAA champs.

Most of his hopes lay in the legs of veteran Mike Fellows, especially after Fellows established a new course record at the University of Maine in Presque Isle two weeks ago. A day later while rock climbing Fellows broke his foot and was told he would be out for a year. "When we heard that our confidence slipped a notch, but we all still believed that we could still win come the AUAA's. There is a solid nucleus of runners on the team and the younger ones are really coming through, especially Ian Washburn" said Hull.

On Monday of this week the roller coaster known as the UNB Harriers took a turn upwards with the announcement that a previous ruling making Currie ineligible had been overturned and he is now back in UNB's plans.

Coach Hull said "That news was a big boost to everyone. After losing two of our stronger runners in the past couple of weeks it puts some spirit back into the team and broadens every one's smile."

This Saturday UNB will be without Currie when they host the biggest cross country meet ever at UNB in Odell Park. Currie has a previous commitment to participate in the National Timex race in Ottawa.

This weekend will see 8 teams competing in the men's 8km race and 7 teams in the 5km women's race. Among those teams are Dalhousie, St. FX, St. Thomas, Moncton and UNB from the AUAA and 3 teams from the universities in Maine.

According to coach Hull, the women's field is wide open with between 40-50 runners participating. Hull and the

Lady Harriers have not had the opportunity to go head to head against several of their competitors so it should be interesting. Heather Eagle and Felicia Greer appear to be the ones that will hopefully lead

the team onto victory.

In the 80 runner men's field, Dalhousie seems to be the favorite, but with 8 teams competing any team could step to the forefront.

The women's action begins at

12 noon on Saturday in Odell park followed by the men's race slated for 12:45 pm. Get a leg up on your weekend and show support for the Harriers tomorrow at Odell Park.



The UNB Red Harriers led by coach Rick Hull (lying down)

Win leaves UNB third in country

by Allison Clark

The field hockey team is off to a strong season once again. UNB smoked the Saint Mary's Belles 4-0 on the weekend here at Chapman Field. It was the first time the teams met since UNB beat SMU in overtime at the AUAA finals last fall.

The win combined with the Red Sticks impressive showing in Toronto two weeks ago, left UNB ranked third in the country behind UBC and Toronto.

Josette Babineau was the first to make her mark on Saturday afternoon, scoring on a penalty corner just four minutes into the game. Tammy Jewer, a rookie forward from Sussex High, added a single while Nancy Pepler blew one by the Belles goalkeeper on a penalty stroke to take the Sticks to a 3-0 lead at the half.

The Belles just couldn't make a comeback giving up another in the second half. Natascha Connell scored this final goal. She suffered an injury a couple of weeks ago but proved she was strong and healthy by punching in the last goal of the game.

Rookie goaltender Krista Thompson of Chatham boasted her first shut out of the season keeping all of SMU's attempts out of the nets.

UNB improved their spotless record to 2-0 on the weekend giving them second place in league standings. They have yet to meet first place UPEI Lady Panthers who are currently 2-0-1.

The Red Sticks only game this week end will be played today at Chapman field against the University of Moncton. Game time is 4 p.m. The two

other scheduled games against St. Fx have been cancelled because the St. Fx team dropped out of the league 3 weeks ago.



Red Sticks' Joan Robere

Athlete of week

The female athlete of the week is Kelly MacCormack of the UNB Red Sticks. An AUAA All-Star in 1990 and 1989 AUAA Rookie of the Year, this 3rd year education student from Chatham, N.B. played a strong game in midfield over the weekend. Kelly was selected as the best player by her teammates for her hard work in both ends of the field in which the Red Sticks easily defeated SMU 4-0.

There was no male athlete of the week.

Scoreboard

UNB 4 - SMU 0