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Field notes

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Athletes max out Trail Invitational field

Considering the Alaska Trail Invitational, the 350-mile race from Knik to McGrath along the Iditarod Trail that begins March 1?

Forget it.

Fifty hardy bikers, runners and skiers from Alaska, the Lower 48 and overseas have already filled out the 50-racer field. And what a loaded field it is.

Bikers include Jeff Oatley, Peter Basinger, Jay Petevary and Rocky Reifenstuhl. Runners include Geoff Roes and Anne VerHoef. Skiers include Cory Smith.

Winter endurance athletes may have to scale back to the Susitna 100 or the Little Su 50-K, which both begin Feb. 14. Beware: The 50-K is limited to 125 racers and it filled last year by early January.

Racers in the 100-mile field better be prepared. They'll need to present a credit card before the race and will be charged \$200 if an evacuation by snowmachine or aircraft is needed.

More info at www. susitna100.com.

Frosty Bottom race is an option

Anchorage winter endurance athletes can find a race much closer to home, though, when the Frosty Bottom 50/25 gets started at 9 a.m. on Jan. 17 at Kincaid Chalet.

Racers can bike, run or ski 25 or 50 miles. By the time the awards ceremony rolls around at 5:30 p.m. at Chain Reaction Cycles, competitors may be warm.

There no is race day sign-up, so visit the Web site, www.chainreactioncycles.us/FrostyBottom.html.

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