Boston has busy sports week

This past weekend saw a great deal of sports action in the Boston area, complete with playoff drama, early season jitters, and controversy.

Boston's professional winter teams, the Celtics and Bruins, made the playoffs in the National Basketball Association (NBA) and National Hockey League (NHL) respectively. The Celtics are in the midst of a semifinal series with the Philadelphia 76ers. The two teams fought down to the wire in the regular season for the Atlantic Division title, and the series promises to be every bit as close. The winning team will advance to the NBA championship round against the winner of the Los Angeles-Seattle series. Perhaps the most striking feature of this year's playoff system is that even if the remaining series go to the seventh game limit, the season will end in the month of May. Compared to previous years, this is a welcome relief to those who believe professional basketball in June doesn't sound right.

The Bruins, on the other hand, are out of the playoff picture. After defusing the Pittsburgh Penguins in an earlier round, the locals couldn't match the New York Islanders, who won their series against Boston four games to one. This series was closer than the 4-1 margins would indicate, with three games going into overtime, including a 2-1-filmed game in the Boston Garden in which eight players were thrown out of the game.

Another local spring fixture is the Boston Marathon. As expected, Bill Rodgers won his third straight title, following the return of motorcyclists and vans that carried police and press along the 26-mile, 385-yard course. The controversy this year centers around the alleged women's winner, Rosie Ruiz of New York, who was the first woman to cross the finish line, but might not have run the entire course. Runner Claire Lill, stationed a mile from the finish, near where this reporter viewed the race, says, "Jacqueline Gareau of Montreal was definitely the first woman wearing a number to pass me. I don't see how a million people could have missed anyone farther up."

Intramural Rifle entries are due at 4pm today in the IM Rifle Manager's mailbox in W32-131. Individual and team entries will be accepted. Walk-on entries will be accepted. The winning team will be held Saturday, May 3, at 4pm today in the 1M Rifle competition will be held Sunday, April 27, and final competition will be held Sunday, May 11 as the rain-out date. Comments and suggestions may be directed to Paul Mahoney at 267-9419.

Intramural Outdoor Track entries must be submitted by Wednesday, April 30 at 4pm in the IM Manager's Mailbox in W32-131. Individual entries and event changes will be accepted before meet time. The meet will be held on Sunday, May 4 at 3pm with Sunday, May 11 as the rain-out date. Comments and suggestions may be directed to Paul Mahoney at 267-9419.