

SIDELINES

Wednesday, October 16, 1985

Emerald Sports Supplement

Club Sports: An athletic alternative

The University's EMU Club Sports Program is a co-ed, competitive, recreational program for students, faculty and staff. It is designed to meet the athletic needs that are not met by existing intra- and intercollegiate programs.

The basic philosophy and key to the success of the program is the emphasis placed upon participation and competition rather than upon winning. — Club Sports Guidebook

Somewhere between the varsity sporting events held in McArthur Court and Autzen Stadium, and the intramural games in Esslinger and on the various athletic fields around campus, there is a void.

It's a void that may have some students up in arms about where they can turn to display their athletic abilities and satisfy their competitive urges. The answer for them and anyone else even mildly curious about a variety of sports is the Club Sports Program.

Last year, some 600 people participated in Club Sports, but coordinator Sandy Vaughn says it is hard for her program to get an accurate figure because of the fluctuation of the numbers during various periods of time throughout the year.

Currently, there are about 20 teams gearing up to begin practicing and organizing for their coming seasons, and the variety is such that there is plenty of room for everyone.

The teams range from the one-time NCAA intercollegiate baseball team to the equestrian team, and from badminton and Ultimate Frisbee to crew.

The program is open to any student, faculty or staff member who is interested, and generally, the teams have a no-cut policy, but some have limited competition rosters. Also, there are no required fees because the program is supported, in part, by student incidental fees.

"Many clubs do a sufficient amount of fund-raising to help defray costs," Vaughn said, but students must still undertake some traveling expenses such as food. The program provides a \$5 travel stipend for lodging.

Other costs that team members must pay include money for uniforms and any personal equipment. Club Sports provides for team equipment, such as crew boats and soccer balls, in their budget.

Although the policy throughout the years has been to not charge dues for those wishing to take part in Club Sports activities, two teams may be the first ones to require a charge for participation this season.

The sailing and crew teams may be forced to charge members a participation fee, because expenses for equipment and traveling are so great.

"We don't like to call it dues but a fee to help defray practice costs and equipment," Vaughn says, adding that the two teams have to pay for things such as maintenance of their boats and

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Rugby: No lightweights

By Kirsten Bolin
Of the Emerald

In rugby there are no winners, only survivors.

"Short, snappy passes, you guys," coach Owen Engelmann barks. "Don't milk it."

The rugby players are facing one another, practicing passing by tossing pairs of bricks back and forth.

Bricks? Clearly this is no sport for lightweights.

"Rugby was historically played using the head of one of your opponents instead of the ball," Engelmann says.

While that grisly rite went out years ago, the sport of rugby still maintains a reputation for hard-hitting action and extremely physical play.

"It takes a lot of athletic ability, a lot of thinking and a love of full-contact sports," says team member Doug Giles. "But it's not like football where you just charge off the line and hit the guy in front of you."

Despite the initial impression of rather Neanderthal movement, closer inspection does reveal impressive measures of skill and guts.

"The best players aren't the hardest hitters," Engelmann says. "It really is a finesse sport."

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Baseball: Striking out?

By Jeff Lutzky
Of the Emerald

The University club baseball team practices in the shadow of the Pioneer Cemetery, not knowing if Opening Day 1986 will ever come.

"If we don't get at least 10 to 20 more players, we'll have to fold the team," said Tim Walker, team coordinator.

How did the baseball team get into such a predicament? It started four years ago when baseball was dropped from the Athletic Department program in a cost-cutting move that resulted in the elimination of gymnastics, women's golf and soccer as well. Since then, baseball has faced a steady decline as a club sport.

"I've only been here the last two years, so I'm not sure how they did before, but we're better organized this year than last," Walker said.

The season runs from March through May and is composed of approximately 35 games with most contests being played against community college teams. Walker indicated that the team hopes to travel to San Francisco during spring break, and make a trip to Seattle as well.

"The trips are an opportunity to get more games," Walker said. "Spring break is a good time for us."

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Martial Arts: Getting their kicks

By Mike Ostrom
Of the Emerald

Two martial arts clubs are in full swing and looking for new members at the University. The Tae Kwon Do and Karate clubs currently involve some 65 and 45 students, respectively, and hope to add to their numbers.

Willy Pieter, 34, and Bob Ellis, 35, are the instructors. Pieter has been involved in Tae Kwon Do since 1966 and is a black belt, as is Ellis who began in karate at the age of 13.

Pieter explained the difference between the two martial arts forms. "The biggest difference is that we kick more (in Tae Kwon Do)," he said.

"What I try to do as a teacher is to give people more self-confidence," Pieter said. "It's like watching a flower bloom. I see people who start off thinking that they will never be able to do this, and then after a few weeks, they are doing things that they thought were impossible. That's satisfying to me as a coach."

Ellis started coaching the karate Club Sports team in 1972, but took a break from it in 1983. At one point he had as many as 150 people involved. That number dwindled in subsequent years, all the way down to 15 at the beginning of 1984.

However, Ellis, undergoing what he called a "rebuilding year" has tripled

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