

# Amputee who inspired Fox to run in Marathon of Hope

If it wasn't for a phone call from Ottawa last June, Bill Eckersley would probably be somewhere on Lake Ontario relaxing on his Arlberg 37 sailboat.

Instead, the 48-year-old principal of Newmarket High School is donating his summer to act as provincial co-ordinator of The Terry Fox Run, which takes place Sept. 13.

The plan is to create 10-kilometre (6.2-mile) courses in communities across the country. The courses will be open all day so that people can run, jog or walk the route at their own time and pace. A minimum \$5 entry fee serves as a donation to Terry's Marathon of Hope and the fight against cancer.

## He inspired Terry

One-legged runner Dick Traum, 40, whose run in New York marathons were an inspiration to Terry Fox, says he is coming to Toronto to participate in the September 13 run.

Traum, a New York businessman who lost his leg in a car accident in 1965, said he will run in two of the runs if he can fit both of them in. "I was so impressed and so honoured with what Terry did," he said.

When Richard Munro, special projects director for the Canadian Track and Field Association, one of the sponsors of the run, phoned Eckersley last June 19 to see if he'd take the job, Eckersley said yes on the spot.

Since then he's been kept very busy because all applications for establishing courses in Ontario must be cleared through his office.

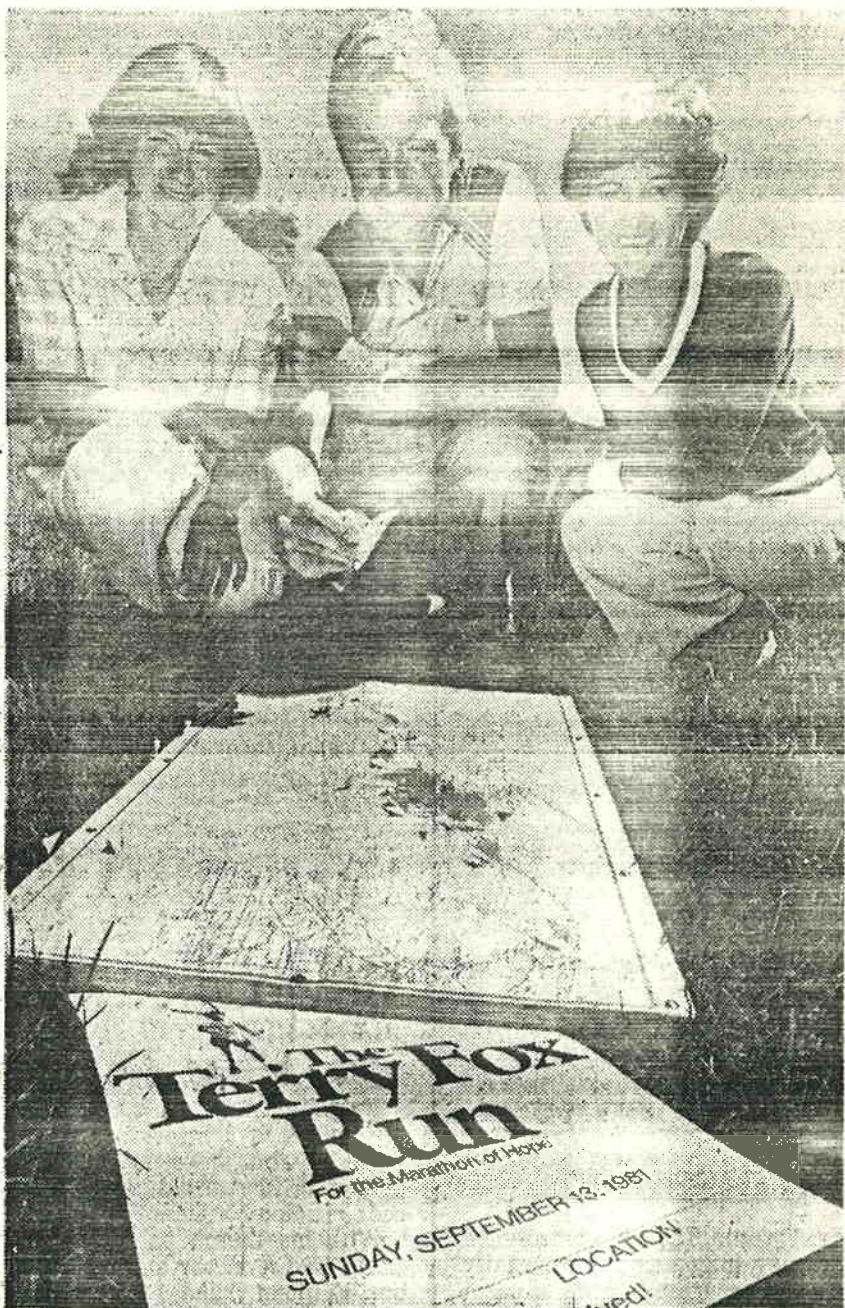
## He helps organizers

Once a course has been approved — so far there are 95 accepted sites throughout the province — Eckersley provides organizers with promotional posters, pledge forms and certificates for finishers.

Eckersley, commission of high school track and field for Canada and Ontario co-ordinator of the Run, Jump and Throw awards program for students aged six to 15, is also available to give friendly advice.

"There's an enormous amount of organization that has to be done to operate a run site especially if you've got a lot of people participating," he said.

"Things like getting police approval, having people at the starting line and handing out drinks, course checkers and St. John's



BOB OLSEN/TORONTO STAR

**No time for vacation:** Bill Eckersley, provincial co-ordinator for the Terry Fox Run, chats with two of his girl-Fridays, Erika Steinhauser, left, and Jean Atkinson. Eckersley gave up his vacation to work on the event.

The  
**Terry Fox**  
**Run**  
For the Marathon of Hope

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1981

Dawes challenges other major Canadian city to raise more money from the Terry Fox Run than Edmonton does.

The Polar Pacers, a running club on Baffin Island, have organized a run and estimated 30 to 40 Eskimos will participate, Eckersley said.

They've also donated \$500 to the Cancer Society and have built a cairn dedicated to the late one-legged runner.

The site of the monument, on a high point between Arctic Bay and