

Bears Champions—One More Time!

by W. GRANT

For the second year in a row the UNB Black Bears are AUSA CHAMPIONS. They did this in convincing fashion defeating Mt. A 41-33. Memorial finished third with 32 while St. Francis Xavier claimed fourth with 20. The win was for the second year in a row, UNB's only men's AUSA Championship team.

The win did not come as easily as it sounds. After winning the crown last year the Black Bears were rocked with defections. These included all six individual champions and head coach Leo Mcgee. At the beginning of the season coach Wiggins had only three wrestlers. In the following months he went on an intense recruiting drive that was unique because he only recruited athletes presently enrolled at UNB. Once all but the 112 lbs weight class had been filled Wiggins proceeded to develop the bears through an intense conditioning program for the first half of the season. Technique was stressed along with competition in the second half. The results were typical during the first half of the season the Black Bears were being technically beaten soundly. However as the season progressed they became stronger and stronger culminating with a strong performance in the finals.

At the start of the season only one Black Bear was ranked in the top two in the AUSA's. In the finals UNB was represented by nine men. Five of the nine walked away with gold and Coach Wiggins was voted AUSA coach of the year.

Starting the Gold rush for the bears was the old veteran Randy Smith. After outscoring his opposition in the conference 106-1 Smith was the clear favorite in the 57 kilo class. He didn't disappoint anyone as he pinned his opponent in 38 seconds in the finals. Dwayne Wakerell followed on Smith's heels with a gold medal performance of his own. Wakerell who also plays on UNB's highly successful soccer team comfortably walked home with another easy UNB victory. Assistant coach Dennis Mahoney displayed superior strength and a strong double leg take down on the way to his gold medal. Dave Bessey and Don Ryan were the other two gold medalists. They both were far better conditioned than their overmatched opponents. Combined with their



Guy Wilson displays the style that earned him a silver medal at the AUSA championships this past weekend.

superior throwing ability lead to superior decisions in both finals. For Bessey it was his third AUSA crown.

Five golds is an outstanding accomplishment but it is not near enough to win the team title. Without the efforts of four silver, one bronze, and one fourth place finishers the title would have fallen to Mt. A. Todd Bursey 54k, Gary Wilson 64k, Greg Hughes 74k, and playing coach Wayne Wiggins 90k all represented the Black Bears to the limits of what was expected of them to emerge with silver medals. Kevin McKinley took Concordia's Serge Marciel who is currently fifth in the world to the limit before losing to the much more experienced wrestler. Kevin settled with the bronze while Rod Harquail rounded out the scoring with a fourth place finish.

A fine performance by all men that the whole university can be proud of.

Football - to be or not to be?

BY KEN QUIGLEY

The opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer only, and do not necessarily represent those of the Sports Desk.

Come March 26, the students at UNB will be asked to decide if they are willing to pay for the privilege of seeing football on this campus again.

If yes, the annual levy will exact \$10 from every student totalling approximately \$70,000 in revenue.

When the Red Bombers saw their demise late in 1980, then coach Jim Born told the administration that they required \$250,000 to keep the team going for the next season.

However, many things have changed since 1980. For one, all the equipment has since been sold and would of course have to be purchased again before play resumed.

Bar services would undoubtedly complicate any sponsorships from individual breweries with all the regulations and

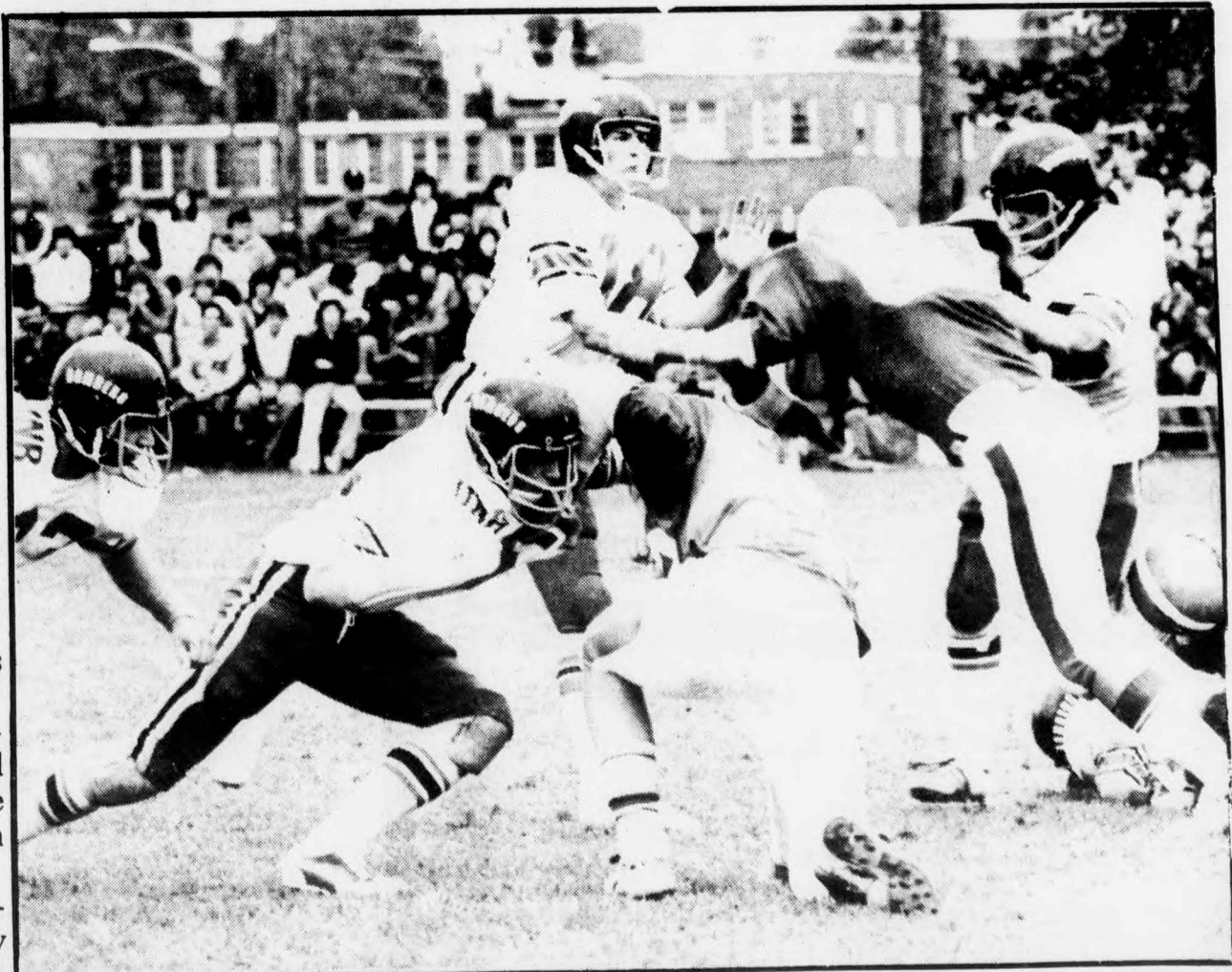
stipulations on campus.

By the sheer mathematics of it, football could not be afforded for at least three years. If the referendum was pass-

ed and the wheels put in motion, \$210,000 would be raised from the students to watch 4 home games.

Through such a route,

the students who would be investing in the effort; save freshmen, would more than likely graduate before the cause was realized.



Football action at College Hill Field between St. Francis Xavier and the Red Bombers in Sept 1979. Do we want a football team? You decide.