

PART II

Varsity Mania grows in popularity during second year

by Aime Phillips

After Varsity Mania's successful beginning in 1988-89, everyone wondered if it would be possible to continue the progress.

As current Varsity Mania co-ordinator Steve Williams put it "The first year everyone was waiting for Varsity Mania to

fail. When we ended up that year with a full house at LBR gym it was obvious that Varsity Mania was something to be taken seriously".

The fall term of 1989 saw an increase in sporting events sponsored by Varsity mania, especially the soccer games.

There was an increase in participation as numbers and enthusiasm went up. One of the most noteworthy events

was the consistency in the night attendance.

Attendance was so great Burgess decided to sponsor the Varsity mania Roadtrip to Mt. Allison University where the Red Shirts were playing against the Mounties.

The Roadtrip was in conjunction with the Student Union and the package deal included transportation to Mt. A and back and entry to the Kim Mitchell concert which was later that evening.

Four buses, the Red Tide and approximately 200 students made the trip. The success of the event, which went off with only minor problems with bus drivers who were not quite used to such outlandish behavior, surprised Burgess and Mount Allison.

Their athletic department was

so impressed at the spirited crowd they commended UNB's athletic department on having such enthusiasm.

When Burgess took ill shortly before the last sponsored soccer game, most thought his absence would mean the end of Varsity Mania. Williams stepped in as interim co-ordinator and left things going until Burgess recovered.

Upon his return, Burgess implemented some changes in Varsity Mania to create a more professional image.

First he set up a Varsity Mania executive consisting of a coordinator, Media Relations Officer corporate relations officer, off campus/ residence relations officer, special events coordinator, team relations officer and field manager.

Burgess also began enforcing

new rules concerning the participation of the residences. Houses that left early would be disqualified, and an emphasis would be made on supporting the home team not just supporting outrageous behavior. To encourage full student support, prizes were to be offered to off-campus students as well.

The biggest success of Varsity mania's second year was the increased participation. All the residences were competing in the Residence Challenge, and Neill House succeeded in defeating Aitken's past victories.

Next week: Varsity Mania's third year at UNB

UNB debating team travels to Montreal

by Aime Phillips

The UNB Debating Union travelled to Montreal last weekend to partake in McGill University's 41st Winter Carnival Tournament.

Representing the union were teams UNB "A" and "B" comprising of Jennifer Lawson, Vish Nandlall, Jason Burns and Christopher Polland.

The tournament offered six rounds of debate. The prepared resolution was "BIRT having shot your parents you are now pleading for mercy as an orphan". Other resolutions debated were "I am stronger than you, therefore you will do what I want" and "Not only will I refuse to do what you want, I will now do something you thought you could prevent me from doing".

The art of debating involves two sides arguing for and against a given resolution. The Government is in favour of the resolution and it is their job to interpret it and "propose" a plan action. The Opposition then rebuts the governments plan and attacks their case, and creates the opposition's stance. Of course, one does not necessarily have to believe what one is debating.

For instance, when UNB was presented with BIRT: Not only will I refuse to do what you want, I will now do something you thought you could prevent me from doing, a quote from Saddam Hussein, Christopher Polland as the government's Prime Minister interpreted the quote as being related to going adolescent's rebellious stage.

The government decided to help the country's growth through this stage legalizing hashish and cannabis products based on the premise that society accepts cigarette smoking and social drinking which are more physically addictive than hashish. The government's plan also included using the profits from the sale to fight the war against harder drugs.

The member of opposition then spoke of the negative aspects of the plan, namely the short term effects and the differences in alcohol, nicotine and drugs.

The minister of the crown, the second team member of the government stood and backed up the prime minister, including a more indepth examination of the plan.

The leader of the opposition continued the argument against the legalization of hashish claiming it would create a society of drugs.

Finally, the prime minister ended the debate with a final rebuttal where he claimed the government was not creating a problem but addressing an already existing one.

It takes lots of practice and experience to excel in debating. Although no results are in from McGill, both teams feel they won and lost some rounds and the tournament provided them with valuable experience. The Debating Union would like to thank Air Canada and the Student Union for their continued support.

The UNB Debating Union will be holding the 2nd Annual theoria Invitational tournament on February 22-24.

Anyone interested in helping with the tournament, participating in union debates or just watching is more than welcome to attend. The next UNB Debating Union meeting will be on Monday, February 4.



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