

Red Shirts split with Memorial

By David A. Harding

Last Friday the UNB Red Shirts went into the game against Memorial University of Newfoundland well aware of its importance on the final success of the team. The Red Shirts and the Beothuks were tied for first place in the AUAA West division with a .875 winning percentage and both were undefeated.

Weather conditions for Friday's game were excellent for soccer and it could be sensed that the fans that turned out were to be treated an exciting match.

As the game began the teams showed well executed play and good soccer skills. UNB went on the offensive almost immediately and had some near misses at goal. Memorial too attempted to get opportunities to score. They worked the ball down the wings and then crossed it into the middle for a header at the goal. These crosses, however, were cut off effectively by the Red Shirt defenders or goalkeeper.

At the twenty-one minute mark of the first half striker Ebenezer Dania was substituted into the game. This was Dania's first game in several weeks as he has been sidelined with a muscle pull in his quadriceps. It took Dania twenty seconds to score a picture goal to give the Red Shirts that all-important first goal. With his back to the goal, he received a pass, flipped it in the air, spun around the defender and volleyed a booming shot into the far side of the net. By the time Memorial goalkeeper Dave Laite dove for the ball it was already in the back of the net.

UNB continued to press in the first half as midfielders Robbie MacFarlane, Pierre El-Khoury and Dwight Hornbrook played exceptional in setting up plays on offense and coming back to help out the defense. Hornbrook had an opportunity for a goal from a free kick but was denied by a great save by Laite. The half ended 1-0.

The Red Shirts began the second half well aware that one goal may not be enough to beat this well-balanced Memorial team and

pressed for the insurance goal. George Wood was back in the game and showed great desire in getting to the ball and letting go shots at goal. Finally this persistence paid off as he collected the ball in a scramble in front of the Beothuk goal and scored from close range. Wood now leads the Red Shirts team scoring with five goals and is also among the league leaders.

Special mention should go to those who do not get statistical recognition with goals scored or shutouts. I am referring, of course, to those all-important players who play fullback. For the Red Shirts they are: team captain Ed Hansen, Tim Hicks, Alaisdar Graham, and Dave Rouse. Substitutes are another group who don't get statistical notice but are well-appreciated by their teammates. The Red Shirts have shown the depth that they possess by using their substitutes freely as a result of injuries and to give their regulars a rest. One of the reasons why UNB is doing as well as they are to this point is due to the fact that they can practice against players that provide as much opposition as some of the better teams in the league.

Saturday's game was again against the Beothuks, only this time it was played in less than ideal conditions. At only the eight minute mark of the game it seemed as though the conditions would help the Red Shirts. Greg Kraft's shot from the side slipped away from the Memorial goalkeeper and George Wood followed in and shot the ball just wide of the net. Soon after, Pierre El-Khoury also missed with an excellent shot to the far side. The Beothuks also had some scoring opportunities but were denied by the Red Shirts. The half ended in a scoreless tie.

Play moved back and forth at the beginning of the second half with neither team getting any significant scoring chances. After twelve minutes of the half Kraft was replaced by Ebenezer Dania in hopes that he could instigate



JOHN LOCKETT PHOTO

A Memorial player ducks as Dave May of the Red Shirts kicks the ball in Friday's soccer game.

something like the day before. Unfortunately it did not happen this time as the Beothuks showed the respect they now had for him by marking him closer.

At the eighteen minute mark UNB was awarded a penalty shot. Pierre El-Khoury, who is virtually unstoppable in taking these shots, scored past a diving Beothuk goalkeeper. The referee disallowed the goal however due to one of the UNB players being within the ten yard restraining semi-circle. At first the ref called for the shot to be retaken but the Memorial players appealed that they should be awarded the ball. The referee then conferred with his linesman and mistakenly gave in to the Memorial pleas. Law XIV of the soccer rule book states that "For any infringement of this Law - by the attacking team other than by the player taking the kick, if a goal is scored it shall be disallowed and the kick retaken." This call seemed to dishearten the Red Shirts and pick up the Beothuks.

As the half was coming to a close it seemed as though the game would end in a scoreless draw. Then with only three minutes remaining another stroke of bad luck hit the Red Shirts.

Memorial shot the ball into the UNB penalty area but Alaisdar Graham was there to clear it. Unfortunately Graham's kick ricocheted off of one Memorial player and then another ten yards away with the ball ending up in the net by goalkeeper David Harding. It looked like a pinball machine and that Memorial was going to get a free game. As the regulation time ran out and then into injury time, the Red Shirts tried for the equalizer but time was against them and all too soon ran out. Memorial had handed the Red Shirts their first defeat in ten games.

UNB may protest the game to appeal the referee's decision regarding the penalty shot. It will remain to be seen what outcome this will have and what actions will result from it.

Next weekend the Red Shirts round out their regular season with games against Mount Allison in Sackville on Saturday and then at home on Sunday against the Universite de Moncton. Sunday's game is a two o'clock kick-off at College Field.

As team standings are concerned, UNB has made and will host the Atlantic playoffs in two weeks' time, however exactly how things will finish remains to be seen.

AUAA SOCCER STANDINGS

EAST:										
G.P.	W	L	T	F	A	PTS				
St. Mary's	8	6	1	1	25	5	13			
St. F.X.	6	3	2	1	12	13	7			
Dalhousie	7	3	4	0	14	9	6			
Acadia	7	1	4	2	9	19	4			
WEST:										
Pct.										
UNB	10	7	1	2	21	3	.800			
Memorial	6	4	1	1	13	6	.750			
Mount Allison	10	5	4	1	19	8	.550			
U de M	9	1	7	1	5	27	.188			
UPEI	9	1	7	1	5	27	.188			

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Noon hour skating

The Physical Recreation and Intramural Program will be providing free skating at the Aitken Centre from 12:30-1:20 pm Monday through Friday. All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to sharpen their blades and enjoy a little physical recreation on their lunch break. Skating begins Monday, October 29.

Instructors course

The Fredericton YM-YWCA will be holding a Fitness Instructor's Workshop on Saturday, November 3 and Sunday, November 4. Topics to be covered include Nutrition, Marketing Fitness, etc. The registration fee is only \$5.00 and includes all course materials. For further information contact Margaret Bannister 455-6377 or the Fredericton YM-YWCA 455-8877.

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Lanny's Quiz

WHO ARE THE FAMOUS ATHLETES, WHO BELONG TO THESE NICK-NAMES?:

1. Georgia Peach
2. Mr. Hockey
3. Yankee Clipper
4. Golden Bear
5. Flying Dutchman (Baseball)
6. Golden Jet
7. Merry Mex
8. Sultan of Swat
9. Broadway Joe
10. Slendid Splinter