

Record breaking runners attend York meet

By TIM UKSULAINEN

Records fell last Saturday, as 1,600 High School and University runners descended upon the York campus to take part in the 10th annual York Invitational Cross Country meet.

101 schools sent athletes to compete in this 7 race meet, a far cry from ten years ago when 75 runners showed up to run in only one race. In all,

four course records were broken, the first in a new event, the Bantam girls one and a half mile race.

Mary Brouwers of Campbellford ran the distance in 10 minutes 59 seconds followed by Louise McKenzie at 11.09 and Joann Graves in 11.22.

The Open Girls 1 1/2 mile race produced an exciting moment when the first three girls all ran under the

existing record of 11.06.

In the Bantam boys three mile race, Ian Clark of Georgetown, last year's winner and record holder returned to lower his own record by 27 secs. with a fine display of front running. Well back in 2nd and 3rd positions came Gerry Scott and Paul Bigelli.

The Junior 3.75 mile race provided the largest field of the day as 400 entrants gathered for an attempt at breaking the fine record of 18.38, established last year by Paul Steeds of Kipling.

John Holliday of Sir Wilfred Laurier came the closest, posting a time of 18.51, although he was pressed by second place finisher John Mota who recorded 18.57 and Arto Bartolini at 19.05.

In the Senior boys 4.25 mile race, Dave Peckham of East Northumberland completely

dominated the field with an impressive effort powering along to the fourth record of the day lowering his own course record by 16 seconds.

After the team scores from all of the races had been tabulated, Georgetown High School, last year's overall team winner, proved to be the top school again followed this time by Henry Carr H.S. and North Toronto.

In the afternoon the University athletes had their chance to test themselves on the flat but rough course.

The women's 3 mile race had a rather disappointing turnout as only ten women answered the gun. But Brenda Reid of York made sure there was something to cheer about as she handily won the race in a time of 18.42 well ahead of Janet Dick of Western and U of T's Diane

Walker.

Karen Meirick gave hope for York's cross-country chances with a solid 4th place effort.

Unfortunately the men's team did not place as well in the six mile race, finishing well back in ninth place in the 11 team competition. Both teams had members participating in the Track meet at McMaster and therefore were not at full strength.

Paul William of Guleph proved to be the fittest, as he toured the course in an excellent time of 32.03 followed closely by C. Rinne and A. Shoemaker both from Queen's. The course record of 31.36 set in 1973 by Neil Hendry of York was probably saved by the warm sunny temperatures which slowed down most of the runners.

Queen's University with a strong early season showing, captured the men's team title.

Chutists take plunge

Ten York students succumbed earlier than usual to the pressures of academic life last weekend as they took to jumping out of airplanes to get away from it all.

Members of the York Sport Parachuting Club, the ten students were actually taking their first crack at skydiving, leaping from a height of 3,000 feet into the Huronia Parachute Drop Zone at Coldwater, Ontario.

After a comprehensive pre-jump training session all ten made their first static line jumps and one, Phil Vukasinovic went on to make his second, third and fourth leaps into the wild blue yonder.

"He's well on his way to freefall jumping," said organizer Dave Tompkins, "and six of the others went back up for their second jumps right away".

The student jumpers, Jill

Gillespie, Nancy Green, Tim Whelan, Ken Nusbaum, Robin O'Conner, Jessica Nimigon, John McMillwraith, Gino Greco, Greg Rowntree and Jim Price were all delighted with their accomplishment.

"They'll be easy to spot on campus," Tompkins said, "they are the ones with the big smiles and even bigger stories to tell."

The one casualty was Tim Whelan who, according to Tompkins, forgot some of his basic training and wound up with a full length cast on his leg. "He took it all philosophically," he said, "apart from the landing he thought the jump was super."

According to Tompkins the chances of injury are similar to those in skiing. For more information phone Dave Tompkins at 661-8526.

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