

University athletics depend on student involvement

By ROLAND MORRISON

On everybody's ID card there appears six initials, three on either side of the UNB Coat of Arms. On the left side are the initials SRC. Now there are few students indeed who do not know that these initials represent the Students Representative Council, that administrative body of students headed by Roy Neale, with its executive offices in the SUB. However, on the other side of the crest are the initials SAA. What on earth do these stand for?

In plain language, these initials are the abbreviation of the Students Athletic Association, a group of students which acts like the SRC, except for the fact that it confines its interest to university athletics and sports, and that it does not have a budget at its disposal as does the SRC.

The Association is composed of a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, and two representatives from each faculty. In addition, there are two representatives from STU, and one each from Men's Intramurals, Women's Intramurals, and the Recreational Sports Clubs. A non-voting faculty advisor sits with each meeting.

While the SAA is responsible to the Athletics Board for the

execution of its duties, all student athletic programs are responsible to the Association. The SAA has control over all student athletic activities, and makes rules and bylaws governing these activities. As well, the SAA has the power to expel any member or group of members from any varsity, junior varsity, inter-class, or inter-residence team according to the eligibility rules established by the Atlantic Inter-collegiate Athletic Association and the Atlantic Womens' Intercollegiate Amateur Athletic Union.

For the most part, however, the Association serves an advisory role to the Athletics Board. Student dissatisfactions with existing policy is made known to the Board through the SAA, and the Association is essential to the Board in establishing priorities as desired by the students. The SAA also acts to insure that the student's interests are best served by Athletic Policy.

Currently, as most everyone knows, the university is experiencing some budgetary difficulties due to the relative drop in enrolment. These financial problems have had their effect on the Athletic Program of UNB, with the result that some activities have had to be cut back, while serious considera-

tion has been given to cutting out several activities altogether. For instance, it has been suggested that Junior Varsity be cut out of the program, and the money thus saved be put into Intramurals. If further cuts have to be made, it is the opinion of the SAA that they be made to the varsity sports rather than the Intramurals. The goals of the SAA is to promote an athletic program that will reach the greatest number of students, rather than the talented few.

Mr. Ian Anderson is the President of the Student Athletic Association for 1973-74. He is seriously concerned with obtaining student opinion in regards to Athletic Policy, and he is especially looking for ideas that may solve the financial problems of the Athletic Program without cutting back on sports or services. It has been suggested by the Athletics Department that fees may be charged for football, basketball, and hockey games. As well, it has been suggested that the students' athletics fee be raised from its current level. The SAA feels that these are matters of great importance to students, and would really like to receive feedback from the students to gauge student opinion. Ian can be contacted by campus mail, care of

the Dept. of Athletics, Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium, or he may be seen in his office in the office corridor next to the Dance Studio in the gym. Student opinion

and ideas will be welcomed wholeheartedly. Student feedback is what makes the SAA work, and without it, the Association cannot properly function.

From SAA president

Nominees needed for election

By IAN ANDERSON

Elections for offices in the Student Athletic Association are being held Wednesday, October 24 (along with the SRC, Senate and Board of Governors). Unfortunately, not too many nominations have come in as yet. This fall, we need a vice-president (third, fourth or fifth year student) and a secretary (second, third, fourth or fifth year student) for which there have been no applications. Students can serve an important function in UNB athletics by being on the SAA since how else can the student body have a say in how the \$30 each student pays for athletics is spent. Due to budget restrictions, services have gone down this year with no remedy in sight. Discussion as to what to do about this shortage of funds is going to have to start at the student level, primarily through the Student Athletic Association.

Also needed in the upcoming elections are faculty reps (you can be in any year from first through fifth). Due to resignations, two Arts and two Education representatives are needed as well as Forestry, Business, Nursing, and

Phys. Ed. reps which have not submitted nominees. Engineering, Science, and Law have names representatives who are ready and willing to work for student athletics but is hoped these other faculties will get moving and select an interested candidate.

If you are at all interested or wish to know more about the Student Athletic Association contact Ian Anderson (454-4531) or Linda Baker (455-6857) or contact the Athletics Office down in the gym. There is sure to be some aspect of UNB athletics that will interest you even though membership on the Student Athletics Association does not appeal to you.

Coming up for our next meeting (which will be 7:30 P.M. October 16 in the SUB) will be a discussion of the System of Athletic Awards, proposals from the Finance Committee and the Rugby Club and a discussion on athletics and the extension student. If you are interested in any of these items or are uncertain about where you stand in the Athletics System at UNB, get in touch with us either through Ian Anderson or Linda Baker or the Athletics Office.



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