

View from the cheap seats

by Mark Savoie

I'm not a big fan of the Chicago Michaels, nor of their coach, Phil Jackson. But I did gain respect for Jackson because of his comments prior to last Sunday's NBA All Star game. Jackson was the coach for the East team, and yet he had nerve enough to declare that it would be a boring game. If he gets tired of coaching he might want to think about a career as a prophet, because he was right, the game was a snoozer. It had all the drama of the WWF, right down to the predetermined winner. Or were you really surprised when Magic Johnson won the MVP Award? About the only sporting event more boring than that poor, pitiful excuse of a game was the NHL's All Star game. Now that was hard on the eyes.

As for the Magic man winning the MVP award; I have only two words: BULL and SHIT. Like the East team wasn't playing off him, either. Change the name of the game to the NBA's. Tribute to Magic Johnson, and then the truth in advertising laws will be obeyed. At least they will be to a hell of a lot greater extent than they were in reality. Magic shouldn't have even been in the game. The All Star game is intended to showcase the NBA's best basketball players. Maybe Commissioner David Skin hasn't yet noticed that Magic is not in the NBA. He is retired! I know he's talking about a comeback, but that is still an event for the future. Some people may say that since he was voted in by the fans he had every right to be in the game. I am reminded of baseball's 1989 All Star game, where Mike Schmidt was voted by the fans to start at third base even though he had retired earlier that season. Unlike Magic, Schmidt had the class to decline this tribute.

I've got no problems with the idea of Magic playing basketball, even given his medical condition. I would have cheered lustily had he performed (as he should have) in Saturday night's Old "Timer's" game. After all, at present he is an NBA old timer. If Magic maintains his physical conditioning then he should by all means compete in the Summer Olympics in Barcelona. Just make sure he makes the team on merit, and not because of a misguided sense of loyalty to the great accommodator. Unlike the Australian team, the idea of a man/woman playing basketball with HIV (or later, AIDS) is not causing one to lose a lot of sleep. Although I do not profess to be adequately educated in the possible health risk involved, I do not think it presumptuous to assume that if there was a legitimate danger to other competitors in the tournament that Magic would not be permitted to play.

Before it became known that he was infected with HIV, I was not a great fan of Magic Johnson. He was a Laker, and I was and am a Celtics fan. Now, after the disclosure, my feelings have not changed. He was an honoured foe, sort of like Ray Bourque of the Boston Bruins is to most Montreal Canadiens' fans, but I wasn't a fan of his then and I have not since been magically transformed.
Next week: Savoie on the Savoie Games.

Editor's Note: With this week's issue we welcome the return of columnist Mark Savoie. Mark was a Brunswickan editor and contributor for more than 3 years. He is continuing his studies at the University of Western Ontario in London and will be sending weekly reports on his views concerning the world of sport.

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Campus Recreation

Co-ed Basketball Tournament

On Saturday Feb. 8, 1992, a Co-ed Intramural Basketball Tournament was held with 7 teams participating in two divisions. Competition was stiff with some very good teams competing for top spot. In the end the RAD GRADS came out victorious with the BUNS and HOSES following a close second. Honourable mention goes to the Party Animals for their most sportsmanlike conduct. Congratulations go out to these two teams and all those who participated.

Women's Basketball

The Women's Intramural Basketball league has come to a close with the Individual Stars coming out ahead in the Recreational division and the Tibbits the victors in the Competitive division. Many thanks to all the teams that participated and congratulations to the winners.

Men's Competitive Ball Hockey

Men's ball hockey is coming to a close with the semi-finals played this weekend. The final will see the Hookers, this year's Cinderella team try to win their first title. They already knocked off the Blues Brothers and the Law Stars in a shootout. Both teams finished first in their respective divisions. They will face off against the knights of Neill looking to repeat as league champs. They played a little depleted Legion of Doom team giving them their only loss of the season. Good Luck to both teams in the final.

Men's Waterpolo

Due to a lack of interest there will be no Men's waterpolo league this year.

INTRAMURAL CO-ED HOCKEY

TEAMS	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
HARRISON	4	3	1	0	11	14	10
MACKENZIE	3	3	0	0	26	7	9
GANG BANGERS	3	3	0	0	25	3	9
JONES/TIBBITS 4	1	3	0	16	34	6	
DUNKEN	4	1	3	0	11	35	6
LBR RED EYES 3	1	2	0	15	10	5	
BUSINESS BLUES	4	1	3	0	14	5	4
MCLEOD	3	0	3	0	0	10	1

The Inter-Residence Hockey Tournament was played last weekend and the competition was very steep. We had nine teams enter this year, but of course we only ended up with two teams in the final, those being Harrison and Neville. Harrison went on to defeat Neville by the score of 3 - 2 in front of about one hundred fans, which supported their teams strongly.

Good luck to the teams who make the playoffs in the I.M. Hockey league, which will begin in March.

Men's Intramural Indoor Soccer - February 3, 1992

Red Division

Teams	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Jones House	2	2	0	0	23	8	6
Hubcaps	2	2	0	0	17	8	6
O'Tooles Selects	2	1	1	0	15	8	4
Ludlow United	2	1	1	0	3	15	4
International Selects	2	1	1	0	9	4	4
McLeod	2	1	1	0	7	17	4
Maggie Jean Res.	2	0	2	0	15	20	2
Civil Sonics	2	0	2	0	6	15	2

Men's Intramural Indoor Soccer - February 2, 1992

Green Division

Team	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Purple Helmets	3	3	0	0	25	11	9
Liverpool F.C.	2	2	0	0	25	6	6
Moosehead Premiums	2	1	0	1	23	7	5
Trabzon	2	1	0	1	14	9	5
Hercules	2	1	1	0	8	13	4
Yeowomen	2	1	1	0	7	7	4
A.S.U. Gunners	2	0	2	0	7	21	2
Neill Knights	2	0	2	0	4	10	2
Rugby Rats	3	0	3	0	4	33	2 (1 def)

Key: G - Games, W-Wins, L-Losses, T-Ties, F-Goals for, A-Goals Against, Pts. - Points

Comments: Win - 3 pts; Tie - 2 pts; Loss - 1 pt