

Surfing on sports



Overtime
MARK ALBERSTAT

LET'S NOT BE NAIVE. There is major drug problem in sports today, not just in baseball, but in all sports and all levels of sports.

There has been a flurry of concern about this subject since the recent deaths of basketball-standout Len Bias and football player Don Rodgers. The flurry is justified, if not a little late. I would suggest the can of worms should have been opened several years ago when Miami Dolphins' star Mercury Morris was arrested and convicted for cocaine possession and addiction. Public interest in the field of sports and drugs took an upward shift last baseball season with the drug investigations in Pittsburgh. Did the interest carry any further? Not really.

One of the main reasons was that the man on trial supplied drugs to ball players. If he was a baseball player, he probably would not have gone to trial.

Bias was an All-American forward at Maryland; two days before his death he was the first-round draft choice of the World Champion Boston Celtics. He had also signed an endorsement contract with Reebok sneakers that made him a millionaire. The road ahead of him was paved in gold. Unfortunately Bias decided to follow a white line of a different sort.

Both Rodgers and Bias died of cocaine abuse. To clarify, there are three ways you can die of cocaine intoxication: you can

stop breathing, your heart stops, or you have a seizure. Cocaine is a stimulus to the heart; it increases the blood pressure and the contractions of the heart.

If it does all this, why, you may ask, does the athlete turn to it other than the obvious reason of getting high?

The answer is simple. cocaine use will increase muscle strength and decrease reaction time. Athletes will use the drug for this reason, believing it will improve their performance. They often do not realize how easily it can be addictive. With repeated cocaine use, performance suffers.

With a multitude of drugs out the streets today why does the star athlete turn to the very damaging drug cocaine? It would not be hard to guess what went through Len Bias' head when he was offered the drug. "Here I am in a position of high prestige, young, healthy, rich and on top of the world. Nothing can hurt me." A few short days later Len Bias was buried by his family.

One would hope that the death of Len Bias would wake up other athletes and the general public to their vulnerability. This, however, was not the case when eight days after Bias' death Rodgers died at his mother's home.



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If you are a new student welcome to Dalhousie University. To our returning students, welcome back. The following information is to assist you with your September purchases of books and supplies.

THE BOOKSTORE

Your bookstore has available all required and recommended text and reference books, as well as a large selection of workbooks, other reference books, and general books. The stationery department carries all necessary stationery and computer supplies, calculators, lab coats, briefcases, backpacks, and medical, scientific and engineering items.

There is also a Campus Shop, where gift items, novelties, clothing and crested-wear, cards, mugs, jewellery, posters, rings, and general university paraphernalia are sold.

BOOKSTORE LOCATION

The Bookstore is on the lower level of the Student Union Building on University Avenue.

REGULAR OPERATING HOURS

Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; except Wednesday 9:30 - 7 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays & University holidays.

HINTS (THINGS TO DO TO MINIMIZE INCONVENIENCE)

(i) be certain of the textbooks you need; if necessary go to class first. All textbooks are labelled, but last minute changes can occur. Most instructors do not demand that you have all your materials on the first day.

NOTE: There are strict rules for textbook returns, and there is a return reshelving charge. Full return policy is available from the Bookstore.

(ii) Purchase books during slack periods. For example, busiest times in September are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come at 9 a.m. (or 8), or after 4 p.m. For two weeks the store is open well into the evenings, and on Saturdays. Use these additional times to your advantage.

NOTE: Every student who needs a textbook will get one. If books are sold out (an uncommon situation), don't worry. Simply ask at the office; in most circumstances needed books will be brought in on a 'rush' basis.

EXTENDED HOURS - FALL TERM

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SEPT.	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	CLOSED	CLOSED	9-7	9-7	9-7	9-7	9-5
SEPT.	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	CLOSED	8-9	8-9	8-9	8-9	8-9	9-5
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PRICES

Some textbooks are expensive (although only 20% of a textbook's price goes to the Bookstore). Where possible the Bookstore attempts to have use books available to buy; as well (and where possible) the Bookstore will buy back textbooks if needed for subsequent terms.

The Bookstore will also co-ordinate book buy-backs for international used book companies a couple of times each year. Advance notice will be posted.

FINAL NOTICE

You are not permitted to bring books, bags, briefcases, knapsacks, or other carry-alls into the store. These must be left on the drop shelves at the door. For valuables there are 25¢ coin lockers available. All items are left at your risk alone.

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