



This year's version of the UNB Ironmen—winners of the University Cup and the MacNair Cup—most of whom will be touring Virginia in May.

## UNB Ironmen to tour Virginia in May

.. This letter has been forwarded to the Brunswickan with the hope that readers may learn why the Ironmen were unable to make a trip to Bermuda. The letter is addressed to Coach R. H. Cockburn from the Bermuda Rugby Football Union, Hamilton, Bermuda, dated Feb. 19, 1973.

.. The story is by Rick Adams.

Dear Mr. Cockburn,

I know you are going to be absolutely furious with me, and I cannot blame you, but I'm only the poor unfortunate who has to relay the Committee's decisions.

At a meeting last night the Committee reversed the earlier decision to host you: the meeting was a pretty stormy one on the whole, but the outcome is what concerns you.

I am very sorry to have to be the one to tell you of this decision, especially after having been given the green light to invite you. I cannot even offer you next year as an alternative because incoming tours for the 1973-74 season are already scheduled.

I hope you will be able to eventually forgive us, and that we have not wasted too much of your time so that finding an alternate venue is impossible.

Believe me I am truly sorry.

Yours very sincerely,  
John Logan, Hon. Secretary

With the above letter to our coach, the Rugby Club's dreams of visiting Bermuda came abruptly to a halt. New plans were investigated with Ireland, France, and British Columbia finally proving too expensive, and so we began to look to the south: New England. After all this bad news and bad luck the response from the south was a bit overwhelming.

Mad River Rugby Club started the ball rolling with a phone call only two days after the first letter went south, and by the end of the week we had affirmative responses from Williams College, U of Mass, U of New Hampshire, Dartmouth Springfield, Norwich and Johnston State.

Meanwhile, plans were made to see if Virginia would host us, as the beaches would be a good place to rest between games. Virginia turned out to be better than we had ever hoped for. The University of Virginia, hearing that we planned to tour the state, invited us to enter the Commonwealth Cup Competition, the most prestigious tournament in North America. We do not have all the details yet, but Notre Dame and LSU will be there,

perhaps a British team, and there are rumours that 'Sports Illustrated' will run a feature article on it. (see the cover of the March 5th issue). This tournament will be the grand finale of our tour on the 5th and 6th of May. On the heels of this good news, the US Navy underwater demolition crew at Little Creek (on Virginia Beach) offered to play us anytime, but suggested we might want to enter their first Azalia Festival Tournament on the weekend of the 28th and 29th of April. Teams from all

### SAA suffers

## Problem of student apathy

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

At the Leadership conference held recently the President of the Student Athletic Association, Peter Billings raised some interesting points.

We think, as he does, that there should be more student participation in the allotment of funds to the various athletic activities. At the present time the SAA just doesn't have the power to do anything about it, but we feel that if they get more people involved in their organization then they can act in the students best interest.

The Student Athletic Association has a problem common to many organizations on campus; that of student apathy. However, our stems from the lack of communication and consultation with both the Athletic Administrators and the Student Body.

As a function, the SAA is the representative government of the student body as the only recognized medium in Athletic Activities. It is responsible to the Athletics Board on which there are six students, 4 from the SAA and 2 from the SRC, and 8 Board Members.

As a student, you pay \$30 of your tuition as an Athletic fee. The University matches this which results in \$60 per student being

over Virginia and several NATO countries will be playing in this somewhat more friendly tournament.

In an attempt to repay some of this fine Southern hospitality, we hope to have fixtures during the week with two of the following clubs: College of William and Mary, Richmond University Spiders, Old Dominion College, or

pumped into Athletics.

How many students actually know, or care for that matter, where and how the money is used?

If we can use the results from our call for nominations as an indication of student involvement then it would be rather safe to say that the students don't know, and if they do they do not care.

By-the-way, we received 5 nominations, 3 of which gained office by acclamation. There are a total of 24 seats in the SAA, half of which were to be filled in the Spring elections.

If there is confusion as to the title 'Athletics Association', one does not have to be an Athlete to belong. You have merely to show some concern as to where and how our Athletic fee is incorporated. More important is the justification of the expenditure and how it best represents the student body.

In view of the financial problem the Athletic Department is facing next year (\$28,000 cutback in budget), it would be interesting to see how the money is going to be distributed and whether or not it will be representative of the student's desires.

How would you solve the problem with \$46,000 going to Men's Varsity \$19,000 to Women's

Continued to page 32

the Norfolk Trier

We apologize for the confusion surrounding this year's tours, but the team now has firm plans, has started training, and hopes that you will be pleased with the fortunate turn of events. For those of you who have to wait around for two weeks to graduate may I suggest Virginia Beach.

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