UNB VARSITY REDS

SPORTS

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New athletic facility would benefit all

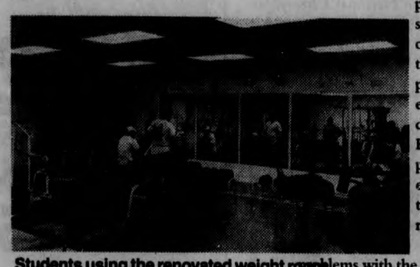
MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

There has often been talk that the current athletic facilities are inadequate, but what is going to happen.

A new athletic facility would have to benefit the entire university community and not just those in high performance sport according to the Dean of Kinesiology Terry Haggerty. "We recognized for many years one thing holding us back in terms of offering more programs, especially in the campus recreation side (is the overcrowding of the current facilities). There is much more we would like to be doing in terms of fitness rooms, aerobics rooms and there is a demand for it, but we just don't have space," says Haggerty. He notes that this problem has existed for a number of years.

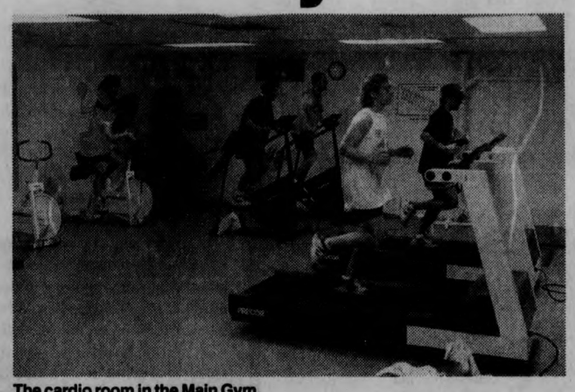
"The building itself is very clean and the structure is good. When the building was put up, it was one of the best in the Maritimes," continues Haggerty. The first part of the building was built in 1931 and additions were made in 1965.

The faculty and the Campus Recreation Advisory Committee have identified all of the programs and are working on a facility plan that would be adequate for UNB-STU students. Haggerty says "More space and different types of space would be much better (than what is currently available)...We think that fostering a physically active lifestyle is important and one way to do that is to have facilities and programs that would encourage students to do that." Although Haggerty notes one problem that does exist for this plan is the availability of money.



Students using the renovated weight room.
BAS VON ETTAN PHOTO

There are some problems with the current facilities such as the tennis courts and fields need repair. Haggerty says "We seem to be doing an adequate job. But we think we could be doing a much better job if we had better facilities."



The cardio room in the Main Gym.
BAS VON ETTAN PHOTO

One facility that is no longer in use is the pool in the Lady Beaverbrook Residence which was built in 1930. According to Haggerty "It has not been used for 4 years because of mechanical problems that were happening or about to happen...The cost of repair was pretty substantial ...and we are trying to keep our costs down." The usage is also down since the building of the northside pool.

As for the future, the plan is in the conceptual stage with the discussion focusing on what is needed in the facility. The current idea is a field house concept with a foyer where students can meet prior to or after their recreational activity, whereas in the current facility students often sit in the dark bleachers. Haggerty also thinks a little café or eating area would be a good idea since the current volume in the pool alone is 75,000 participants.

There is also a need for meeting room with 22 sport clubs often needing rooms in the evening and in the daytime these rooms could be used as seminar rooms. In addition this facility would have official size racquetball and squash courts, aerobic rooms, weight room, an area to jog, as currently people jog around the building and often bump into others leaving classes.

Haggerty thinks a larger pool with a moveable bulkhead would be very viable for recreation use and it could also be used for swim meets. UNB Varsity Reds head swim coach and Aquatics Coordinator Andrew Cole feels that having a larger pool would be a step forward as the current pool is in constant use from 6am to 10:30pm and often there are three groups in the pool at the same time. He also feels that it would benefit recreational users with more swim times available to them.

There have been a number of recent improvements to the LB Gym which include a renovated weight room and the addition of a cardio room. Prior to the addition of the cardio room the aerobic equipment was spread throughout the building.



The west gym in the LB Gym.
BAS VON ETTAN PHOTO



The old pool in the LB Residence.
FILE PHOTO

Moving on as...

Former athlete recalls playing days

CHRISTINA ATKINSON
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Marc Aubé retired from a competitive sport and now moves on.

When asked about his 5 years as a member of the UNB Varsity Reds men's basketball team, Aubé says, "It was a lot of hard work, but I wouldn't trade it for the world."

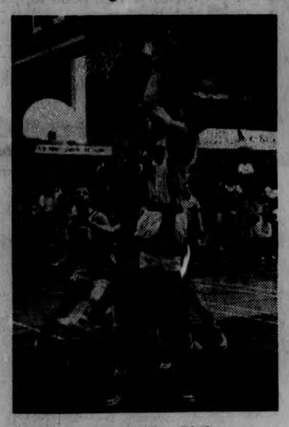
Aubé graduated from UNB with a Bachelor of Science degree in '96 and is now working on his MBA. A native of Dorchester, NB, Aubé is still involved in basketball as assistant coach to Reds' head coach Clint Hamilton.

When asked why he decided to coach Aubé says, "Clint and I had developed quite a close relationship and it seemed a natural extension to help out in any way I could."

Aubé is also an assistant to Dr. Philip Wright who is Academic Advisor to the Reds basketball team. Dr. Wright and Aubé have been working on an Academic Support program for the teams athletes and together have co-ordinated a study hall which aims to keep the players aware of how important it is to concentrate on their studies and not just playing ball.



Marc Aubé former athlete, assistant coach and Don.
CHRISTINA ATKINSON



Aubé in action in 'The Pitt'.
FILE PHOTO

With regards to the program Aubé said, "We try to help them balance their academic and athletic commitments... because if you don't take care of your books you don't get to play."

As far as the future of the basketball program Aubé said, "I see nothing but good things, Clint's got a great philosophy and the success we've enjoyed in the last couple of years can only get bettter. We've taken some strides in the past few years and Clint's really built something to be positive about and I think that's something that's going to continue."

Dr. Wright, who coached Aubé for two seasons commented on his performance as an athlete saying, "He was always a very skilled player... he was a teriffic worker, he worked really hard at it."

Regarding the Academic Support program Dr. Wright says, "Marc supervises study halls, he keeps the athletes working and doing the assignments on time." He also commented on Aubé's relationship with the players saying, "He's got an excellent relationship with them, they really respect him."

Focusing on the future Aubé plans on moving to Ontario where he has a job lined up for him at Proctor and Gamble. "It's something I'm looking forward to," says Aubé, "I'm really looking forward to making those connections out there."

Looking back on the past, 23 year old Marc Aubé remarks on his days as a three time captain of the Reds saying, "It was really quite an experience, I had so much fun, I really enjoyed the competition, made life-long friends and I've got a real commitment to the program and to the school as a result."

Aubé says his commitment to the program has only been beneficial and worth the time. He is thankful to the university community and especially to the program. "I owe a lot to the program and to those involved in it. It's support through the years has been invaluable.

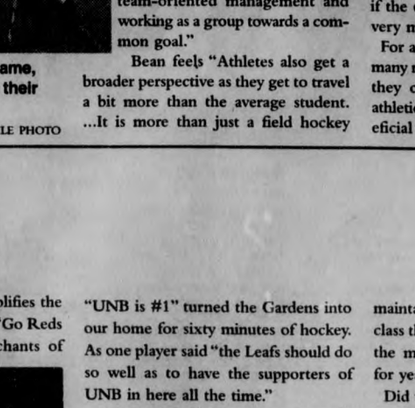
Athlete retirement...

So what do I do now?

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

For the varsity athlete, the end of the road does come and it can mean their athletic careers are finished.

These athletes have to decide whether to continue their sport career, focus on a career in their chosen academic field or to coach. The decision of the athlete also depends on what sport they play and their gender.



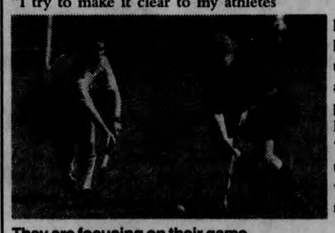
Coaching is a possiblity for former athletes.
FILE PHOTO

UNB Varsity Reds field hockey coach Stacey Bean believes "Athlete retirement is a bit different for women as you can see the writing on the wall a lot earlier than a lot of men do."

Bean attributes it to "The guys have this dream of playing professionally one day. They have the different professional leagues to go to whereas women don't have that option and we know that." Bean says "You try to get the best out of the 5 years that you do have as you don't have all of those other options."

Bean considers herself lucky as once she finished her playing career she got a job as assistant field hockey coach while working on her Masters. She is now a full-time field hockey head coach and Sports Club Coordinator.

So what does a coach do? Bean says "I try to make it clear to my athletes that school is to be very much a primary concern. Field hockey itself will not get you a job afterwards but maybe some of the lessons that you learn while you are playing will."



They are focusing on their game, but will later be focusing on their future.
FILE PHOTO

Fifth year field hockey player and Forest Engineering student Jody LeBlanc agrees saying "For women it is hard to pursue a career in sport, therefore it is not a main priority. Instead the focus is on academics."

One of the big advantages that Bean feels varsity athletes have over their non-athlete peers is time management skills. The athletes are forced to be a lot more organized combining their academics and athletic training.

In addition an athlete has a higher commitment to personal health and fitness, learn discipline, team work and leadership. These are some of the qualities that employers are often looking for. LeBlanc agrees with Bean saying "In forestry there is a focus on team-oriented management and working as a group towards a common goal."

Bean feels "Athletes also get a broader perspective as they get to travel a bit more than the average student. ...It is more than just a field hockey experience it is a learning experience, it's a cultural experience."

What does this mean for the athletes? Bean feels athletes are more prepared for new experiences and they may not be as shy to apply for work in large urban areas. Whereas, without the experience as an athlete they probably wouldn't apply.

Athletes often focus on goal setting in athletic situations and Bean feels this skill is transferable to the workforce as you learn about prioritizing your activities and what you want to do in your job.

Bean feels that the biggest misconception is about varsity athletes being competitive is not aggressiveness, but rather it is assertiveness. She sees assertiveness as a positive quality as it gives you self-confidence in addition, it might open a few more doors where aggression would not.

LeBlanc feels "Athletes strive to be the best they can be and often set higher goals than their non-athletic counterparts." She believes that athletes learn this from goal setting and the self-confidence they develop.

One aspect that Bean encourages her athletes to get involved in is coaching regardless of the level. Bean herself was pointed in the coaching direction by Donna Hornibrook (former UNB coach) and Pat Pickard at Laurentian University (where Bean got her undergrad degree).

Coaching is not an option for all athletes as LeBlanc comments on her career choice of moving to the west and the majority of forestry positions are in remote areas. Although she notes that if the opportunity arose, she would be very much interested.

For an athlete retiring there are often many roads to choose but whatever road they choose, their high performance athletic experience is certainly very beneficial to them in their future plans.

The Hockey team's...

Thoughts from "The Gardens"

SCOTT MUSCUTT, JASON CAMPBELL, DAX MACLEAN, CRAIG MINARD, AND RYAN NAISMITH
THE BRUNSWICKAN

A dream come true.

That is how the UNB hockey team describes playing in the Maple Leaf Gardens. As many of the guys on the team come from that area it was "a great dream come true" to play in the building.

Terry Kelly, a UNB alumnus and a member of the Leafs Board of Directors, graciously and very eloquently explained how Maple Leaf Gardens rightfully takes it place in the history books as one of hockey's greatest showcases.

Kelly took the hockey team and their supporters on a tour of the Gardens including showing the Leafs dressing room, and the Hockey Night In Canada broadcast studio.



We as a team were so overwhelmed that it was very hard to remain focused on the game, and not the event surrounding it. Yet as electrifying as the Gardens can be it would have remained a *simple* building if not for those fans and alumni of UNB who deservingly took their seats in a building that exemplifies the spirit of the sport. The sea of "Go Reds Go" signs, and the steady chants of "UNB is #1" turned the Gardens into our home for sixty minutes of hockey. As one player said "the Leafs should do so well as to have the supporters of UNB in here all the time."



Inside the Maple Leaf Gardens.
JUD DELONG PHOTO

Even in defeat these people maintained a standard of dignity and class that we believe will remain within the mystique of Maple Leaf Gardens for years to come.

Did we like Maple Leaf Gardens? We loved the UNB flavor of it.

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