

# Students' referendum may mean high user fees for Dalplex

by Brian Lennox

Two weeks ago the proposed athletic fee was soundly defeated by Dalhousie students. The campaign itself and the consequences of the vote are very disturbing. I do not believe the students were fully aware of the issues. The No campaign ran an organized campaign that clearly led to the defeat of the athletic fee.

Last year's campaign by the Yes side was severely criticized by members of the No campaign and members of the Dalhousie Student Union. The criticism was aimed at the Dalplex administration for coaching students who were supporting the Yes side and printing misleading slogans. I found it rather ironic this year, when I saw numerous numbers, of the DSU supporting the No side. I thought this vote was to let the student decide. However, this

was not as bad as the deliberately misleading flyer distributed by the No side, across the campus. The flyer listed the cost of the proposed new equipment. Unfortunately, it failed to mention the exact total cost of the athletic fee. Instead, when you add up the figures the numbers is nearly double the proposed amount. Secondly, the flyer had in bold print the purchase of a Rocky IV versa climber. The versa climber was not constructed specifically for Rocky IV. Maybe if the no side had any idea of what this equipment was they could have intelligently debated the purchase of it.

In the forums the No side said the athletics fee would benefit only a few people, namely varsity athletes. Well, only 23% of the total from the athletic fee was allocated for varsity athletics and half of it was going to be used to

recover the cost of student receiving free admission to varsity events. Since the fee has been defeated, what will be the consequences? Certainly, there is a possibility that a user fee will be instituted that will be much higher than \$25. Intramurals could possibly be reduced, insofar as the time of games. For example, intramural hockey games may start at 2am so that the prime time hours can be rented to the community. There will almost certainly be fewer officials for intramural games. Students will also have to pay to watch varsity athletic events.

From my perspective, \$25 is not that much money for yearly use of the best athletic/recreational facility in the maritimes. Now the No side said this could be just the beginning of more incidental fees.

My general argument here is that universities are going to have to use innovative measures to fund themselves. The government, or should we really say the taxpayer, will not stand for higher taxes to fund universities. Surely, the DSU and the No campaign realize 75-80% of the cost of tuition is covered by tax payers.

Athletic Fee will be discussed at the council meeting on Sunday, April 9 at 1pm. USER FEES are a possibility! Come and tell us how you feel about it.

The President's Advisory Committee on Athletics has received a proposal that indicates students may be paying a \$45 fee for the academic year, \$60 for the full year. These fees may be implemented effective May 1st.

# Sexism in sports

VANCOUVER (CUP) — There are no role models for women, according to Donna Baydock. No NHL coaches. No NFL coaches.

But even without one, the University of British Columbia's women's volleyball coach had succeeded. She is the school's first female full-time coach.

And Baydock was recently voted this season's all-star volleyball coach of the Canada West division.

"I'm disappointed that I never got a press release like the hockey coach (hired at the same time) when I arrived. But the press does not want to hear about volleyball here," Baydock said.

With five years of coaching at the University of Manitoba, winning the Canadian Inter-university Athletic Union silver medal in the fifth year, national team experience and a masters in physical education, Baydock was hardly lacking in credentials when she applied three years ago.

"It's rare that you'll find a woman who is underqualified for the job," said Baydock. "You always feel like you have to prove yourself in the men's domain."

Despite CIAU efforts to promote the hiring of women, female coaches are still a minority in university athletics.

The CIAU began encouraging schools to hire women in 1982 after discovering that only one fifth of Canada's university coaches were female.

But in the latest follow-up study — dated 1987 — the numbers reveal little change: of the 531 head coaching positions only 117 were filled by women.

While recognizing the Canada-wide inequalities still prevailing, UBC director of athletics Roberts Windmarsh said traditional attitudes of men dominating sports linger within the CIAU. He said the real problem lies in the lack of opportunities created for women to gain needed experience.

According to last year's Report of the National Task Force on Young Females and Physical Activity, sex stereotyping is at the root of the lack of opportunity in sport to the same extent as men, are not encouraged to participate in the same range of activities, and are not expected to reach the same level of competency.

The report said that although 52 per cent of Canadians are female, they receive far less than 52 per cent of the resources allocated for sports.

Consequently, with fewer women in the system than men, fewer women climb to the top of the sports ladder and fewer women will compete against men for head coaching and administrative positions.

Said Baydock of the hire-a-woman policy: "It may help open the door for women, but you have to be good to keep a job, you have to prove yourself."

Kim Gordon, a former national team rower turned assistant to the director of athletics at UBC, said homophobia is also prevalent in athletics and female coaches and athletes are often labeled as gay.



## Intramural Awards Banquet





**Women's Supremacy Award**  
Shirreff Hall



**Men's Faculty Supremacy**  
Law



**Men's Residence Supremacy**  
Bronson House



**Co-ed Supremacy Award**  
Henderson/Sh.



**Outstanding Sportsmanship**  
Chemistry



**Outstanding Convener**  
Mary Anne Gillis



**Outstanding Female & Male**  
Participants Delyth Roberts  
& Ian MacKenzie



**Outstanding Participation**  
Handerson/Sh.



**President's Sports Festival**  
Champions - Dentistry



**Sport Club Development Award**  
Karate Club — Dr. Danny Tam,  
Tony Tam & Dr. Mike Ackerman



**Outstanding Official**  
Loule Lawen



**'Golden Glo' Blackmore**  
Entertains