



## MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

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### Watson, Martinez Lead Cross Country At Sean Earl Lakefront Invitational

Short-handed squad puts up strong fight on Saturday.

Oct. 2, 2004

**Chicago, Ill.-** The University of Illinois at Chicago cross country team was hampered with an injured and flu-ravaged team this weekend, but that didn't stop the Flames from finishing strong at the 32nd Annual Sean Earl Lakefront Invitational hosted by Loyola at Montrose Avenue Beach on Saturday.

Without [Mikhail Davidyan](#) and Bob Dron, who were held out due to illness, the UIC men placed 17th out of tough 25-team field in the men's Division I Gold 8K race, while the Flames women did not field a complete team in the women's Division I Gold 5K event due to injuries and did not post a team score.

Leading UIC on the women's side was [Susie Martinez](#), who posted a 19:28 time to take 113th out of 210 competitors. Martinez has led the women's team in all three of their meets this season.

Right behind Martinez was [Lisa Petty](#), who posted a 19:36. [Kerry Brennan](#) made her Lakefront Invitational debut with a 20:29, while [Renee Koziol](#) ran a 23:17.

Both [Rachel Covert](#) and [Julie Cain](#) were sidelined due to injury.

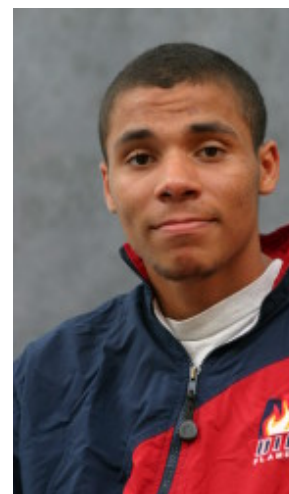
For the UIC men, [Sam Watson](#) led the way with an 8,000-meter mark of 26:02, taking 70th in the 249-entrant event. The finish marked the sophomore's first-ever team-leading cross country performance for the Flames.

Finishing close to Watson was fellow second-year runner [Jim Sulzberger](#), who put up a time of 26:10 to take 81st.

[Joseph Mbari](#) made his collegiate debut, taking 92nd with a 26:18. [Jorge Flores](#) finished in 26:40, while [Jose Macias](#)

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Sophomore Sam Watson led the Flames with an 8K time of 26:02 on Saturday.

(27:08) and the debuting [Antonio Kipkorir](#) (32:51) rounded out the event for UIC.

Marquette captured the women's title, while the host Ramblers took their third straight Lakefront crown.

UIC returns to action on Oct. 16th for its final prep before the Horizon League Championships at the end of the month, heading to Kenosha, Wis., the same site of the league meet, for the UW-Parkside Invitational beginning at 1:00 p.m.

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