



What was the theme of the Orientation Committee? "Let's Start Some New Traditions." How about reviving some old ones?

Where does school spirit begin? To many, school spirit begins with varsity sport. Campus sports are events where everyone, regardless of age or what house they live in or group they belong to, can have fun.

Every school we have visited has shown great support for their varsity teams. Students spectators actually travel to other universities in the AUAA conference. For instance, at the last hockey game of the regular season held here at UNB, UPEI fans were not only making more noise than the UNB fans, but carried banners and brought their mascot as well.

Okay, now the question is how to bring out the fans. One major stumbling block is the cost. Granted \$1.50 is not a lot of money however some people would rather spend that \$1.50 at the Social Club. Perhaps a fee, in the amount of ten could be added on to the fifteen dollars, SRC or tuition fees in the fall which would entitle students to free admission to all sporting events. This idea is not so far fetched. Acadia and St. F.X. both require mandatory purchase of sports passes at registration. At Queen's University in Ontario, where student union fees are around \$90.00-\$100.00, students are admitted free to all sporting

events.

Football, a great topic is no longer a reality at UNB. Simon Fraser University in British Columbia was going to drop their football program, but their Varsity Club and Alumni Association as well as student groups raised over \$350,000 to fund their football program. Where is our Varsity Club and Alumni Association and what are they doing to support Varsity sports in general? At Mount Allison, the alumni shares the cost of varsity sports 50/50 with the university.

The varsity club at UNB contributed \$3000 to the Merit Award Program this year. The club hosts special athletic events for returning alumni players and a reception for the graduating seniors prior to the Athletic Awards Banquet. The Varsity Club also fields requests for support from coaches of varsity teams.

The Alumni Association at UNB, the largest of its kind in Eastern Canada, contributes \$6-7000 towards Merit scholarships which primarily go to varsity athletes but are also awarded to other students in recognition of a level of achievement in virtually every faculty on campus. In the past the Alumni have donated athletic equipment and such things as the tennis courts. The Alumni does not contribute directly to sports in the operating budget.

The Alumni at St. Francis Xavier raised \$7,000,000

in 2 years which will go to the university. At Dalhousie the Alumni donated the Student Union Building and the Dalplex, the university's sports complex.

Maybe what we need here is a varsity sports promoter - someone in charge of advertising and promoting all athletic events here on campus, from basketball to hockey and from wrestling to swimming.

We are sure most people have seen CIAU athletic events and NCAA events on TV and have undoubtedly noticed the crowd and the spirit displayed. Bands and glee clubs are in evidence as well as cheerleaders and those kids pay a lot more than we ever did to participate in athletic events.

As far as the calibre of sports here at UNB goes, it is top notch. College hockey is the best game for your money here in town. Our very own Red Devils went all the way to the AUAA semi-finals this year and were ranked tenth in the nation after Christmas. Next year they will likely do much better because of the development of a lot of rookies during this year's play.

The UNB wrestling squad has for the fourth time in a row won the AUAA championships this year. The UNB Red Raiders men's basketball made an excellent showing this year as well as the women's team on the courts.

A glimmer of hope was Winter Carnival 82. There

was excellent participation in all events including those that were non-alcoholic. This we believe is due in part to the time of year (right after Christmas) and to the amount of snow on the ground. Good show Carni Committee and good luck next year. Another sign of a resurgence in school spirit was the recent SRC and senate elections. Eleven candidates running for one position shows us that people are beginning to take a renewed interest in what is going on in the student council. Another chance for a show of spirit is the upcoming snow sculpture contest held in conjunction with the World Junior Curling Championships taking place at the Aitken Center. Residences and Student Organizations are urged to participate.

In our opinion school spirit here at UNB is lacking. What can be done to revive it? Should sports receive a face lift here at UNB and if so can it be done by donations and fund raising by the Varsity and Alumni associations? Other schools have done it.

Is this the reason that school spirit is lacking or is it as some one suggested a lack of respect for the institution itself. If it is a lack of respect, then how do we restore said same.

Maybe if the Alumni and Varsity Club would play a greater role in university life this would help to bring back respect for the halls of UNB and re-instill some spirit here.