

View From The Cheap Seats

by Mark Savoie

If the only station you get on your TV is CBC, then I hope you like hockey. Because every night for the next two months CBC is going to show damn well nearly every game of the Stanley Cup playoffs. And what's more, countless students across the country will fail most of their exams because they're staying up every night to watch the games instead of studying. The question is: Why?

Why do so many people care about what happens in games played by other people? And if there is interest in other people's games, then why aren't Monopoly tournaments televised? What is the thrill of watching sports? Why do people care about who wins?

The answer is that physical prowess is ingrained in the male psyche. Part of this includes a great respect for those who are capable of feats that are beyond us. And not a little of it is that we like to fantasize about sharing those abilities.

When I was growing I played a lot of road hockey. In those days we all liked to emulate our favourite players. When I played I was Jacques Lemaine. One of my greatest thrills was when I actually got to meet and shake hands with this man.

Children all over the world like to idolize sports figures. Canadian kids idolize Wayne Gretzky. In the Soviet Union they used to dream of being Valery Kharlamov. Argentinian children worship the Madonna first and Maradona second. As children get older they lose their hero worship, but not as completely as some may think.

People become jaded with strikes and lockouts, and disillusioned with the fact that modern investigative reporting has shown their heroes to be merely human. But the quality of worship still remains. In 1987 thousands of normal Minnesotans turned into crazed lunatics waving 'homer hankies.' This was because they identified with their team so much that ludicrous behaviour in support of that team did not seem to be an unreasonable action.

It is more subtle now that we're older, but adults still like to believe that somehow they are part of the game. When Ben Johnson ran his 9.79 we felt as proud as if we had ran that marvelous race. And when he lost the Gold because of steroids, each of us felt as if we had lost as well. We shared his triumph and we shared his pain. We had no right to blame Ben for inflicting us with his pain when we were so ready and willing to share his glory.

People follow sports so intensely because it gives them something to care about that doesn't matter. If we lose, nothing is really lost. And when we wish, we get the thrill of victory, if only vicariously. For that reason we follow sports. It made us feel good, with no real pain as a reward for failure.

The year is over, and Tim Lynch and I would like to thank some people before we vanish into the real world of post-graduation. First of all, we'd like to thank our huge staff of three: Kelly Craig, Frank Denis, and Lynne Wanyeki have all done a superb job of reporting this year. The Iron Ghost and Ron Cameron both faithfully sent in their stories throughout the year and these were all appreciated. Shirley Cleave's regular contributions from Intramurals were always a welcome sight in this office.

Jim Born and the varsity coaches were all very helpful. They went out of their way to help maintain an open relationship with the Brunswickan. And Maureen Sparks' efforts from the gymnasium were solely responsible for keeping this section going only last term when Tim and I were still learning the job.

But most of all I would like to thank my partner in crime, Tim Lynch. Tim and I learned the job together and it has been a lot of fun. It has been a good year, and I'm, grateful to have had the opportunity to do the job. Good luck on your exams and have a good summer.

Frank Denis and Kelly Craig did almost all of the editing for this week's section. I hope you liked it.

The Intramural Report

Volleyball 1990-91 Positions

This year the intramural volleyball program had the largest number of teams entered in the last few years. In all leagues, Men's, Women's and Co-ed, the level of competition was high. The following teams came out victorious:

Men's Volleyball - The Terminators

- Dan McMorran
- Gilleds Clair
- Larry Tung
- Jonas Colter
- Jacques Albert
- Jason Tozer
- Geoff Downey
- Rick Mooney

Women's Volleyball - MacKenzie House

- Sharron Smith
- Stephanie Gough
- Erica Sharpe
- Stacy Firth
- Patricia Barrett
- Karen Beebe
- Heather Yeo
- Jill Robinson

Co-ed Volleyball - Jones/Dunn

- Greg Potten
- Marc Hache
- Mike Henthorn
- Bern Levesque
- Louis Rivard
- Denise Berube
- Nikki Gallant
- France Morin
- Monica Toner

1990-91 Positions

Applications are now being accepted for positions in the Intramural Program for 1990-91 as a convenors, referees-in-chief, and officials. All those interested should complete an application form before they leave for the summer. This is your opportunity to gain some valuable practical experience, enhance your resume, meet some new friends, make a contribution to your fellow students and have a good time and earn some spending money while you are doing it. The Intramural Program depends on the work of many dedicated and enthusiastic students like yourself. Get involved. For further information and application forms contact the Recreation Office, Room A121 L.B. Gym between 11:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Basketball

Congratulations to the champions of Women's Intramural Basketball. "ROAD RUNNERS" won their victory

with a hard battle against the "Red Sticks" who fought to the end but had to settle for a second place finish. Members of the "ROAD RUNNERS" are

as follows: Blinda Furge, Felicia Greer, Cindy Ring, Jenna MacFadyen, Heather Eagle, Krista Taylor, Michelle Cormier, and Gail Evans.

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RECREATION PROGRAM SAYS "THANKS" TO CONVENORS, REFEREES-IN-CHIEF OFFICIALS, SPORTS REPS GUARDS, SUPERVISORS SINSTRUCTORS

WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

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Another successful indoor soccer season has come to a close. Seventeen teams started play in January and four of those made the playoffs. Celtic United played Black Sea in one semi-final while Poison Eaters played Spud United in the other. Celtic United and the Poison Eaters met in the final with the Poison Eaters emerging as the victors. I would like to thank all the teams for participating this year and congratulations to the Poison Eaters.

Convenor Darcy McKillop

EASTER WEEKEND

Cafeteria Operating Hours

Lady Beaverbrook	Closed all Weekend
Lady Dunn/Tibbits McConnell Hall McLeod House	Open for Brunch and Supper on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.
Sizzler	Open 10 AM until 6 PM Friday through Sunday. Open until 11 PM on Monday night.

All Hostess Locations Closed.

Have a Happy Easter and Good Luck on your Exams

Beaver Foods Management & Staff