

sports

Wilde reason for Mt. Hood's intramural success

By Randy Frank
Of The Print

Given the backing of a sports-minded school board, a full-time intramural director, and the right set of circumstances, it has been proven that an intramural program can work in a community college. A good example is Mt. Hood.

The intramural program at Mt. Hood began to see the fruits of success three years ago when a sports-minded school board began to see the need for a good recreational program and started

are successful is because of good organization, a positive school board, an imaginative director, and effective publicity.

Also important is a well thought-out schedule and gaining the involvement of non-athletes involved in the competition.

The decision to promote a good recreational program is only one example of the school board's emphasis.

The school president is a former pro-football player and many of the other board mem-

the rest of the schools," Wilde said.

While at the college, Wilde estimates that he spends over 60 percent of his time working up schedules, organizing the competition and then overseeing the action to make sure everything runs smoothly. He also teaches other P.E. classes but he considers intramurals to be more important.

Wilde has also attended several conferences on intramurals and hopes to get new ideas on possible sports or just looking for ways in improving the current program.

"I employ work study students, many who are going for a degree in physical education," Wilde said. "They oversee competition and umpire the games."

Publicity begins in the fall when each student gets their class packets. They also receive a flyer concerning intramurals and the various sign-up deadlines.

Wilde also tries to get information into the weekly bulletin and has been trying to get the school newspaper to occasionally run just an intramural issue.

"Even though it would probably include only statistics and standings, I think it would be great for the journalism classes and especially exciting for our people. They rarely get their name in print," Wilde said.

"We try to get pictures of the first and second place teams, and

this seems to really work because they like to come by with their girlfriends or family, and show them that maybe they were just as good as they keep telling them," Wilde said.

"These pictures get more attention than trophies ever would, and I'm glad we tried that experiment because it has really paid off," he said.

"The intramurals winners also receive tee-shirts, especially designed for them. These work so well that many students outside the department have got involved just to get those tee-shirts," Wilde said.

"The feeling I got from the National intramural conference is that they want to take away the winning aspect completely out of intramurals," Wilde said. "I feel that if they try and eliminate this basic incentive the programs will suffer and there won't be as much interest in the program."

Scheduling for the term is arranged before the season begins. Wilde gets together with the prospective captains and goes over the rules and procedures. From that a tentative schedule is drawn up and is stuck to, rain or shine, for the rest of the term. The captains in turn are responsible for their teams showing up.

"The biggest problem we have in that respect, is that so many of the guys sign up for more than one sport and consequently we occasionally find teams forfeiting games so that they can play

basketball instead of softball vice versa," Wilde said.

Participation in the program is relatively easy to come by any faculty member and student who carries one course Mt. Hood, on or off campus, night or day class, is qualified to play. The only other stipulation is that the athletes cannot take part in a sport that they have earned a letter in at Mt. Hood.

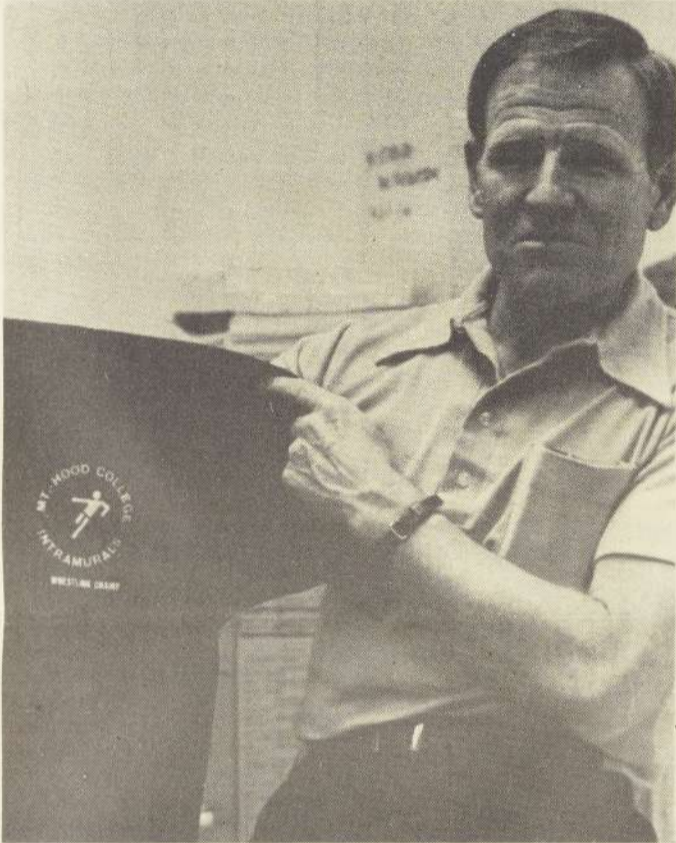
"The typical participant is between 20 and 45 years old either a non-athlete (60 percent aren't on the school teams, including women) who has played on teams in high school, but for some reason couldn't make it on the teams here," Wilde said.

"They seem to want to keep up with their sport, though," Wilde said. "Older people, such as the over-the-hill faculty, go out just for the recreation."

"Of course, there are a lot of athletes involved and many of the coaches encourage their participation because they can go to work together and develop team unity," Wilde said.

The program at Mt. Hood is unique because there aren't many schools in the area with recreational facilities that have or a full-time intramural director.

The backing of the school board, a full-time intramural director, and a good income program is employed by Mt. Hood to meet the needs of the students.



One of the most sought-after prizes in the intramural program at Mt. Hood Community College is the prestigious champion T-shirt displayed by Bill Wilde, the program director.

devoting some time and money to meet that need.

It was also at this time that the Mt. Hood School board hired Bill Wilde, a former technical specialist, as intramural coordinator. He was hired to devote most of his time to organizing the program.

The board also decided to drop all classes from 12 to 1 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to devote this time strictly to intramurals and meetings.

"I estimate that 500 to 600 people are taking part in the program this term and over 1,200 participate each year," Wilde said.

"We've tried tennis, golf, volleyball, tug-of-war, badminton, soccer, 1-on-1 basketball and freethrow shooting in the fall.

In the winter we have 5-man basketball, wrestling and fencing," Wilde said.

Three-man basketball, softball, tennis, track and field, a 5 mile run, and archery are held in the spring.

Softball is especially popular. There are 16 10-man teams, divided into the American league and the National league. The top four teams play for the league championships and the winners play in the World Series.

The main reasons intramurals

bers have been involved in athletics. When they built the school they included excellent facilities for swimming, racquetball, handball and eight tennis courts.

An allotment of \$1,700 is budgeted for intramurals. According to Wilde it is used primarily for engraving trophies and recognition of the program.

"I feel the main reason that intramurals has worked at Mt. Hood is because our school board is 100 percent behind us. In many respects they have made us just as important as the school teams," Wilde said.

"I don't believe any intramural program can fully succeed if they don't have a full-time director who is willing to place the program above his other classes," Wilde said. "Therefore, I am able to take the time to see that the programs work."

"In this respect I believe we are unique among the community colleges in the state and this explains why most of our programs are more advanced than



Photos by Brian...

The intramural board, complete with pictures of the winners of each of the competitions, is one of Wilde's main drawing cards to the program.

Wilde estimates that approximately 1,200 students participate in the program.

re-elect
SKOKO
COMMISSIONER
qualified

Pd by Re-Elect Stan Skoko Comm. G. Tuor, Treas.
2410 SE 5th Avenue, West Linn, Ore. 97068

GLADSTONE

CARD ROOM
SNACKS AND POOL

420 Portland Ave., Gladstone
656-9143

THE STABLES

Unique Haircare Center
for Guys & Gals

334 Second Street
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034
635-5578

REDKEN

Open Mon. - Sat., Appts. Preferred
Evenings by appt. only

Try Me

