



Kampus Koncern

by Joel Hansen

BUZZER BLUES

A number of Buzzer hockey players have expressed indignation at the treatment they are collectively receiving at the hands of UPEI's athletic dept. I am one of that collective; I, too, feel a mistreatment has been committed.

When the money men at UPEI take their cut at registration time each semester, I often wonder just where and to whom the capital is distributed? It certainly isn't spent at maintaining a decently supplied sports stockroom for amateur, i.e. non-varsity athletes. Ah! the old "beef" is coming back, (just as I thought it would).

And man, I mean this campus does not have a decent stock of equipment. The last time I was in looking for a hockey stick, to use for practice, there wasn't even a toothpick to bite on to help suppress the anger that ruptured within me.

Probably most of the money is being spent on inter-collegiate leagues, and I suppose that is somewhat justified. The interesting aspect of the aforesaid proposition is the element of probability. Probability I say, because in my years at this university I have never seen a reprint of the audit report of that dept. (Athletics). This is not unusual because I don't think I saw an audit report from any of the multivarious departments of UPEI since arriving here.

However, since every student makes a direct payment towards the maintenance of the athletic facilities on campus, a yearly fiscal statement ought to be printed in the Cadre. This would help put an end to the mumblings of those who at present, feel snubbed by the jock management at UPEI.

The reason I personally feel some adjustments in priorities may be in order



is that other universities are beginning to shift emphasis away from the varsity level towards the more popular (in the sense of participants) intramural and Buzzer levels of competition. These universities, St. F.X. and St. Mary's are cases in point, actually are able to supply thirty or more hockey players with a complete set of equipment for each game. This university, as I noted beforehand, does not even supply decent sticks.

Another problem is the direct increase in the rate of injury with the decline in rate of well outfitted hockey players. For example, one of the goalies playing this season in the Buzzer League may be injured for life around his knee area because of a goalie pad, too small in all respects to

be used. But what else could the result be, the goalie was forced to take what he could get - and what he got was a rip-off.

An immediate measure I feel justified in calling for to end the rip-off, is the permanent maintenance of top-quality goalie equipment and decent hockey sticks for all. This is, after all, a bare minimum; the expense of supplying sticks and two sets of high standard goalie equipment is not inflationary to the Athletics Department's budget.

The proposition is this: If UPEI wishes to promote intramural levels of competition among the student body then UPEI has a responsibility to help keep, to some measure, that body equipped.