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SCAVMA Scamper Set to Start

Jan Tallman

On April 16th at 9:00 AM, more than 300 runners will "take their marks" for the running of the 6th Annual SCAVMA Scamper. Scamper is a 10 kilometer road race, certified by The Athletic Congress (TAC), and a 5 kilometer fun run sponsored by the Iowa State University Student Chapter of the AVMA. With the firing of the gun, over 8 months of preparation will be concluded.

Besides being a lot of fun and hard work, Scamper is a very important fund-raising event for ISU Veterinary students. Scamper money goes into the Symposium fund. This fund is used to defray student costs in attending the annual national SAVMA symposium held in various locations across the country. Symposium is an excellent educational opportunity. Many ISU students take advantage of this opportunity reflected by the fact that ISU's attendance has been the highest of any visiting university in the past two years.

Scamper was first held in 1984 on April 15. It was the largest first time race in Iowa with more than 400 runners, and netting over $3000. In the next 3 successive years over 300 runners participated each year and more than $2000 was brought in yearly. Last year for the 5th Annual SCAVMA Scamper, with over 300 runners participating, close to $4000 was netted. More money was brought in than in previous years because Hills Pet Products donated the race shirts, a major cost for the race. The expected net for this year is between $2000 and $3000 because shirts were not donated and new medals have to be purchased. 300-400 runners are expected to participate. The race co-directors for this year are Kevin Taylor and Anna Cannon ('91).

Each year more is done to improve organization of the race and to increase participation. Utilization of available computer programs has simplified several aspects of the race's organization. Entry blank mailing, publicity notices, race day registration, and result compilation are a few areas that computer use has improved. More awards for participants and increased publicity have been used to try to increase participation. Information about the race, and entry blanks are sent all over the state of Iowa and to neighboring states.

The Iowa State Veterinary Medicine students would like to thank the sponsors of the 6th Annual SCAVMA Scamper: ISU College of Veterinary Medicine, Pfizer, Hills Pet Products, Inc., Upjohn, Norden Labs, Ceva, Kal Kan, Bowie, and RUNNER'S WORLD.

*Ms. Tallman is a second year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.