

Sports editorial: Small change, big difference by Bruce Denis

Sometimes small changes can make big differences. Here on campus, we have over 6000 students paying huge sums of money to attend this fine learning institution, and as one of these students, I know that with mid-terms, papers and a plethora of extra-curricular activities bogging us down, our time is very precious. I am not a complainer but when small changes can make big differences, it bothers me when these changes aren't made.

Two weeks ago I trudged my way up to the Aitken Centre for an 11:00pm intramural hockey game with my team, the Social Club Shooters. After the twenty minute walk from my apartment near Queen's Square, I was greeted at the door by a campus police who informed me that there were no hockey games that night because of a figure skating show featuring Elizabeth Manley and Victor Petrenko. After muttering some obscenities to the guard, I returned home. I was mildly peeved to say the least, not only because I was psyched to play hockey, but because I had wasted almost 1 hour of my time walking to and from a game I did not have.. Admittedly, I would have spent that hour going to my hockey game anyway had it not been canceled, but at least there would have been a reward for the few hours lost. Instead, I and a few others returned home unfulfilled and royally pissed off.

This brings to mind a similar let down which occurred last year. I and six other regulars showed up for the weekly open practice hockey time available to students every Thursday. We were eagerly awaiting for the Zamboni to finish cleaning the ice after putting on all our equipment when an AUC employee informed us that the practice had been canceled because the Canadiens decided to have an afternoon practice. Once again I was mildly peeved to say the least. Surely I could have found something better to do that afternoon than walk to the AUC, put my equipment on, take it off and walk home.

As my anger swelled after both of these unfortunate events, I began to wonder why they had to occur. How could someone organize intramural hockey games on the same night as a show that has been scheduled since the summer? Do the Canadiens really have the authority to reserve the AUC any time they want? They must be paying a pretty penny for the ice time, after all it is our rink. Or is it? I'd like to know just how much power the university has over the time allotment of the rink. And how come we weren't informed of the change in schedule.

As this is a wholesome campus newspaper I will not blame any single person or organization for these relatively insignificant errors. Instead, I will offer a relatively inexpensive, simple solution. The intramural department could invest in two fairly large erasable boards along the lines of a black board. One could be posted inside the players entrance of the AUC and the other just outside the intramural office in the LBGym. They would inform both hockey players and skaters of that day's schedule as well as any cancellations of that week. Whatever intramural representative is working the final game of a particular night could update it for the next day. This system could be implemented for any of the University facilities available for student use. It is such a simple change that could make a big difference to the students who use the facilities. Perhaps if the university informed it's students of available facilities such as the Aitken Centre, they might find greater student participation.

On a similar but less negative note, I am perpetually amazed at the number of intramural hockey teams that register for the league each year. Even more amazing is the number of people that complain to me that they don't have a team.. As great a facility as the Aitken Centre is, it can only accomodate one game at a time and that means ice time is at a premium. Teams have to fight for practice time and play a paltry 9 game season. Each game is only 45 minute running time so players barely get into it before it's over.

However, because of the competition just to be in the league, most people in the league are fairly content just to be on the ice. Last year saw 24 teams in the competitive division and 12 teams in the recreational division for a total of 36 intramural hockey teams with a rumored 12 teams on the waiting list.

Considering that the league is open to both UNB and STU students, perhaps organizers should look into reserving time at the LB rink to provide a more balanced practice and game schedule to students in the league.

In cycling news, the French insurance company Gan has taken over sponsorship of Greg LeMond's former team, Z. Gan sponsored a powerful team through the 60's and 70's that featured Jacques Anquetil, Raymond Poulidor and Eddy "the Cannibal" Merckx.

In other news, Canadian professional cycling suffered some serious blows last month when Alex Steida announced his retirement from cycling and Motorola announced that both Brian Walton of Delta, B.C. and perennial Canadian hero Steve Bauer would not be offered contracts for 1993. It is speculated that Bauer, 33, will retire and Walton will join Evian, the neo-pro Canadian formation of Eddy Arzouian and Stephane Lebeau.

This week's trivia question: Who scored the last goal in WHA (World Hockey Association) history?

Last week's answer: The Quebec Nordiques have an Igloo in their logo.

Campus recreation

Non credit instruction

Red Cross/ Royal Lifesaving Water Safety Instructor II Course

This course trains individuals to teach the top 4 levels of the Red Cross Water Safety Program and beginning levels of the Royal Lifesaving Society Program. It runs for 40 hours plus provisional teaching.

Class dates: Nov. 17, 19, 24, 26, 28, Mar. 23,25,30 Apr. 1,3

Prerequisite: WSII + Bronze Medallion and Senior Resuscitation

Registration: Registration deadline Nov. 6 at the UNB Business Office

Fees: \$75 + text - for UNB/STU students & recreation members \$85 + text - for non - members add \$5 after November 8

Intramural sports \$\$\$Leadership opportunities\$\$\$

Referees are still needed for Intramural Ice Hockey. Training will be provided if not experienced. If you are interested, contact Referee - in - chief Matt Cripps at 454 - 8035

Co-ed bowling tournament

Congratulations goes out to the TEN PINS for capturing the Co-ed Bowling Tournament held on Saturday, October 31, at the Hanwell Bowling Lanes. The TEN PINS had a total team score of 1022 over 3 strings. The FIRM was second with a score of 978, while LAW AND ORDER was third with a score of 969. Members of the winning team are MARK BUJOLD, NEIL VIBERT, CHRISTINA BOVMA, AND COLLEEN NEWMAN. Team members can stop by the recreation office to pick up their certificates.

In, addition, congratulations also goes out to Sharlene Wilcox, Joey Allan, Shawn Dempsey, Pierre Arseneault, Kari-Ann Pike, and Nancy Morrison for winning individual prizes. Overall, fun was had by all! Thanks goes out to the Hanwell Bowling Lanes for the use of the facility.

Intramural men's touch football

Congratulations to THE SHARKS for capturing the Intramural Men's Touch Football Championship on Tuesday, November 3rd. In the final, THE SHARKS defeated the Neville Norsemen 16 - 0. In order to reach the final, THE SHARKS defeated the Jones House Lounge Lizards 16 - 0 in the semi-finals while Neville defeated the Terminators in a hard fought 14 - 12 game. Thanks to all teams who participated. Hope to see you again next year.

Members of the Winning Team: Heath Whitely, Greg Kirby, Adam Gabriel, Chris Irwin, Rick Simmons, Ken Phillips, Robert Woods and Jonathan Allen.

Could the Manager of THE SHARKS please drop by the Recreation Office to pick up the team certificates.

Men's competitive soccer

Congratulations to the Jones Lounge Lizards who took extra time to beat the Grim Reapers 3-2 to take the championship home. A final thank you to for everyone who participated.

Co-ed volleyball tournament

The Intramural Volleyball tournament held this past weekend at the main gym had a total of 15 teams. "Da Bouncing Toss Cushions" won the Recreational Division while in the Competitive Division the Trivolt Rivermen were victorious. Congratulations to the winning teams and a special thanks to everyone who participated.

Hockey (Ice) Div. II Adams

Teams	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
McLeod Leftovers	3	3	0	0	22	6	9
Chem Eng Kings	3	2	1	0	13	13	7
Individuals	3	2	1	0	14	11	7
Neville	4	1	3	0	22	31	6
Golden Nuts	3	1	2	0	16	17	5
Legal Eagles	2	0	2	0	5	14	2
Hawks	2	1	1	0	10	10	4

Hockey (ice) League - Div. II Patrick

Teams	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Charleston Chiefs	5	4	0	1	28	13	14
Civil Maddogs	3	2	0	1	14	7	8
Beastie Boys	3	2	1	0	14	10	7
Business Blues	3	1	2	0	28	8	5
Surveying Eng	3	1	2	0	8	11	5
Hockey Wannabee's	4	3	1	0	3	25	5
Aitken Rangers	3	0	2	1	10	13	4

Comments:

Win - 3 pts.

Tie - 2 pts.

Loss - 1 pt.