

Head for the mountains: climbing and skiing feature

by Elise Craft
Brunns Sports

When you ask people to name high risk sports, someone is sure to mention climbing. The popular image of spider-like men and women cheating death high on a granite cliff is certainly dramatic. UNB Rock and Ice Climbing Club exists to give the local community a chance to experience the rapidly developing sports of rock and ice climbing.

A common misperception is that climbing is dangerous. Like any sport, the lack of knowledge and acting like an idiot are likely to get you hurt. However, safety is inherent in climbing. Standard equipment includes a harness, ropes and safety devices called protection, providing a high level of safety. Only a tiny percentage of climbers abandon these safety measures, opting instead for what they consider to be a more pure form of climbing. This is a personal decision, not a significant aspect of the sport.

Another misconception is that climbing is high and therefore very scary. Not so. If you trust the equipment and have a little self-confidence, the satisfaction of completing a climb will overcome any fears you have.

It is hard to explain the lure of these sports to those who haven't tried them yet. One local climber wrote this about the experience, "A little over a year ago,

I began climbing, against my wishes, forced into what I thought was a miserable sport that made no sense and would give about as much pleasure as sifting through elephant droppings for molecule sized termites that never existed in the first place. What's the point? Climb up a chunk of rock. What could I possibly get out of this senseless sport? But that was before I roped in. About 15 seconds after that, I was hooked on rock climbing, hook, line and sinker. I couldn't be happier."

Rock and ice climbing are sports that everyone can do. You don't have to be a jock or even athletic to have fun and succeed. Of the hundreds of people who have tried climbing through UNB Rock and Ice through the years, not all have become climbers. Some go on to distinguish themselves. Club Alumni were recently involved in an expedition which summited Mt. Tilicho a 7000m+ plus in eastern Tibet.

If you would like to try climbing, UNB Rock and Ice operates an indoor climbing wall at the South Gym on Mondays and Wednesdays 9-11pm, Fridays 7-11pm and Sundays 5-9pm. Also an ice climbing school will be held mid-late Febuary and a rock school is tentatively set for late April/early May.

For information about the Club and its activities contact Mike Gimpert at 454-6990 or contact the Faculty of Phys. Ed.

by Maria Paisley
Sports Editor

Have you ever wondered where you can meet other skiers and enjoy socialising with them? The Vertical Ski Club and Racing Team may be what you're looking for.

The Vertical Ski Club and Racing Team is comprised of recreational and racing alpine skiers and snowboarders. Non-skiers interested in learning how to ski are also encouraged to join.

As there had not originally been an alpine ski club on campus, a group of avid skiers decided to form a club. The club began as an idea one month before the Christmas break and had two buses a week running to Crabbe Mountain in early January. Currently there are 60 members which include 10 members on the Racing Team and 15 snowboarders.

Wilson Edgar, the Director of the club, is a first year BBA student from Toronto, Ontario who has been skiing for 19 years. Edgar has skied in parts of the western States, B.C. and Mount Ste. Ann. At the moment Edgar is a recreational skier, although he formerly raced on the Lakeville College School team for three years.

The Director of Racing is Gordon Weary. Weary is a first year MSc student who spent the last three years racing on

the McGill team. Weary has taught both skiing and racing for eight years. He has skied in the Laurentians, Vermont and Whistler. Weary emphasises that the purpose of the racing team is to "learn how to ski and it is not necessary to have

off as well as hoped. One of the problems is that people don't really know what the club is about."

The club is about having fun and socialising with skiers. Some of the social events include a happy hour every Wednesday and Saturday after skiing, ski flicks, prizes and pizza. In addition to the different social events, the club travels to Crabbe twice a week, on Wednesday and Saturday. The club also takes the hassles out of organising a trip to the mountain as a member simply has to phone one of the club reps.

The hope for this club in the future is to include the entire city of Fredericton and not just students from UNB and STU. Next year there is also the possibility of travelling to other mountains at the beginning and end of the season. The members themselves would decide where they would like to ski. One of the benefits of the club is that skiers have a say in the decision making process. Members are involved in more than just skiing.

To find out more about the club, contact Wilson Edgar at 450-6927. Information concerning the Racing Team can be directed towards Gordon Weary at 454-1429.

Correction, last week's story was written by Gordon Weary and Chris Britt.



raced before." The team trains for eight weeks with two Level II coaches at Crabbe. The Racing Team races on Wednesday nights and racers can compete in the NB Cup race.

Upcoming races for the team include a Giant Slalom on February 4th and a Super G and a Giant Slalom on February 11th and 12th. In March there will be two races in Sussex at Poley Mountain; a slalom on March 25th and a giant slalom the next day.

Edgar states that "the club hasn't taken

Registrar's Office Notice

Bachelor of Education DEADLINE CHANGE

The deadline date for applications to the BEd consecutive and BEd concurrent programs is January 31st. Students in their final year of the BA, BSc, BPE or BBA programs are invited to apply to the BEd consecutive program. Students in their first or second year of the BA, BSc, BPE, BBA, or BScCS programs are eligible to apply to the BEd concurrent program. Please consult the undergraduate calendar or contact Diane Shannon, Faculty of Education (453-3527), for further details. Applications, transfer request forms, and BEd supplementary forms are available at the Registrar's Office.

GRECO'S GREAT CAMPUS SPECIAL

MEDIUM PAN

2 Items

\$8.99

FREE GARLIC FINGERS

8" with sauce

FREE DELIVERY

If we are not at the residence door in 30 minutes
The Pizza is FREE

452-0033

Sweetwaters

FREDERICTON'S SUPERBOWL HEADQUARTERS

SUPER BOWL PARTY

JANUARY 29th, 1995

Doors open 3:00 p.m. ★ Awesome Specials 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

WINGS SPECIAL

SUPERBOWL POOL

FACE PAINTING

BIG

SCREEN

plus 5 other TVs!

MIS

SUPER BOWL

CONTEST

★

DRAW FOR SEATS ON THE 50 YRD. LINE