

Guest Editorial

A case for football

by Luke Peterson

It has been twelve years since the UNB Red Bombers football team fielded a squad. In 1981, Athletic Director Malcolm Early was forced, due to financial constraints, to put the program in limbo for a minimum of one year. It was hoped that after a hiatus of a year or two, the program could be revived. Unfortunately, the team was never to play again.

In recent times, many universities have been hit with cuts to their Athletic budgets. Most recently the University of Toronto was forced to shut down its football program in order to save the estimated \$200,000 a year that was required to run it. Due to its expense, cutting football at Canadian universities is becoming more commonplace; a couple of years back both the University of Alberta and Saint Francis Xavier football programs were canned, only to be resurrected during the off season when the schools' alumni agreed to help fund the programs.

It is truly a shame that U.N.B. cannot rally the alumni and local fans to throw their financial support behind an attempt at reviving the Red Bombers program. Don Davis, who starred at quarterback for the Bombers in the mid-70's, went on to establish a football program at Fredericton High School in 1985. Davis and his assistant coaches started from scratch and with the support of the community, moulded the Black Kats football team into an unqualified success.

In November the Black Kats completed their eighth season in existence by going undefeated for the entire season and winning their fifth provincial high school football championship in as many years. Closer examination reveals that the Kats outscored their opponents by a whopping 250-13.

In past years, many Kats alumni have gone on to star in the CIAU including quarterback Sean Hickey and receiver Matt Khoury at Mt. Allison; defensive back Lee Hoyt at St. F.X.; and Tom Hart and John Goobie are both starters with the Bishop Gaitors of Lennoxville, Que. Many former Kats are currently enrolled at UNB including Simon Pacey, Andrew Fisher, Dave Murchison, Neil Murchison, Richard Perng and Mike Hopey to mention several. With a veritable football factory in Fredericton High School, a revived UNB football program would have little difficulty in fielding a line-up bolstered with many "home-town heroes."

In terms of local recruiting, the Bombers could also draw players from the recently established Oromocto High School Blues team. Oromocto native Mike Washburn starred for the Bombers as a wide receiver in the late 70s and later went on to a career in the Canadian Football league. Who knows, perhaps other local players could conceivably parlay their AUA experience into stints in the CFL. Certainly nobody can dispute the fact that there is a lot of young local talent out there.

In terms of potential, this year's edition of the FHS Black Kats may be the best crop of all. Mount Allison Mounties football coach Marc Loranger was in town back in November to watch the Kats clinch their fifth championship. He told *Daily Gleaner* sports writer Bill Hunt that the Kats have, "a lot of good young players who will be playing in the CIAU next year and in the next few years." Loranger went on to name six or seven graduating players that he was personally interested in pursuing. In particular Loranger commended third-year All-Star quarterback Allison Brooks who lost but one football game in his entire high school football career. Loranger said that Brooks could "play big time quarterback" and was "the best quarterback I've seen at that level in a while". The only knock against Brooks is his small size, however a summer spent in the weight room is probably the only obstacle standing in the way of his starring at the CIAU level. Wouldn't it be great if Brooks were to follow in his Coach Donnie Davis' footsteps and star as the Bomber's QB in front of his own hometown? In the meantime, I guess our loss is Mount A's gain.

It seems a few members of the Fredericton Canadiens Booster Club were upset with my article in the Christmas issue of the *Brunswickan*. Back in December I accompanied the Booster Club on a bus trip to Moncton to watch the Canadiens face the AHL Hawks and recounted my impressions of the evening's events in a, supposedly, light-hearted article. Apparently some of the Booster Club members were somewhat perturbed with the article, feeling it portrayed their organization in a negative light. To these individuals, I offer my apologies and wish to dispel a couple of misconceptions about the article.

I enjoyed the evening's experience and found the Booster Club to be, without exception, a friendly and easy-going group. The club is comprised of dedicated fans who support their team not only at home and on the road, but also in the community. Although much of the talk on the Moncton-bound bus centered on the potential pugilistic overtones of the evening's game, it was not my intention to depict the Booster Club as a group who only go on road trips in hopes of seeing a fight; I concede that the article could have possibly conveyed this misleading impression and again offer my apologies to a fine group of fans.

Just a reminder that the Devils will host the STU Tommies this Wednesday night at the AUC. Over 2000 fans turned out for the last game between the cross-campus rivals. One can only hope that Tommies' Assistant Captain Phil Daigle will once again contribute to a UNB win by taking foolish penalties.

Campus recreation

Serving the campus community

Men's Ball Hockey, Competitive Final Standings

Red Division

Teams	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Wolverines	7	6	0	1	59	23	20
GG Devils	7	5	2	0	33	23	17
Hooters	7	5	2	0	46	22	17
Skidders	7	4	2	1	21	29	16
Lightning	7	4	3	0	33	48	15
Warriors	7	2	5	0	17	33	11
The Hackers	7	1	6	0	13	22	9
Bridges Polar Bears 2 Defaults							

Green Division

Law Lords	7	6	1	0	53	36	19
Jones Generals	7	6	1	0	91	49	19
Aitken Animals	7	5	1	1	109	40	18
MacKenzie	7	3	3	1	48	62	14
Outcasts	7	3	4	0	40	67	13
Jones House LL	7	2	5	0	30	44	11
Flying Elbows	7	1	6	0	13	37	9
Neville Norsemen	7	1	6	0	22	71	9

Black Division

Knights	6	6	0	0	59	38	18
PK Pole Kats	6	4	2	0	69	52	14
Couch Potatoes	6	4	2	0	59	36	14
Hotel Beaverbrook	6	3	3	0	54	56	12
Royal Lions	6	3	3	0	52	54	12
ME Turbos	6	1	5	0	29	69	8
Aitken Rangers	6	0	6	0	19	36	6

Intramural sports

Co-ed Sports

Ball Hockey registration began on Jan. 12 and the deadline is Jan. 26, with play on Saturdays.

Squash and Raquetball ladders are going again this term, so drop downstairs and post your challenge.

Men's Sports

Volleyball registration began on Jan 12 and the deadline is Jan. 26., with play on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Women's Sports

Registration for Indoor Soccer begins on Jan. 26 and the deadline is February 2. Get your teams in early because this sport fills up fast!

Ice Skating

Ice skating for UNB/STU students and Recreation members at the Aitken Centre will begin on January 11, Monday to Friday, 12:30 to 1:30 pm. Wednesdays are reserved for parents who wish to bring their children (family membership is required). Please bring your I.D. to show the recreation staff attendant for admission. No door admission will be accepted. The last day of skating will be April 16 with cancellations on March 1-5, 11, 12, 18, 19, and April 9.

CHSR to cover Devils live

by Sined Ecurb

This weekend CHSR, the campus radio station, will be travelling to Wolfville and Halifax, Nova Scotia to broadcast live two very important Red Devils hockey games.

In Wolfville, the Devils will face the Acadia Axemen who have suffered only one loss this season which came at the hands of the Red Devils. The Axemen are ranked first nationally while the Red Devils are ranked fifth.

CHSR sports director Peter MacLaughlan is happy to be able to broadcast such an important game. "We've been looking forward to this for a long time. It should be the most exciting game of the year."

In Halifax, the Devils will face off against the Dalhousie Tigers who currently hold second place

in the Kelly division of the AUA. "We'll be in the area and the Dalhousie game should be a good one so we've made arrangements to cover it as well," said MacLaughlan.

Steve Williams, a reputed UNB sports activist, will narrate the play-by-play while MacLaughlan will come as color commentator. "I think we've put together a good package to keep students listening until the end of the game," Williams assured.

Your favorite *Brunswickan* sports editors, Frank and Bruce Denis, have been recruited to take care of the intermission show. Interviews will be conducted with various Red Devils including Jim Landine and UNB Pepsi Rep Paul Arsenault. "The show between periods should be interesting. We have some well known guests lined

up," said MacLaughlan.

Both games look to be entertaining. The Red Devils face-off against the Acadia Axemen tomorrow at 7:30 pm and game time for the Dalhousie Tiger game is 3:00 pm, Sunday.

Both games can be heard live on CHSR 97.9 FM.

**Red Devils live on
CHSR 97.9 FM**

vs. Acadia Saturday, 7:30 pm
vs Dalhousie, Sunday, 3:00 pm

with host Peter MacLaughlan
Steve Williams Play-by-play

UNBelievable!