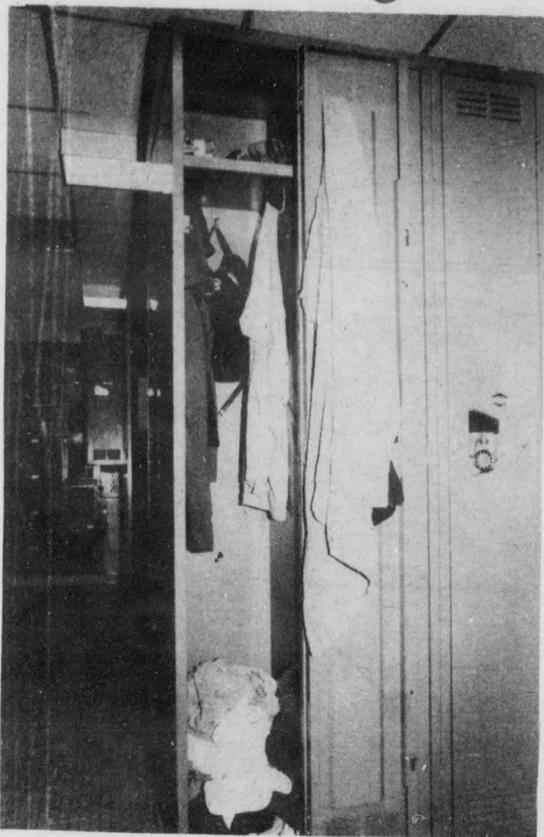


Reports say that gym lockers may be lethal



By TOM BESI

over-crowded with gym apparel, sports equipment, extra sports footwear and empty liniment tubes.

They also said that the most "lethal weapon" in some of these lockers are the two or three towels that the PE students rely on to dry themselves with following activity classes. Since the lockers are relatively airtight and have little or no clean air circulating in them, the towels must be dried within the confines of "a metal box", as the one of the pair called the lockers.

This creates a very humid atmosphere inside the locker and any germs which are present are able to quickly multiply. The two said that they were working on a practicum, which is required of all final year recreation students, which was investigating the phenomena of "jock strep" when they uncovered evidence linking sudden nausea by PE students with the opening of lockers containing two or more often used towels.

"The phys ed tee shirts that we have to wear make an ideal medium for the causative agent of the condition," said one of the students. "We took a shirt from one of the lockers that had affected someone and had tests run on it by the biology department and they said that the shirt was completely infected. They did more tests using a new shirt of the same type and found

that when ground up, these shirts make better bacteria growing media than agar, the stuff that they use now."

When contacted about the matter, a spokesperson for the biology department said that their findings were in agreement with the statements made by the phys ed students. "It's a wonder that scientists didn't discover this before. It's completely baffling but it works. I can't explain it, but it works," she said. She also indicated that the department has ordered several hundred of the shirts for use in experiments next year.

The phys ed students went to microbiologists for help in the study and were told that the other elements in the locker air were definitely an asset to the growth of the "jock strep" organism, known scientifically as streptococcus tardivalus. Another strain, which is peculiar to only one locker in the Main gym changing facilities is S. jockii demersitus. One person in the biology dept said that the second strain was more lethal and that the department had been awarded a Canada Council grant in order to further study it.

Symptoms of step jock appear shortly after a person has opened an affected locker or in some cases, a gym bag. The victim may or may not feel hot flashes before acute nausea and vomiting occurs.

In severe cases, the victim may become unconscious. The campus health clinic said that the patient should lay down immediately and ask someone for medical help. Although death is a rare consequence of the condition, a short observational stay in the hospital was usually advised.

The organism usually enters the locker by way of a carelessly thrown pair of sneakers, boots or street shoes which have been infected. One of the phys ed students said that the most common place for picking up the organism was the floor of a tavern. When questioned as to why tavern frequenters don't usually show symptoms of the disease while at the tavern, one student said that they sometimes did but that many people thought that they were getting sick for another reason.

The other of the pair said that some PE students realise the danger of throwing a pair of shoes that have been at the tavern into a locker such as was described and left their infected footwear outside their lockers. "When it comes down to a risk of theft or a risk of health, these people usually value their well being first," he added.

Both students indicated that they were glad that they were able to contribute something concrete to the academic pursuits at UNB and that they may return next year to continue work in a similar area.

According to at least two fourth year phys ed students, sports are a health hazard and should be avoided "like the plague". The two, who wished to remain anonymous so that their academic pursuits would not be endangered, cited lockers as one of the worst offenders of health safety in

our society. Lockers have long been a common sight in most changing rooms in athletic facilities in Canada. Under normal circumstances, a locker might be used by its owner only several times a week, but according to the pair, P.E. students have to use their's two to three times a day and as a result, the lockers become

INTER RESIDENCE BASKETBALL FINAL STANDINGS

| TEAM | P | W | L | T | PTS |
|------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| LBR | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Neville | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 12 |
| MacKenzie | 8 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 10 |
| Aitken | 8 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| Bridges | 8 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| Harrison | 8 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| Neill | 8 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| Jones | 8 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| Holy Cross | 8 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 2 |

*Congratulations to L.B.R. on

capturing the Inter-Residence Basketball Crown with an undefeated record.

OFF CAMPUS HOCKEY LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS

| TEAM | P | W | L | T | PTS |
|----------------|----|---|----|---|-----|
| Pansies | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 16 |
| F.C. | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 16 |
| T.2's | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 12 |
| Sat EAB | 10 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 12 |
| Pig Skins | 10 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 11 |
| Buck Fuffaloos | 10 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 11 |
| Campus Police | 10 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| Gee Gees | 10 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| Humans | 10 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| Co-op | 10 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| J.F.W. | 10 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 |

Congratulations to the Pansies Team on finishing first in the Off Campus Hockey League.

Judo results

Last weekend, the UNB Judo Club hosted the UNB Invitational Judo Championships at the South Gym. Club members took a total of five medals including two gold, one silver and two bronze.

Club coach Fred Blaney took the under 210 pound division blue to black belt while Glenna Smith won the women's open belt under 134 pound category.

Brb Howland, fighting in his first tournament, conceded the men's white to green belt under 190 bracket to take the silver.

Mike Hethrington and Danny MacLean were third place finishers in the blue to black belt under 154 and under 177 divisions respectively.

No open divisions or team matches were fought in the meet.

Curling

A meeting is scheduled for all members of the Mixed Curling Club Wednesday, March 22nd at 7 p.m. in Tilley 303 (bear pit). All members are urged to attend as officers for next year's executive will be elected.

This Sunday, 12 p.m. at the Fredericton Curling Club yearbook pictures will be taken (last Sunday's session was cancelled) and it would be very impressive if all our members were present to face the camera. For anyone needing a lift down to the club, call Rob at 472-6376. See ya Sunday.

MacLean top level NB athlete

Dale MacLean is what may be termed an accomplished athlete. In intercollegiate diving, MacLean has won two silver and one bronze medals. He won a bronze medal at the Summer games and was among the top three in the AUAA diving championships for each of his four years at UNB. He was Maritime diving champion for three years and was an All Canadian for three years.

Not only was MacLean active in varsity athletics, during the last four years, he also participated in nearly all inter-residence sports while he was a member of Harrison House. He is also a member of the UNB Dance Theatre which he joined in order to aid his diving. The group will be performing at the Playhouse this weekend.

His list of diving achievements is impressive when you consider that he has only been involved in the sport for five years. Besides those already noted, he won the Quebec Championships in 1976 and the Laval Invitational in 1977. He competed at the Pan Am trials, the Olympic Trials and the Canadian Championships. He has qualified for the Commonwealth Games trials this year as well.

MacLean started the learn to dive program in his hometown Moncton and helped put the largest number of people through the levels I and II throughout the provinces. He began the first age group diving team in the province and three of his divers to the age group nationals in Montreal in 1976. For the past three years he

has served as treasurer for the Canadian Amateur Diving Association, New Brunswick section.

While practicing teaching at Devon School, the Bachelor of Education candidate coached the junior varsity boys' basketball team to an undefeated season. He also was an assistant coach to the soccer team and started a gymnastics team.

MacLean's pursuit of excellence is not only confined to the field of athletic endeavors. In his academic work, he has maintained a 3.27 grade point average and was awarded a scholarship this year by UNB for excellence in his studies.

John Thompson, his coach, feels that MacLean has been a great asset to the diving team because of the help that he has given to new team members and because of the "high" standard of his character and sportsmanship.

MacLean said that he was originally interested in gymnastics but that when he came to UNB the sport became less satisfying. "One day I was at the pool and I went off the board, John (Thompson) saw me and said that I should come out for the team. I went to a couple of practices and to my amazement, Jeff (Deane, who was then coach) kept me."

"I really enjoyed it. It was completely new and it inspired me. It was another individualistic type of sport like gymnastics and it fit in where gymnastics left off. I got a feeling for the board and the air and started to enjoy it."

"Diving is a progressive sport. You can never perfect a dive so you have to keep doing it. The people on the team when I first

started gave me a lot of help and made things a lot easier.

"Through the success I've had in the sport, I've gained a lot of self confidence and met a lot of very interesting people. The first nationals that I attended was very exciting. I didn't expect to go and when I was named to the team, I was very surprised and happy. My first dive in the meet was so bad and went so far out from the board that the judges must have gotten whiplash!

"After that, I knew that I had to work hard and I wanted to get to the top. It took a lot of work but things started to click. Eventually, I had a good list of dives.

"Now I have to concentrate on the little things like the entries on my dives. Next year I want to go to Austin Texas or Carleton where they have the facilities. Once I get there, I'm going to concentrate day after day on diving. It will almost be like being married to it. My eventual goal is to make the Commonwealth Games team or the Olympics.

One of the things that MacLean is most proud of is the fact that he is a New Brunswicker. As he puts practices and to my amazement, Jeff (Deane, who was then coach) kept me."

MacLean's next competition will be the Commonwealth Games Trials to be held in Vancouver beginning next Thursday.