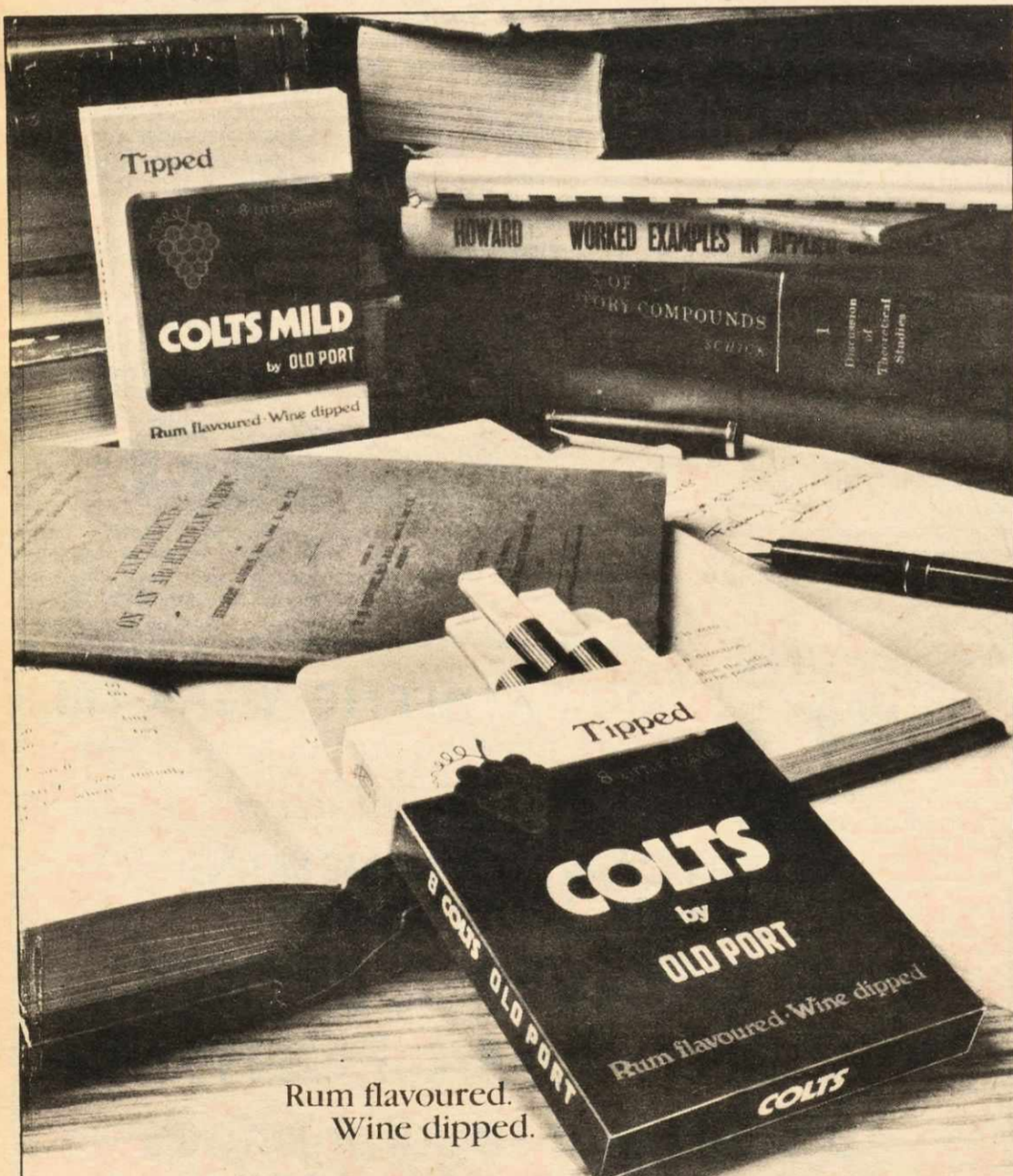




Tom Higgins

Merry Christmas from the Gazette staff



Rum flavoured.
Wine dipped.

Crack a pack of Colts along with the books.

Verbal Diarrhea

The big news on the national sports scene last week was the goal scored by N.Y. Islander goalie **Billy Smith**. It ended a drought of over 17,000 scoreless games for NHL netminders. Colorado defenceman **Rob Ramage** inadvertently shot the puck into the Rockies' unguarded goal during a delayed penalty. Smith, being the last to touch the puck was credited with the goal. . . . The **Philadelphia Flyers** have extended their winning streak to 21 games but came close to losing it on the weekend, tying the Maple Leafs and the Red Wings by identical 4-4 scores. The Flyers are closing in on **Montreal Canadien's** 28 game record set in '77-'78. . . . The **New Haven Nighthawks** were recently in town to tangle with the **N.S. Voyageurs** and in nets for the Hawks was last year's NHL playoff hero **John Davidson**. Big John had not been playing well for the parent **N.Y. Rangers** and self-demoted himself to the minors. A rare yet classy move. . . . **Vees** attendance is still poor and many people are at a loss to explain why. I blame it on lack of press coverage in other AHL games. If people knew more about the personnel on other teams, fan interest would probably increase. Printing the summaries from other games would help. . . . **Greg Malone**, from Chatham, N.B., got six assists in a recent Pittsburgh Penguin game. . . . In a middleweight fight last week, **Willie Classen** took a standing eight count at the end of the ninth round. When the tenth began, he was lifted and pushed into the ring. Not even putting his gloves up to defend himself, Classen took three wicked shots to the head from opponent **Wilfred Scypion** and slumped unconscious to the mat. On Thursday, Willie Classen died. The doctor in his corner, who assured reporters that Classen was able to answer the bell in the tenth, is a pediatrician. An investigation is on. . . . Also in boxing, **Sugar Ray Leonard** had a tough battle but was rarely in trouble as he beat **Wilfred Benitz** for the WBC welterweight boxing crown. . . . The **National Football League** will go down to the last game of the regular season before the playoff contenders are known. One thing definite—the **New England Patriots** have choked again. Barring a miracle, i.e., a **Miami Dolphin** loss to the Jets or Lions, the 'Super Bowl contenders' will be watching post-season play on the tube. . . . Back to campus news. The final varsity sporting event to be played at the 48 year old **Dalhousie Gymnasium** was held last weekend. Fittingly it was a victory as the men's volleyball team defeated St. F.X. 15-2, 15-6, 15-9. All varsity sports will now be played in the gleaming **DALPLEX**. . . . Tiger soccer star **Dave Riddell** was recently selected as a CIAU all-star; a tremendous honour indeed. Riddell led the Tigers in scoring this year with nine. . . . The Nova Scotia Track Assoc. honoured Dal harriers **Pam Currie** and **Robert Englehutt** as the top female and male senior runners this year. . . . At the Dalhousie Wrestling Extravaganza held last weekend at DALPLEX, the only Dal competitor to win was **Frank Vassallo** in the free style competition, 149 lb. class. . . . Finally—a personal plea to **Santa Claus**. Please send me a cute secretary who types fast and runs slow. . . . Good luck on the exams and have a **Merry Christmas**. See ya'll in the new year.