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# They're back!

BY GEOFF STEWART

As the long, lazy days of summer come to a close and the shock of returning to school slowly wears off, a new light appears at the end of the tunnel (and it's not Beaver Foods).

That's right — intramurals are here. It's a chance for all the jokers to come out and compete for control of the case of pepsi. For those readers who don't know what intramurals are, and for those participants who think that intramurals are but a step away from professional sports, let me explain. The intramural program here at Dalhousie offers many fun sporting activities for faculty, fraternities, residences, and general hackers. Hockey and broomball leagues run from September through to March and have three divisions, depending on skill level. Starting on the 18th of this month, there will be a hockey tournament running for a week that is open to all teams. Soccer and co-ed flag football leagues will begin as soon as there is a full field with lights (hopefully in October), and later in the term volleyball, basketball, and innertube water polo will start up. Most of these activities have Co-ed, Women's, and Men's Leagues.

Wait, there's more.

Throughout the year are many tournaments that include: All-night broomball (twice!), softball, flag football, ball hockey, soccer, badminton, tennis, beach volleyball, three-on-three basketball, squash, and even table tennis.

To get involved you must be a Dal student or a Dalplex member. All the residences have teams so talk to your sports rep. Most faculties have teams, so talk to the sports representative from your faculty. You can even get a bunch of friends together and form a team. For the sad cases with no residence, faculty, or friends, get in touch with Campus Rec and they'll find you a team. In order to get a team in the league call Shawn Fraser at Campus Rec at 494-2049.

...cont'd from page 9: "OBESITY"

Experts caution that obesity in humans is caused not simply by a faulty *ob* gene, but rather by a number of complex problems. Studies by Friedman with obese (*diabetes*) mice with symptoms of diabetes demonstrated that these mice produced normal levels of leptin, and further injection of the protein had no affect on their weight. These mice were determined to be resistant to leptin, probably due to a defect in the brain receptor for the protein.

These recent discoveries promise to provide hope to those struggling with morbid obesity. Further study of both the *obese* and *fat* mice may increase our understanding of the processes that regulate and coordinate the storage and retrieval of fat, as well as the mechanisms that determine hunger and weight gain. Finally, human trials with leptin, the elucidation of the brain target receptor (possibly defective in *diabetes* mice) and the determination of the mechanisms which control its action, may one day lead to more effective treatment of obese Canadians.



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