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*Court user
finds waiting
inequitable*

BEEF BOX



Students pay, community plays — try another day

By MARTHA BLISS
Of the Emerald

Dear Beef Box, With the rainy season coming, the covered tennis courts and racquetball courts will be very busy. The present system of waiting for a court is, in my judgment, inequitable. Why isn't a better system instituted whereby those who have waited the longest have priority for the next available court. I might suggest a racquet rack or an ID card rack.

Love,
Fifteen

Dear Fifteen,

Supervision in the courts is what you're after. And this supervision, of course, would cost money — money the physical education department doesn't have.

The tennis and racquetball courts present an interesting problem. They were built with student money and were intended

for student use. But many community members also use the courts, thereby putting an extra demand on them.

Eliminating the community from the courts probably would resolve a large portion of the court crowdedness, says Doug DeWees, an administrative assistant in the physical education department. But, he adds, such elimination is hard to come by.

"We've already tried supervising the courts with civil service employees," he says. "They went around checking for student ID's and asking the townspeople to leave. But the plan wasn't too effective and we just got a lot of verbal abuse. I actually don't think there is any way to stop the townspeople from using the courts."

"There's no doubt that the students are getting short changed with these facilities," he adds. According to DeWees, the physical education college has asked the University administration to consider the situation and funnel more funds their way to resolve it. So far, however, no administrative action has been taken.

Vice-president for student affairs, Gerald Bogen, says this request from the college is "not a hot issue right now. We've looked

at it and backed away because we don't have any good alternatives right now." He says the administration had thought of charging court users, but decided against this method because the student users have already paid for the courts when they were built.

"We can't find a good way to discriminate between the student users and the community users," he says in pinpointing the crux of the dilemma. "And besides, students probably use the community facilities just as much as the community uses ours."

At any rate, an equitable system for court use like you describe appears to be a long time in coming. The best course for you and any other students interested in seeing it come a little quicker would be to let the physical education department know you want some action taken and be prepared to fight through a long roll of red tape.

Editor's note: The Beef Box is open to anyone who has a beef against the University. The Emerald will answer and publish any legitimate beef submitted to its offices in Room 300, EMU. Please include your name, major and phone number in case we have questions.

★ read ode —
the eye-tingler ★

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