

soundoff

University athletes deserve support

Dear Editor:

I would like to make reference once again, to the total lack of support our University Athletes receive from the student community.

Last Sunday, I witnessed the UNB Red Devils thrilling victory over the University of Prince Edward Island. It was a residence noise making event with a prize going to the loudest section. All those who witnessed the game and participated with vocal support were not let down by our hockey team.

The point I would like to make is that the Aitken Centre was only half-full and ironically, one of the biggest crowds of the year! Upon presentation of a student I.D. we are admitted free to all varsity sporting

events, so why can't our teams attract larger crowds?

I think the answer to this question lies in the lack of pride in this institution and the individual values pursued by many students.

If you consider the mystique of an athlete's image and the nature of team sports, a lesson could be learned by the non-fans of UNB. These athletes are learning the virtues of cooperation and team work and as such maintain a strong pride in the school they represent. By participating as a fan, we the students are also sharing in the euphoria of victory and the dejection of loss. If our hockey team is destined for national recognition it will not be as individuals but as

a unit representing the entire university community. We can aid them in their quest by participating at the most basic level, supporting them as fans.

It is an irony of such competitive environment that students (in general) persist in being apathetic towards our sports representatives. So many of us admire to the principles of individualism

so vehemently that we lose the feeling of comradery, we may never again share after leaving UNB. Witness-

ing a sporting event reinforces comradery and strengthens pride in our institution.

I know from discussion with many athletes that, fan support is a strong

motivating factor and it does affect the intensity of

their play. So, to all the non-fans of UNB please

come out and support our varsity athletes and share in the experience of participation.

R. Hutchins
UNB

Quickest route not the best

Dear Editor:

A recent "Letter to the Editor", brought into focus the traditional Arts/Science split and its influence on the university. The letter written by an Arts student came out against the abuse of

Arts students tend to receive from those of other faculties. At the same time however, it asserted that Non-Arts faculties are

"mass producing graduates more resembling fine tuned machines than thinking individuals". I'm sure that the writer realizes this cannot be taken as an absolute

statement, but it seems to gloss over that apparent truth.

From my experience as an FE, a Science student and an Arts student, I believe I can truthfully say that Arts

is not the only faculty in which people acutally think. Neither is this faculty free of those who merely go through the motions, so to speak.

While it is unfair to expect everyone (perhaps, anyone) to come out of university a Renaissance man or woman it seems a shame that so few capitalize on the chance to "expand their horizons".

I don't think anyone will deny that a Mechanical Engineer/Classics scholar or a Philosopher/Physicist is a force to be reckoned with. Why, then, do students shy away from these ideals?

The lines drawn between areas of study (or of work or leisure) are blurred now as they have never been before. It is a time for the rebirth of arete, the Trojan concept of excellence, of virtue. Those who chose the narrow route as the fastest, easiest way to a degree will lose the understanding which accompanies the educated imagination.

Barry Parkinson

Varsity Sports marred

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the people involved in promoting our Varsity Sports teams on Campus this year.

They are doing a fine job, despite the occasional incidents that tend to be disturbing.

Friday night for example, myself and a gentleman who writes for the

Telegraph-Journal, were waiting in the lobby of the Aitken Center for a taxi to

come, this not more than fifteen minutes after the conclusion of a Red Devils hockey game. We were approached by a member of

the Campus Police who asked us to leave the building. We explained that we would soon be going in the taxi, and that it was -20°C

outside. He terminated the conversation with the explanation that he wasn't allowed to leave until the lobby was empty, so the simplest way to achieve this was to eject all the oc-

cupants. So out we went, and with us two boys of about 10-12 years of age who were waiting for their ride home.

All this leaves a bad taste in the mouth, especially after seeing the fine job done by the UNB promotions people. I hope this

will be looked into. I'm sure if I was a member of the public something like this

would turn me off University hockey for good. If this is a policy of some sort then it

should be changed, if it is left up to the Campus Police to decide for themselves

how long people can wait in the lobby, then this should also be changed. It is a silly

and disappointing incident and hopefully won't happen again.

Sincerely
Mike Power
Sports Director
CHSR-FM

