

# VIEW FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

Last week Mike Tyson was found guilty of rape and to some it must seem that this is an era of sexual scandal among athletes. Tyson's rape trial caps off a sports year which saw Earvin Johnson's career halted by the HIV virus acquired via his accommodating ways. Concurrent with that was Wilt Chamberlain's admission to a staggeringly large number of sexual encounters. Baseball has been hit with both the Steve Garvey paternity suit

and the Wade Boggs - Margo Adams affair. The New England Patriots brought sexual scandal to football through sexual harassment of a female reporter in the locker room.

But sex scandals are not new to sports. Chick Stahl, manager of the Boston Red Sox in the early 'teens, committed suicide as a result of being blackmailed by a woman whose child he had fathered. Babe Ruth's slump of 1925 is now no longer

considered to have been a season long bout of indigestion, but rather the far more plausible explanation of a season long bout with gonorrhoea. The largest difference between these episodes and scandals of today are that reporters of this age are no longer as willing to cover up for the players.

A byproduct of the physical culture we live in is that athletes are often viewed as being more masculine than non-athletes. Since heterosexual sex is very gender specific in terms of role playing the super masculine athlete is supposed to be ideally suited for fulfilling the male role. That athletes are not equally adept in the bedroom as they are on the playing field has been well documented (much to the relief of non-athletes such as myself) but the myth lives on.

I do not claim that the above is a conscious perception among women. Nor do I claim that it is true of all women, or even a majority. It is a subconscious expectation formed by a subset of the female population. That it is a subset of some size is testified to by the fact that elite level athletes have little difficulty finding sexual partners. This starts at a very early age, even before puberty in some cases. Ken Dryden's Home Game series, televised two winters ago on CBC, depicted twelve year old boys at the annual Pee Wee hockey tournament in Quebec City being fawned over by 15 and 16 year old girls. Given such preferential treatment it can come as no surprise that athletes begin to believe that this opinion of desirability is shared by all women. They also begin to expect it as their due.

As with women, not all athletes form this expectation. Nor do all athletes take advantage of the extramarital opportunities to which they are exposed. Many athletes are faithful to their partners. And for those not engaged in a monogamous relationship, by what right do we criticize them? A columnist for *Sports Illustrated* recently wrote that Magic Johnson had taken advantage of numerous women with whom he had sex. How so? There have been no suggestions that Johnson coerced any of these women. The encounters were all by the mutual consent of responsible adults. True, this is considered to be morally incorrect by the ethics of North America's most frequented religions, but it does not conflict with prevailing North American mores.

Sexual violence against women is, of course, inexcusable. Understanding the reasons why Mike Tyson still believes that he committed no crime does not make him any less responsible for that crime. Despite the expectations that the sexual myths of the athlete have allowed him to form he is still responsible for his own actions. Our species is one of free will. Mike Tyson, like all athletes, like all people, must learn to exercise that free will in a more responsible manner.



BY  
PAUL ARSENAULT  
MURRAY NYSTROM

Remember Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns? He is one of those senior citizen boxers who keep entertaining us in that pure sport of boxing. Anyways, Hearns and Iran Barkley fought for a lightweight championship (we can't remember which boxing organization they were fighting for) and really pounded each other. The fight went the full 12 rounds and Barkley won on a very close split decision. They interviewed Barkley after the fight and you could have seen the excitement in his eyes, if they weren't swollen shut like they were. You couldn't see Hearns' eyes either because his nose was spread across his face. The fight was one of those Rock 'em Sock 'em, street fight types. The sport could use a few more like that because it hasn't had much to be happy about lately.

Since the NHL is on strike, hopefully TSN will give major junior playoffs more coverage. The games are usually pretty good and it gives viewers a chance to see a few future stars of the NHL. On Wednesday night former Red Devils Gary Agnew and Mike Kelly were involved in the national telecast game when their London Knights were in Niagara Falls playing the Thunder. With the strike we may be able to see more of them.

5 things to do during the NHL strike:

1. Don't think about it- Yeah right.
2. Just be happy you're not a season ticket holder.
3. Do that paper you've put off since January.
4. Watch Letterman reruns on A&E.
5. Buy a Red Devil NHL playoff pool- We hear they are going at discount prices.

This time of the year is when we turn to our self proclaimed NCAA basketball czar Jimmy Landine to find out who is going to win the Final Four tourney. According to Jimmy you better put your loonies on Duke and Cincinnati. (Cinci?- come on!) Duke has too many good athletes for Indiana to overcome and he figures Cincinnati will upset Michigan. For the final game, bet your house and spouse (but not the dog) on Duke. They'll repeat, becoming the first team since UCLA won successive titles back in the seventies.

**Trivia:** Name the only US based junior hockey teams to win a Memorial Cup.

Congratulations to this year's male and female athletes of the year, Chris Somers and Kara Palmer. Chris led the UNB Red Devils to the MacAdam division finals and possessed the best goals against in the division. Kara had another great season with the Red Bloomers and played an integral role in their success. Congratulations to all the other winners at last week's awards banquet. For those who missed the banquet, once again you missed a fabulous slide show presented by Maureen Sparks.

We would like to offer our condolences to Craig Isley and his family on the recent loss of his father. Craig is a member of the UNB Red Raiders.

We asked you who you think will win the Stanley Cup. Here are some of the answers.

- Mike Johnston: My hockey season ended weeks ago- leave me alone.
  - Shannon Hickey: The Expos by a touchdown.
  - Dean Parsons: Not the Leafs.
  - Hugh Hospodar: Law Lords.
  - Rob Beatty: Nobody, or whatever.
  - Bart: Mark Messier.
  - Maureen Sparks: I only watch the Red Devils- well I used to.
  - Frank Denis: I don't know how we went over budget.
  - Mary Breau: Well it depends who eats the most complex carbohydrates.
  - Matt Harris: I don't know but it will cost members 5 bucks to see it here.
  - Mary Ellen Myshrrall: San Jose.
  - Beth Jennings: What is the Stanley Cup?
  - Reggie Dunlop: Minnesota.
  - Julie Lamarche: If women were running the show, there wouldn't be a strike.
  - Paul Arsenault: Charleston Chiefs.
  - Shelagh MacDonald: Didn't Alberta win that?
- Trivia answer:** Spokane Chiefs and Portland Winter Hawks.

## UNB/STU Scuba Club

Attention all Scuba Club members!

Club Night which has been on Sunday nights from 8-10pm has been changed to Friday nights from 8:30-10:30pm for the Spring and Summer months.

Over the summer months the club will be planning many boat dives in the Deer Island area. If you are interested and want to take part please leave your correct address and phone number for the summer with either Ralph Hamilton at 363-4560 or Kevin Johnston at 472-3103. For the recent certified divers your certification cards will be out within the next 2 to 3 weeks. For more information or questions please call one of the above numbers.

Happy diving.

## From the Athletic Director

The UNB Athletics Department would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of those who were involved with the success of the athletic department during the 1991-1992 academic/athletic year.

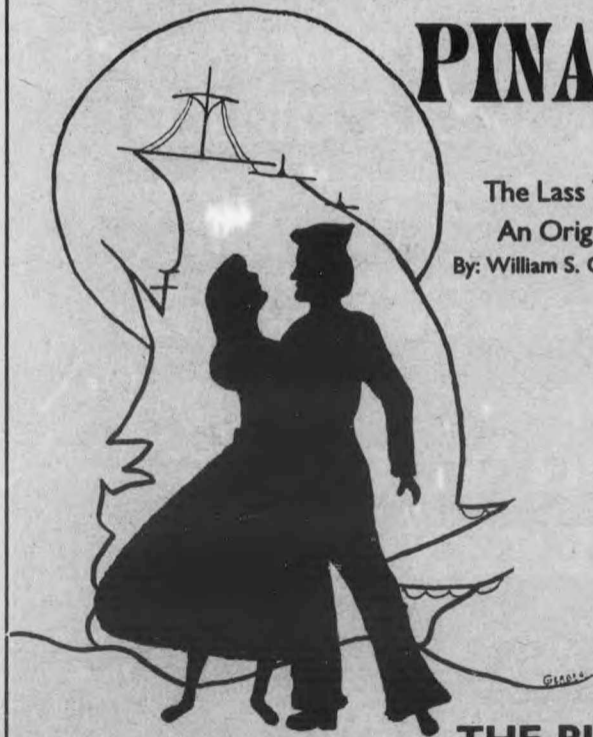
- I would like to thank, in no particular order, the following people: the students of UNB for their support and commitment to the twelve teams that take part in AUAA competition.
- Frank Denis, and sports writers of the Brunswickan, for their professionalism and sincere interest in covering our teams this year.
- Darren Comeau, our Varsity Mania Director, and his executive and staff who kept the enthusiasm and spirit "alive" throughout the entire year.
- Major sponsors: Dr. Chet and Mrs. Helen Campbell, Dr. Garnet Copeland's family, Moosehead Breweries, Coca Cola, Pepsi, Aitken Centre, Graphic Services, UNB Audio Visual Department, Beaver Foods, and the College Hill Social Club.
- UNB Athletic's club members who have generously donated to our teams.
- The UNB Administration: Dr. Robin Armstrong, Dr. Tom Traves Mr. Jim O'Sullivan and Professor Eric Garland.
- UNB Physical Plant - the men who keep our programs running smoothly.
- Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation - Dean Terry Haggerty, the faculty, Guy O'Donnell, the secretaries, Maureen Sparks and the support staff.
- And last but not least the student/athletes, managers and trainers who through their hard work and dedication displayed the true spirit of UNB'ers.

Thanks for a great year

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