

Photo by Ron Ward

The official opening ceremonies of the Alumni Tennis Courts, last Monday was highlighted by a doubles tennis match between UNB President Anderson and UNB Vice President Pacey challenging two Alumni members, President R.H.B. McLaughlin and Dave Coughy, member of the Alumni Council. The Alumni Tennis Courts are located above the Lady Dunn Residence and have been in use for sometime before the official opening.

Parachute club offers challenge

By DAVID MOORE

The crisp, cool air whips past the sleek frame of the aircraft, suspended thousands of feet above the earth, as a lone figure, bulkily clad in parachute gear, edges himself off the rear seat of the plane onto the floor. As he edges his feet out of the open door they catch the slipstream and are hurtled sideways with the great force of the wind. After overcoming this initial setback he rests his left foot on the landing gear and draws the rest of his body forward out through the open door and secures a tight grasp on the wing strut with both hands. He then looks back inside the aircraft at the sinister, smiling face of his jumpmaster waiting for the command to go.

A few seconds to compose yourself and you're gone. You, of all people, are hurtling towards the ground at an ever increasing rate of speed until you reach a terminal speed of 120 mph. You're freefalling with your body in a perfect arch 7500 feet above the earth in a stable position with your face towards earth, hopefully, and

yet you feel no sensation what so ever of falling since aerodynamics takes care of that. You are immediately overwhelmed with the sheer beauty of the unending view and the quick realization that the slightest change of your body position can cause you to flip over on your back or do unintended cartwheels across the sky quite unlike the graceful flight of a bird. It is at this point in your hopefully long life that you realize that style in freefall can only be attained through experience.

After 30 seconds of mind exploding freefall from 7500 feet you must drag yourself back to reality for you are now at 2500 feet and you must pull your ripcord to deploy your main canopy but if you should happen to be deeply involved in watching the goings on below you and overlook the ripcord procedure at 2500 feet you would have only 12 seconds before you would meet your destiny head on at 120 mph and it is quite needless to elaborate on the consequences as they can be imagined.

A slight, sudden jolt and you're suspended beneath a cloud of silk and the silence envelops you and your canopy, that same canopy that you so meticulously packed yourself back on the ground in the blowing wind and with the many distractions in the form of the female co-jumpers surrounding you. How could anyone possibly pack their chute incorrectly under these conditions. A quick check to see that everything is in order and you reach above your shoulders and grasp for the steering toggles attached to the risers of your harness and you steer yourself slowly downward at a 9 mph average rate of descent towards the center of the target which looms in ever increasing size beneath you. At 100 feet above mother-earth you turn and face into the wind to reduce your forward speed and you look out at the horizon to avoid the sudden ground rush that you would experience if you constantly stared at the ground below. You feel a sudden impact on your feet and you immediately go into a side roll or PLF, parachute landing fall, which in effect transforms your vertical speed into a horizontal speed and this evenly distributes the initial shock throughout your body. You've done it. You're home, ready to relate your experience to

your fellow jumpers who are running towards you to offer congratulations and assistance, or are they running towards you because you did a perfect landing through the roof of the jumpmaster's new car? Such are the hazards of parachuting.

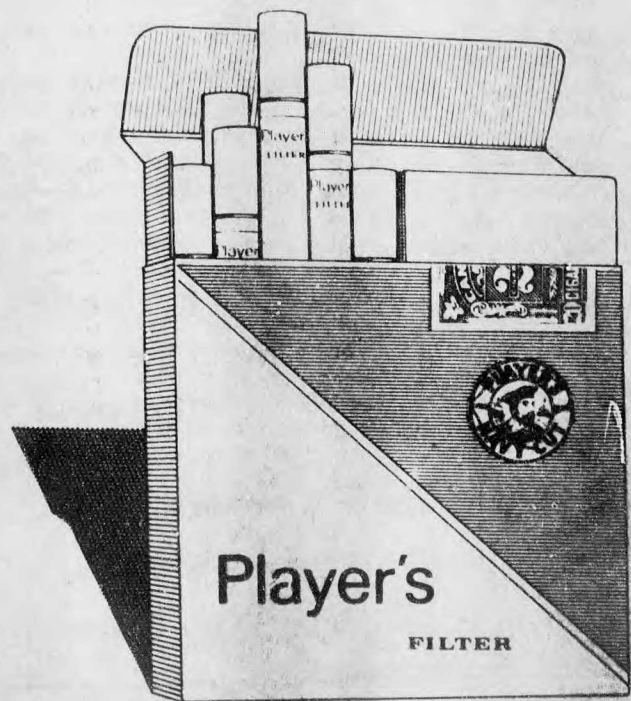
You might ask, who would participate in this type of sport? Well the next time you happen to take in an English class, or a Physics class, or what have you at dear, old UNB, take a look at the guy next to you. If he's the type who wishes to do more with his weekends than wait for classes to start on Monday then chances are that he or she is a member of the UNB Sports Parachute Club.

Every weekend, weather permitting, the club rises early Saturday morning and heads for the drop zone at Blissville Airfield by 7:00 a.m. Competitions are also held throughout the year and the most recent was over the Thanksgiving weekend when part of the UNB club attended the Maritime Championships in Summerside, P.E.I. However, due to high winds no one was permitted to jump and thus UNB was denied the inevitable gold trophies it surely would have brought back. The next major event is our own Winter Carnival in February with jumps taking place on the ice of the Saint John River. This event usually draws jumpers from different clubs throughout the Maritimes and so be sure to be out there giving support for UNB since parachuting is also an exciting spectator sport.

The major concern that is stressed in our club is that of safety. The daredevil aspect is a misconception held by most people, for today in its refined state, the sport is governed by the CSPA, Canadian Sport Parachuting Association, of which UNB is a member, which acts as a legislating body that sets down safety rules and standards and they also participate in research and development on behalf of the sport.

All in all the UNBSPC provides an excellent way to fall away from the dull routine of study back on earth and it leaves your hangups suspended above you.

*In your own way.
In your own time.
On your own terms.
You'll take to the
taste of Player's Filter.*



A taste you can call your own.

Warning: The Department of National Health and Welfare advises that danger to health increases with amount smoked.

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Mr. P.C. Cushing (E.E. 1962) will be available in Room C26 in the Dean of Engineering's Conference Room, to provide further information about the Company from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on October 18, and will be interviewing all interested candidates on November 1 & 2. Appointments for interviews can be arranged at the Placement Office.

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