

View From the Cheap Seats

by Mark Savoie

Over the last two weeks I have had the good fortune to watch two AUSA football games. The games were both broadcast by TSN, which gave us a chance to watch #4 St. Mary's destroy #7 St. Francis Xavier and then just last weekend we watched #10 Mt. Allison ruin Acadia's homecoming with 21 points in the fourth quarter.

It is a rarity for a UNB student to watch an AUSA football game without making a trip to Nova Scotia, or at least to Sackville. This wasn't always the case. UNB used to have an accomplished football team playing out of College Field. The last coach that team had before it folded was current Athletic Director Jim Born. Surely he would have a soft spot in his heart for the return of the Red Bombers to campus. Apparently not so. Despite near constant lobbying from individuals such as Richard Riley and Carl Burgess it appears that a football team for UNB remains a thing for the distant future.

Let's face facts. A football team is expensive. They have huge rosters that require expensive equipment. The training equipment is very expensive. There is a great deal of travel required for recruitment, most of which would be in southern Ontario because of the paucity of high school football in the Maritimes.

But a football team would also go a long way towards paying for itself. UNB Red Bombers sweatshirts are still a big seller at the bookstore, ten years after the team's demise. As I write this I am wearing a UNB Bombers T Shirt. The opportunity for advertising on the game programs is enormous, as advertisers will be well aware that the games will be packed. It would probably be impossible to regain the entire cast, but enough of it could be recovered so as to make football equivalent in terms of cost to other "cheaper" sports.

Of course this will only work if the team is properly marketed. The way UNB sports is presently marketed could at best be called primitive. The programs are a farce. There is little or no souvenir sales at most events, and there has been only few attempts by the teams to increase their profiles. The best job of that has been done by Claire Milton and the Red Bloomers, although Mike Johnston has taken steps to promote the Red Devils' visibility.

Perhaps it is the American influence, but nothing defines university sports like football, not even hockey or basketball. There is a festive, party atmosphere surrounding college football, and if we had football we wouldn't have needed Varsity-Mania to reawaken school spirit on this campus.

The Red Bombers wouldn't be able to enter the league and immediately expect to challenge Chris Flynn and the St. Mary's Huskies, but they would quickly become competitive because of their advantage in recruiting from the high school football juggernaut that has been established at FHS. It would also have a head start in recruiting from St. John and most other provincial locations. This would give the team a good solid nucleus for which to build a team around.

Given the resurgent of football, in the Maritimes; three of five teams ranked in the top ten nationally, a new team at UCCB, and rumours of football's return to Dalhousie; it is a disgrace that New Brunswick's provincial university is without a football team.

INTRAMURALS

Co-ed Badminton Tournament

The fall co-ed badminton tournament took place at the Lady Beaverbrook Gym on Saturday, October 13, 1990. There were many experienced players, so competition was stiff. T.Y. Lee beat Peter Tran to be the overall winner of the singles tourney and David Tran was the consolation champion. T.Y. Lee along with his partner Ong also won the doubles championship and Todd Bailey and his partner David Tran were the consolations champions. Congratulations guys.

Squash Ladder Tournament

Entries for the squash ladder tournament are still being accepted, entry forms may be picked up at the Recreation Office. Names that have already been submitted have been posted. And for those of you who have already played please remember to submit your score-sheets to the Equipment Room.

Men's Hockey

This is just a reminder for the managers of the men's intramural hockey teams to remember to pick up the hockey schedules at the Recreation Office.

Ladies' Ball Hockey League

This is the first year that the intramurals is offering Ball Hockey for ladies; therefore, we would like to encourage you to get together with a group of your friends and register a team. The entry deadline date is Thursday, October 25, 1990.

Cross Country Run

The Annual Intramural Cross Country Run will be held this year on Sunday, October 28. The run will begin at 12:45 p.m. on the common area below the SUB. The course covers 2.5 miles on campus. All interested individuals - joggers and runners - are encouraged to come out and participate. Information and registration forms are available from the Recreation Office Room A121 L.B. Gym.

Women's Softball

Six teams participated in the Women's Softball League. Unfortunately, due to the unavailability of playing time and rain delays, no play-offs could be held. Therefore, the top teams from each division were declared winners. MacKenzie House captured first place in the green division, and McLeod House was the winner of the red division. Congratulations to the winning teams and a special thanks to all participants.

Men's Soccer Green League

Teams	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
1. Hangbellies	5	4	1	0	23	6	13
2. ME Turbos	4	3	0	1	5	0	11
3. Harrison Huskies	4	2	0	2	9	1	10
4. Jones	4	2	1	1	10	4	9
5. Aitken Animals	4	2	2	0	8	3	8
6. Moosehead Premiums	4	3	1	0	9	4	10
7. MacKenzie	4	1	2	1	8	9	7
8. Satellites	5	0	4	1	3	14	6
9. Neville Norsemen	4	1	3	0	4	15	6
10. Yoewomen	4	0	4	0	1	24	4

Red league

Teams	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
1. Rovers	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
2. Bridges	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
3. Individuals	3	1	1	1	3	4	6
4. Grim Reapers	2	1	0	1	1	0	5
5. West Germany	2	1	0	1	3	2	5
6. Law	2	1	1	0	1	1	4
7. Barakus	2	0	1	1	1	2	3
8. Che Crudes	2	0	2	0	3	5	2
9. Maggie Jean	2	0	2	0	1	3	2
10. Neill House	1	0	1	0	1	2	1

Red Blazers looking

The UNB/STU Women's Ice Hockey Club is looking for students to help out in office capacities. The Red Blazers need 2 assistant coaches. Anyone interested should have some coaching experience. Duties will include designing and running practices, and instruction in most basic hockey skills. Some travel will come with these positions, a minimum commitment of two or three nights a week will be required. A goaltender coach is also needed to work one or two nights a week with the teams goalies in basic skills.

The Blazers also need a Statistician/Manager, duties will be varied, travelling will be required. All these positions are volunteer. Only mature individuals need apply. Contact Mike Power at 455-7022 after 9 p.m. weekdays.