Legere wants the most good for the most people

L.J. "Amby" Legere is a man who has been associated with the athletic community of UNB for the past thirty years and who has seen the gradual change of athletics from basically something done in a student's spare time to a very important part of the curriculum a the university.

Legere began his career at UNB as the Assistant Director of Athletics and his duties ran the gamut from coaching various sports such as boxing and curling to administrative work. Last year he took up the post of Co-ordinator of Intramurals and Recreational Sports Clubs in the new Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation.

He stated that he felt that the Phys. Ed. program at UNB was one of the top courses in the country but that its greatest weakness lie in the field of general recreation. He said that the program at UNB was geared to turning out the 'elite' athlete in the varsity program. Since the general attitude of the present time in the area of recreation for the masses, he feels that the program at UNB should be expanded in that direction and that the administration at UNB has not grasped this new trend.

"More people are demanding a recreational experience," Legere commented, adding that "the recreatinal program must expand to keep up with the demand. We must ask ourselves 'What is good for the masses?'

"We must take a second look at our philosophy of phys. ed. Is it for the elite athlete or is to have physical recreation for all?" Legere stated. He said that the interpretation of the policy guidelines was "mixed-up". "Up until now intramurals and recreation had a fair share of the budget. What happens in the immediate future concerns me." In this time of financial strife, Legere feels that people are looking for ways to re-interpret the policy guidelines in an effort to make their budgets as beneficial to their own sports as possible.

When asked what sort of financial problems that his programs were experiencing, he said that he realized that there was only a certain amount of money to go around and that he found it hard to talk disparagingly of the coaches since they are on only given a responsibility and must make the best of it.

Legere said that too much stress is placed on varsity athletics producing good public relations for the university and that a great deal of influence comes from the alumni to promote varsity programs. However, he is under the impression that the overall student body is changing its attitudes and demands for an improved recreational program which they can take advantage of in their spare time.

The guidelines place priorities on the various athletic programs at UNB, with top responsibility going to the recreational and intramural programs. Since the students at UNB have increased their participation in such programs steadily over the past few years its importance cannot be understated. Legere said that the university education experience was not simply formal academics but a total education and physical recreation is important since the students should be exposed to recreational experiences which will be for their own good after graduating. He added that other extracurricular activities are also important in their total education of a student.

With only one and a half years remaining in his career at UNB Legere said that "I don't know what the future will bring but I will be quite remorseful if they cut back on the intramural-recreation program especially if it's at the expense of bettering the varsity program. This would be very sad at the a professional school of Phys. Ed."

Photo by Tim Gorman

AMBY LEGERE - director of Intramurals and Recreational sports clubs.

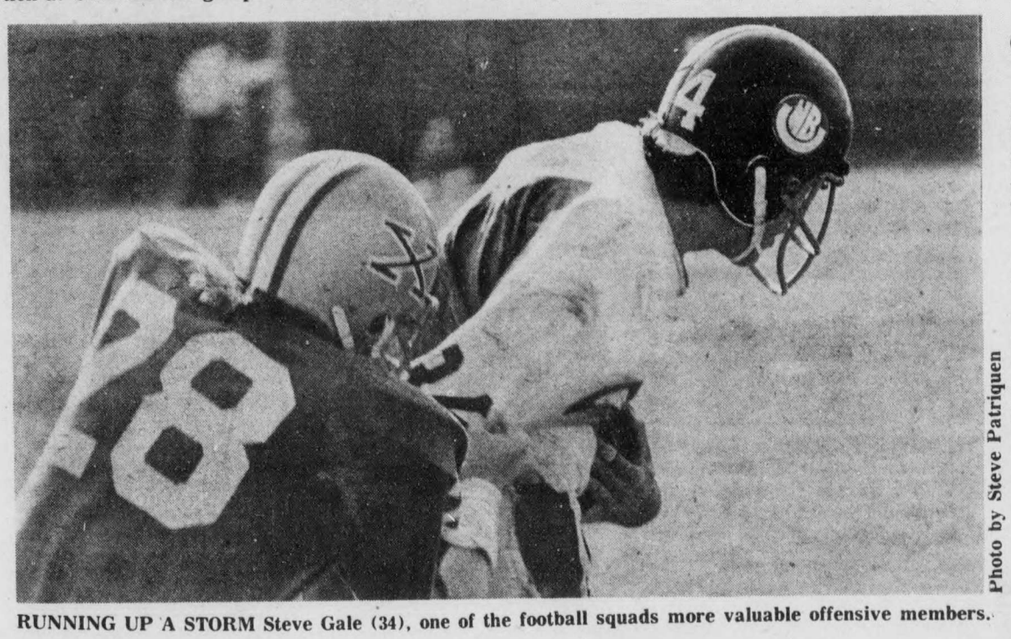


Photo by Steve Patriquen

RUNNING UP A STORM Steve Gale (34), one of the football squads more valuable offensive members.

Swimmers splashing causes record smashing

Gary Brown's swimming team had another exceptional year as they broke eight conference records in their domination of the Atlantic conference swimming action.

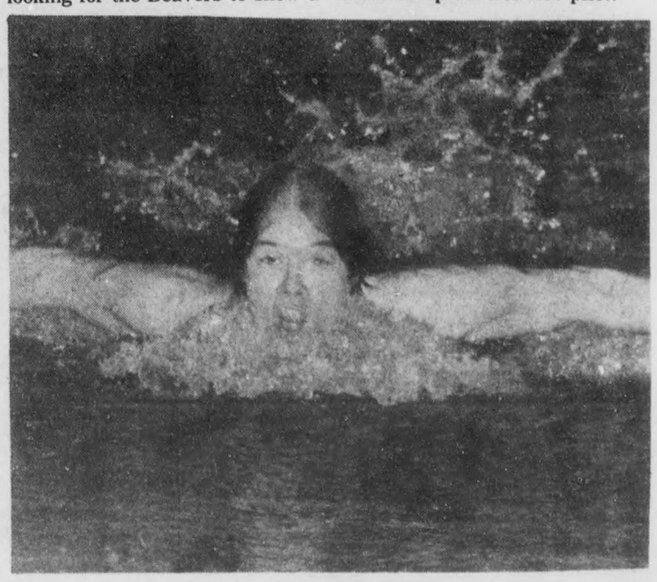
Besides smashing records, the Beavers were dual-meet champions and conference champions. The team's steady improvement at the national college championships netted them a sixth place standing overall and one silver and two bronze medals.

The Beavers coach said that next year should prove even more fruitful than this year since only two swimmers and a diver will be lost through graduation. Brown referred to Bill Colwell, Craig Maitland and John Thomson.

Although the team showed improvements in personal best times over the season, Brown is looking for the Beavers to show a "continual improvement." He hinted that several interesting prospects are showing concerns for UNB in the fall and said that he was encouraging his athletes to join summer swim clubs so that they will not have to begin again when the new season starts.

He said that there were no team objectives for the Olympics but said that all of his swimmers were of a national level. All of the Beavers who went to the national college championships made the qualifying times instead of going by virtue of being a conference champion. At that meet, all of the UNB competitors finished in either the first or second division.

Brown said that the Beavers plans possibly included the Commonwealth Games to be held in Edmonton in 1978. "If we continue to improve at the same rate, we might surprise some people!" summed up the Beavers pilot.



BROWN had a fair share of the national contenders on this season's Beavers.

Bombers play best football in recent years according to Born

By MIKE GANGE

Looking back on the 1975 season, it could only be described as a huge success for the Red Bombers.

Statistics would show that the Bombers played better than .500 ball, winning four of their seven games, and nearly doubling their previous season's record. Statistics would also show that the Bombers improved themselves in every single category over the past season.

Jim Born, head coach of the Bombers was very enthusiastic about his teams accomplishments. Born termed this year as "the best since my arrival here five years ago."

Three of the Bombers, Rod Bell, Phil Battaglia, and Bob Forbes were selected as conference all stars. Forbes was also recently drafted by the Ottawa Rough Riders.

The Bombers will lose only five seniors this year, but due to the Atlantic conferences four year rule, several others players with previous experience in other conferences will not be returning. On the whole, however, the Bombers have a very young squad, most of whom will be returning next year.

In two of the three losses suffered this year, the Bombers led most of the way through the game. When UNB played in Wolfville against the powerful Axemen, then rated eighth in the country, they managed to lead until the dying seconds of the ball game, despite the two days of rain which had turned the field into a sea of ankle deep mud.

Except for the lop-sided dumping at the hands of the seemingly eternally powerful Saint Mary's Huskies, the Bombers deserved to win every game they played. The team worked well together, both in practice and game situations. According to Born, "they show great promise for next year."

Justly deserving mention are the coaching staff, who worked with the Bombers this year for nearly two weeks. Besides head coach Born, the staff includes Mike flynn, Jamie Porteous, Bill Simmons, Don Davis, and Mike Dollimore.