

A SPORTING CHANCE !!!

by REGAN LEGASSIE
Brunswickan Staff

Good news everyone. Seeing as this is my last column before exams which of course always precedes the Christmas season, it is time for my annual Christmas wish list. Now that I've got your attention folks, read on because I guarantee you won't find these items in your Sears Wishbook.

First of all, lets start with hockey shall we. Let's see now, if I was UNB Red Devil Coach Doug Maclean, I'd wish for two things. The first thing I'd want would be two new defencemen to help replenish a very tired overworked defense. Of cource seeing as this is a wish list, why not wish for the likes of Paul Coffey and Barry Beck to suddenly get the bug for a higher education, right Doug? The second thing it would be nice to see under the tree on Christmas morning would be a note from the AUAA heads office saying that because of a technicality in the score sheets, the Red Devils have been awarded a record of all wins. Okay, so I went a little overboard on that one, but afterall this is a wish list isn't it?

Moving up the hill, what would I wish for if I was St. Thomas Tommies Coach Larry Wood? Any other year this would have been a simple one to predict because Larry would have given anything for a winning record, but this year he's already got one so I guess that wish is out. However, given his current change of status one would tend to think that Larry's main wish would be to make sure once and for all that the wheels don't fall off his hockey team in the second half of the season. I

think I would also wish that the Soviets would just happen to drop a bomb on the team buses of Moncton and UPEI by mistake, so the Tommies could finally get a chance to strut their stuff in the playoffs. Anybody care to debate those two wishes with me?

Of course what would a wish list be without a look at the profesional world of sports right? Wouldn't it be nice if the Washington Redskins suddenly received from the Christmas Wish Fairy a nice shiny new starting Quarterback who would miraculously turn the team around and march them into another Superbowl Championship? I know, I know, you're thinking I've finally gone off the deep end into the shallow water but when your a die hard Redskins fan what else is there to wish for? Of course it could be worse I suppose. I could be an avid Giants fan and have to wish again this Christmas that my team didn't fold, bend and mutilate come playoff time.

Getting away from football, what would I wish for if I was a fan of the Montreal Expos (not that I am of course.) I guess my main wish here would have to be that Murray Cook, the man in charge of all the wheeling and dealing would sudenly become afflicted with a rare disease known as the anti-trade blues before he traded away the entire team for a roof on the Olympic Stadium. If I was a Blue Jays fan, I guess I would have to wish that Jimmy Williams suddenly turned out to be the long lost twin of Bobby Cox or something like that.

Well I guess that aout does it for this year's Christmas Wish List. Granted some of these wishes are a little far fetched, but who knows, anything can happen....WITH A SPORTING CHANCE!!

THE MUTANT REPORT

"The Next Step in News Evolution!"

The Brunswickan Sports Department has not made it a habit of writing book reviews. This week, however, I plan to discuss a book that warrants reading for both its factual and relevency value.

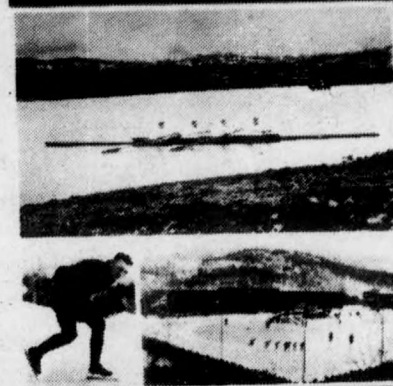
Saint John, A Sporting Tradition 1785-1985 was written by ex-UNB student Brian Flood, a sporting enthusiast who graduated with his Bachelor of Business Administration in 1983. This is a book that has seen eighteen months in the making and although it is not to sought for its literary artistry, it cannot be overlooked as a masterful collection of comprehensive facts and photos.

A Sporting Tradition bears witness to Brian Flood's competence in weaving together the origins of sport with the athletic endeavours and triumphs that make up a large chapter of St. John New Brunswick's athletic history.

What gives this book its strength is the familiarity, pride and interest it evokes, by showing how the sports we've participated and or spectated have grown through our own local culture and heritage.

Being a follower of baseball (within the guidelines of mild fanaticism) I found the section dealing with this game most compelling. I gained a unique insight into how St. John fit into the pattern of this American dominated sport., Brian Flood's research revealed that we didn't exactly follow faithfully the game Abner Doubleday would have had us play, but rather a British version of the game called "rounders". Historic debates over who and where the origin of baseball took place were comprehensively illustrated in a manner that the past plight unfolded before me with

A Sporting Tradition



Brian Flood

revealling clarity.

The format and style layed out in this specific sports biography enveloped over all the other games dealt with in this book.

Another strength this book has is its cooperation with the New Brunswick Museum, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, the New Brunswicka Sports Hall of fame and a number of individual photographers that have cooperated with photographs, to give this book its aesthetic charm and quality, as well as enhancing its authenticity.

As a final note Brian Flood salutes Juex Canada Games '85 held in St. John late this past summer, in the form of a 17 page pictorial. Magnificently done, the Games were displayed in all their glory and emotion. Many of the pictures featured UNB athletes from past and present that I and maybe you yourself will recognize.

Priced at \$30.00, this book is a joy and can be found in Fredericton at Beegies stores, SUB smokeshop, UNB Bookstore, Coles, Halls, Westminister Books and Paul-Mar sports.

Athlete of the week

Two basketball players have been selected as athletes of the week at the University of New Brunswick.

For the Red Bloomers women's team, Jane Williams fired 26 points in two games as UNB defeated Memorial University twice to improve its season record to 5-0 in AUA play. Williams, 21, is a fourth-year arts student from Sackville.

"Jane had a good weekend," Coach Claire Miton said. "She is certainly starting to become a dominant inside player. Her strength, size and ability could make Jane a force to be reckoned with in the AUAA."

For the men, Dag Rutherford of the Red Raiders scored 14 points and contributed a season high 16 rebounds as the Raiders upended University of Maine, Fort Kent 113-71.

Rutherford, 20, is a second-year forestry student from Kingston, Ontario. He was also the rookie-of-the-year in the AUAA last year.

"Dag had his most consistent game of the season," Coach Don Nelson said. "His rebounding and inside game were outstanding."



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