

Harriers make tracks in Ottawa

by Kelly Craig

Friday afternoon was the start of a very long drive to Ottawa for the CIAU Cross Country Championships. Fourteen hours later, the car was parked in front of the hotel for a few hours of sleep before standing through the race. The men's team had earned the right to represent the AUAA league two weeks ago with a very convincing win over Dalhousie.

On Saturday, the men went from Ottawa to the Arboretum across the canal from Carleton University. It was here that they showed the rest of Canada that

into the race almost blind folded and pulled off a great race. Despite placing seventh again this year, they did so with a 24 point improvement over last year. It was hard for the team to race on an unfamiliar course but they proved that nothing is impossible.

The course weaved through a lovely park and the runners made several laps around a mapped area. The weather was extremely cold and damp but the runners came prepared. Many of the team members wore gloves and no one could forget Garn Pomeroy's neon orange hat.

As predicted, Rorrie Currie came through with flying colours for the UNB team as he topped most of the competition and placed third in the country. Rorrie was beat out by two former All Canadian runners. John Halvorsen of Ottawa placed in the top spot at the CIAU's. Halvorsen is a four time champion of this race and also runs pro in the States. Darren Klassen of Manitoba finished just ahead of Rorrie to take second place. Klassen is also a former All Canadian.

Although Rorrie placed third overall, he was not far behind the



Photo by Dave Smith

Rorrie Currie taking things in stride



Photo by Dave Smith

The men's team after a solid effort at the CIAU's

UNB should be taken seriously in varsity sports.

The UNB team ran a strong race each and every one of them. It was a tough terrain for all teams to compete on as they ran on grass. And, the grass had been rained on and it was slippery and wet. Anybody who completed this course without breaking anything deserves a medal.

The UNB team had not practised on turf of this kind. They went

The UNB team prepared for two weeks to compete at the CIAU's, which is not a very long time to get runners ready for a course that they had never seen before. Coach Rick Hull was very pleased at the effort put forth by the team and well he should be. "Don't dwell on what could have been or what you could have done differently, you all ran a great race," was Rick's advice to the team after the meet was over.

competition. He finished with a time of 31min. and 51sec. Rorrie also became the first ever ALL CANADIAN cross country runner from UNB. His efforts over the weekend also earned him AUAA athlete of the week for about the billionth time.

The next closest UNB runner was Jeff Munn who finished in 29th position. Just after him was Sean Best. The final finishers were in order; Garn Pomeroy;

Mike Fellows, team captain, Bill Sheel, and Keith Fahey.

Unfortunately the Red Harriers will be losing Garn Pomeroy next year due to ineligibility. Also Sean Best will be departing from the team. The team will keep its nucleus of runners in returning veteran Mike Fellows and Rorrie Currie. UNB also has several very talented rookies that will make all the difference next year. Not only should the team win the AUAA's next year they should make an even stronger finish in the CIAU's. Jeff Munn and Bill Sheel will be very valuable returnees for the Harriers as will Keith Fahey. Add some new talent to the roster and you have the makings of a very powerful team.

An added attraction for the team next year is the fact that the two

top placers in Canada this year are ineligible for competition next year. That will leave a clear spot for the Harriers strong runners. This is of course after they take care of the Dalhousie team at the AUAA's.

It's been a great season for the Harriers and next year is looking even better for both men and women.

(Ed.note. Travel Tip: When travelling to cover a team and not following them everywhere, NEVER ask the coach for directions! You're a great coach Rick, but lousy at giving directions. Also, at this time it seems appropriate to thank Rick for his patience with me over the season and thank the team for their hospitality in Ottawa.)

Black Bears at the Concordia Open

by Kelly Craig

This past weekend the UNB Black Bears were in Montreal training and wrestling with the best in Canada and beyond. The team had the privilege of wrestling with the Russian National team and the Concordia team. Montreal is a well known wrestling training center across Canada.

The team did very well for their first matches of the season and used this weekend event as a training meet. As of yet, the team results have not come in but it looks very promising for the Bears. The individual standings do not give the team enough credit for their talent. They are not indicative of their performances.

Don Ryan placed first in his weight class. Don will be competing in several meets this season but his points will not count in the standings. He is currently assisting Coach George Multamaki with the team. The heavy weight wrestler, Quincy Knox, managed a second place finish in his class. Sean Dockrill

and Stacey Desroches both placed third in their weight classes. Newcomers Jason Sampson and Dave Sealy placed fourth in their weight classes. Although Marcel Saulis made the trip to Montreal, he did not compete in the tournament.

Coach Multamaki was pleased with the performance over the weekend. For the first match of the season the team wrestled very well. They made some mistakes but they also did a lot of things right. It was most definitely a learning experience for the team. Their performance was very encouraging.

Despite placing fourth in his weight class, Dave Sealy had a very good match in which he beat the top ranked wrestler in Canada. Quincy Knox also had a terrific weekend. Besides placing second overall, he managed a victory over a former Canadian champion.

Next weekend the team will take a break from action and train for the upcoming Mount Allison Open tournament scheduled for the 24th of November. The team will no doubt use the feedback

from the past weekend to help themselves get ready for their first AUAA competition. The

guys have a solid week to prepare and work the bugs out. However, with an impressive start like they

had in Montreal, there are not very many bugs to be worked out.

Rebels sweep weekend games

by Kelly Craig

The Memorial University Seahawks came to town last weekend for a double header with the Rebels. Despite the Rebels losing their own tournament two weeks ago, the Seahawks were no match. It was a complete weekend sweep for a much improved Rebel squad.

The first match saw the Rebels squeeze out a win in four games. The Rebels easily took the first game 15-6. In the second game, a hard fought battle saw MUN just barely get by UNB 16-14. However, the UNB squad remained in control of the next two games downing the Seahawks 15-9 and 15-6.

John Ellsworth was named the

Coca Cola Player of the Game on Saturday for his excellent performance. John had a total of 12 kills during the game and had a phenomenal service game. John's serve pass average was 2.66 where 3.0 is a perfect score. Claude Cullinan came up with 15 kills for UNB as they won their first AUAA match up. Tim Fifield was the top man for MUN as he had 8 kills.

Sunday turned out to be an even better day for the Rebels. They defeated Memorial in straight games. The match started off with a 15-10 win in the first game. The next two games went 15-12 and 15-5.

Top player for UNB was Claude Cullinan who earned the Coca Cola Player of the Game award.

Claude had 14 kills and came up with 2 stuff blocks for the Rebels. Once again John Ellsworth showed his stuff for UNB as he managed 6 kills. His service game only got better from Saturday as he averaged 2.69 percent out of a perfect 3.0.

The AUAA league is small at the men's level. However making the top spot is no easy task. Last year the Rebels went all the way to the finals only to lose a tough battle against Dalhousie. Dal is the toughest competitor that UNB will face this year. No doubt UNB will be ready to avenge their loss from last year. This weekend the Rebels head to Moncton for the U de M tourney.