

View From the Cheap Seats

By Mark Savoie

What makes a sport a sport? Is it athletic competition? If so, then are ballet and ballroom dancing sports? If they aren't, then is figure skating a sport? Does direct competition make something a sport? If so, then are chess and contract bridge sports? If they aren't, then what about bowling? What makes a sport a sport?

I have a long standing bias for team sports, particularly the big five of hockey, baseball, soccer, football, and basketball. There is very little doubt as to whether or not these should properly be defined as sports. These are athletic competitions where there is a very clear winner and loser (except in a case of a tie). The only subjectivity is in the interpretation of the rules by the officials. The same can be said for rowing, track and field, and swimming. The same cannot be said for diving, gymnastics, and figure skating. These competitions have an embarrassingly large subjective component in determining the winner. Although all of them strive for objectivity by establishing technical guidelines- the legs must be straight, you must land your jumps, etc.- these are often outweighed by subjective considerations, reputation, and artistic impression.

Figure skating is particularly well-known for its blatantly subjective judging. At the international level it is impossible to win until you have developed your reputation as an excellent skater. No matter how phenomenally you may skate in a given competition, you cannot challenge the established skaters until you have paid your dues as a "developing" skater.

The other serious problem I have with figure skating is artistic impression. How the hell do you judge artistic impression? I can just see the judges now: "Well gee, it looked pretty and they're supposed to be good, so let's give them a 5.8." That's sports?

But the one that really offends me is synchronized swimming. I'm very pleased that Carolyn Waldo was able to win the Gold Medal at the Seoul Olympics, but a quote from her before the games terminated any chance that I might care anymore than just peripherally in the competition. When asked about her training for the event, she responded that she had been really working on her smile; that she had trained hard to acquire a more natural smile. Maybe I'm missing something, but I don't really see the relevance of a nice smile to athletic competition. How can people call a competition where a person's smiling ability is important a sport? Do you realize that synchronized swimmers are judged on how they walk to the pool? What the hell does a person's ability to walk have to do with swimming?

To my way of thinking, a sport should be judged solely on ability. For that reason, I have no real problem with gymnastics and diving, for although they are subjective the judging is based more upon the technical merits than on the aesthetic qualities. You shouldn't have to be a nice person (or fake being a nice person by having a nice smile) in order to win an event. A grouch with perfect skating ability shouldn't have to smile at the judges in order to be judged fairly on his/her skating ability.

So give me hockey and football and the others, where even a jerk like Rickey Henderson can be the best player in the game.

Ice dancing! That's a sport?

Bears to wrestle

By Kelly Craig

This weekend will mark the beginning of the UNB Wrestling season. This morning the Black Bears wrestling squad headed out for Montreal for their first meet of the 1990 season. The Bears will be joined by the Concordia wrestling team, the Montreal wrestling club, and the Russian National team will also be their training.

The team this year is a fairly new squad. The old guys on the team are co-captains Sean Dockrill and Pat Zwicker. Pat and Sean are joined by returning veteran Stacey Desroches who won the AUSA championships in his respective weight class last year. Also returning to the team for another year of tough competition is the big guy Quincy Knox. The team also has retained the talents of Jack O'Keefe for yet another season.

Don Ryan is back with the team this year but as Asst. Coach to George Multamaki. Last year Don managed a victory at the AUSA championships but due to ineligibility this year he will watch the Bears from the sidelines. With the talents of head coach George Multamaki and Don Ryan this year the AUSA's are definitely within the team's reach.

No doubt the events of last year's AUSA championships are still very

fresh in the minds of the veterans on the team. Despite winning the title, the Bears would eventually end up sharing the title with Mount Allison over a very questionable decision by UNB Athletic Director Jim Bom.

New blood has been added to the old this season with the talents of Marcel Saulis coming to the team. According to co-captain Sean Dockrill, "Marcel is an aggressive wrestler that should do very well for us this year." Dave Gallant, Dave Sealy, Brad Scott, Jason Sampson, Scott Harper, Adam Simon, Joe Powers, Les Merriam, and J.D. Cerett.

Friday morning the UNB squad will take a core unit of wrestlers to Montreal to compete in a tournament on Sunday. Among these are the talented and experienced Pat Zwicker. Pat is a veteran member of the Black Bears who brings the experience necessary to win an AUSA title to the Bears team. Sean Dockrill will also be attending the meet in Montreal. Last season Sean copped the AUSA title in his respective weight class and has the drive to repeat again this season. Stacey Desroches adds that extra touch to the team this year once again. Two years ago Stacey was named Rookie of the Year for the entire campus of athletes. This year he will, no doubt, give the AUSA competition a tough challenge.

The very talented Marcel Saulis will also be in Montreal this weekend testing out his ability with the talent there. Heavy weight Quincy Knox is also attending the meet in Montreal. Rounding out UNB's squad is Dave Gallant and Dave Sealy.

Friday, the UNB team will be given the opportunity to train with the Russian national team. Then again on Saturday they will take to the mats once again to train with the Russians. Competition begins on Sunday and runs throughout the day. As always, this opening meet will give the UNB team a chance to see their strengths and weaknesses. "This is a good tournament to measure where we stand right now, and to determine what we need to do to prepare for the upcoming year," stated co-captain Sean Dockrill.

The competition at this meet will be tough for the Bears as they go up against some of the top wrestlers in Canada. Concordia itself has always had a very strong team. Concordia is a national training center for wrestlers in Canada. Their head coach is a former second place world finisher wrestler, Victor Zimmerman. However, the Bears will not see all of their AUSA competition as this meet is not open to any CIAU medal winners from last year.

INTRAMURALS

Men's soccer

The Men's Outdoor Soccer Intramurals ended last Sunday with a match between the M.E.(mechanical engineering) Turbos and the Rovers.

Both teams finished at the top in their respective divisions: the Turbos with a 7-1-1 record, and the Rovers with a 7-0-0 record.

The two teams played a strong physical game, with referee Paul O'Sullivan keeping the game in order.

An unfortunate mistake made by one of the Rover fullbacks, in attempting to pass the ball back to the goal keeper, gave the Turbos their first goal and the lead. The Rovers didn't let up though, and came back to tie the game. With a well-played give-and-go, Steve Ramier thundered the equalizer into the Turbo's goal.

The score remained tied at the end of the first half and through most of the second. In the second half, on a corner kick taken by Gerard Speirings, Tom Aves came in from the back to score the winning goal with a spectacular head ball.

After this goal, the Rovers intensified their offense, but could not score due to the M.E. Turbos defensive playing. The

gutsy on-the-ball [playing by Turbo keeper Doug Chown was a key factor in keeping the number of shots on goal to a minimum.

The final score was 2-1 for the Turbos. The players of the winning team are: Doug Chown, Tom Aves, Neil Wilson, Mike Oland, Jeff Ross, Mike Szemerda, Stephen Lumini, Gerard Speirings, Chad Taylor, Gary Foster, Bruce Gorham, and Eric Versloot. Team members not at the final game are: Andrew Booker, Keith Folkins, Payam Saltanatkhan, and Jorge Toledo.

was had by all. The winner of this league was the Wailers, who played consistently throughout the season, CONGRATS GIRLS!!

The competitive league this year had four teams participating, all of whom showed talent and desire to win. This league was full of high quality volleyball and fun. The winner of the competitive league for the 1990-91 season was the Physed and Rec. team. CONGRATULATIONS on a great season and hope to see all again in the new year.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The women's intramural volleyball league wrapped up this past week, with both the recreational and competitive divisions declaring a winner.

The recreational league this year consisted of six teams, all from various faculties. Competition was good throughout this season and fun



CIAU Top Ten Rankings

FOOTBALL	SWIMMING (M)	SOCCER (M) Final
1. Western	1. Calgary	1. UBC
2. St. Mary's*	2. Alberta	2. McGill
3. U. Sask.	3. Laval	3. Guelph
4. Toronto	4. Manitoba	4. Mt. A.*
5. Bishop's	5. McMaster	5. Toronto
6. UBC	6. U. Vic	6. U. Vic.
7. Queen's	7. Western	7. DAL*
8. MtA*	8. Toronto	8. Laurebtian
9. Calgary	9. McGill	9. Sherbrooke
10. Concordia	10.UBC	10. Brock
FIELD HOCKEY	SWIMMING (W)	SOCCER (W) Final
Final	1. Alberta	1. Acadia*
1. UBC	2. Montreal	2. UBC
2. U. Vic	3. Laval	3. McGill
3. York	4. UBC	4. Wil. Laurier
4. Toronto	5. Manitoba	5. Toronto
5. UNB	6. Western	6. St. Mary's*
6. Alberta	7. Calgary	7. York
	8. Toronto	8. Alberta
	9. McGill	9. Concordia
	10. U. Vic	10. Western

* denotes an AUSA School

MOOSEHEAD

Varsity Schedule

Friday, November 9	
Hockey	STU at UNB
	AUC at 7:30
Basketball(M)	UNB at Queen's
Basketball(W)	UNB at DAL
Saturday, November 10	
Volleyball(M)	MUN at UNB
	Main Gym 7:00
Basketball(M)	UNB at Queen's
Swimming	UNB at U.Maine
Basketball(W)	UNB at DAL
X-Country	CIAU's at Ottawa
Sunday, November 11	
Volleyball(M)	MUN at UNB
	Main Gym 1:00
Swimming	UNB at UNH
Basketball(W)	UNB at DAL