

the Midnight Skulker



Fairly slack weekend. The only action at home were soccer games between the Red Shirts and the Beothuks from Memorial.

The Shirts were out to keep their home win streak going. It started last year with four wins at College Field. The team did not have any problems getting 'up' for the game because Memorial are the defending AIAA champs.

And get up they did, led by Jeff Mockler, a rookie forward, the Red Shirts blanked the Beothuks 2-0. Mockler scored both goals for UNB. Another fellow that was flying, was little John Msolomba. He had the MUN defenders to the point that they didn't know they coming or going.

There was no score in the first half. The goals by Mockler came late in the game. Another fellow that impressed me was Mike Atkinson, he played the center-half position and let me tell you he certainly had 'fast 'n fancy feet'.

Sunday's game started off well for the Shirts. They got a break early, when the MUN team was awarded a penalty kick only to have their 'star' (a member of Canada's national team) boot the ball so wide of the net that it reminded me of a Jacques Laprairie slapshot. Abbey Akinyemi, the Shirts standout in goal kept the Beothuks at bay for the rest of the half. Msolomba counted for the Red Shirts late in the first half.

The second half reminded me of one of the early Team Canada/Russia games. The Beothuks came on like gang-busters just like the Soviets did and scored four unanswered goals. They completely dominated the half.

It's a shame, because the fellows deemed to be trying hard. It was almost as if the Memorial coach had 'spiked the squid' at halftime.

Moncton Blue Eagles are the opposition for the Shirts this weekend, I sure hope the lads can regain their winning ways.

Speaking of winning ways, the Red Bombers, winless in two exhibition games so far this season are off in quest of their first victory. They are the guests of St. Francis Xavier X-men. Let me tell you, that will be no treat. The Bombers are going to have to hustle their asses and come up with a superlative effort to down the X-Men. The boys in blue are tough to beat at the best of times, but on their home field—lookout. It certainly would be nice to walk away with a win.

Come to think of it, it would be a good day for Bomber fans to take a break from their studies, and venture down to the 'wilds' of Antigonish to cheer the team on.

For those who don't want to or can't get away, there is still some action on campus. The Ironmen, the UNB rugby team are at home to Saint John Trojans. Game time is 2p.m., Saturday. For those with a yearning to see the 'beast' come out in a group of men, then the game should be right up your alley. The Ironmen are a hard playing and hard drinking crew, and when they get wound up, watch out.

Other than that, folks TTFN (ta ta for now) the Midnight Skulker has struck again.



Art Williams (15) for UNB heads the ball to Mike Atkinson in action from last Saturday. The Red Shirts won the game 2-0, but lost 4-1 on Sunday as they played a pair of games against Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Photo by Gary Constatine

Shirts split with MUN

When you are number two, you try harder. That is what the UNB Red Shirts did last Saturday afternoon at College Field. The Shirts, who finished in second place behind Memorial in last year's soccer standing, came up with that little extra to defeat the defending champs 2-0.

Sunday, however the Beothuks showed more drive and determination than the Red Shirts and scored four unanswered, second half goals, to walk away with a 4-1 victory.

Desire, speed and a willingness to preserve a unbeaten home record that was started last year, were the key factors in the Shirts shutout win over the Beothuks.

Jeff Mockler culminated the combined efforts of the entire UNB team by scoring two goals late in the game, to salt away the victory.

Nothing spectacular happened in the first half. Both teams played steadily and fairly evenly. John Msolomba provided the fans with the only real scoring threat of the half. He broke through the Memorial defense from his wing position and let go a blistering shot that the Beothuk goalie, Guy Bradbury dove for and deflected wide. Msolomba was constant thorn in the side of the Memorial defence.

At the 65th minute of the game, Memorial thought they had scored the go ahead goal. Their jubilation was short lived however, as the referee ruled that the scorer, Doug Whelan was offside on the play.

Mockler tallied his first goal with less than ten minutes to play. He took a long lead pass from the center-half Mike Atkinson, manoeuvred past the defence and drove a shot into

the bottom lefthand corner of the net.

The goal seemed to lift the Red Shirts a little higher. They clicked on the insurance marker seven minutes later. Mockler again tallied. He lofted a high floating shot that the Memorial goalie misplayed. Bradbury swatted at the shot and missed.

Along with Mockler, other Red Shirts that played strong games for the winning cause were Abbey Akinyemi in goals. He continually thwarted the Memorial attackers with his fine saves. Msolomba was also a stand-out on offense, his rushes kept the defenders guessing all afternoon.

Outstanding defenders for the Shirts were Clarence Bacus and Bruce Taylor.

However it was a team effort that parlayed the Red Shirts desire and hustle into the win over the defending maritime champions.

Sunday, the Red Shirts were successful in keeping the Memorial team — which has only four of last year's starters back this season — off the scoresheet for the first half, and they scored themselves at the 44th minute. John Msolomba banged in a loose ball during a scramble in front of the net. Gary Furlong had started the play by driving down the left wing and lofting a shot that hit the crossbar, it was in the ensuing scramble that Msolomba scored.

There was no further scoring in the first half.

Memorial came back in the second half and completely took control of the game. They pressed to the attack from the opening kick-off. The Red Shirts did not seem to be prepared for the aggressiveness of the Beothuks.

Bill Mills counted first for the Beothuks when he headed in a corner kick by Jeff Loder. The kick was perfectly placed and Mills simply out jumped the Red Shirt defenders to put the ball past the outstretched arms of Akinyemi.

The goal was scored at the 55th minute.

Loder figured in the second Memorial goal as well. He again placed a corner kick "on the money" and Doug Whelan headed the ball home at the 65th minute.

The Red Shirts continued to make spasmodic forays into the Memorial half of the field, but could not mount an attack that resulted in any goals.

Memorial increased their lead, with a third goal at the 68th minute as Bob Perks scored on a breakthrough that started on a pass from Mike Reddy. Perks cleanly beat Dave Potten the Red Shirt defender and fired a drive into the right hand corner of the net.

Mills rounded out the scoring for the Beothuks with his second goal of the game. The score was identical to his previous tally, he headed in a perfectly placed cornerkick by Loder. The scoring play occurred at the 78th minute of the game.

UNB was no match for the Beothuks in the second half. They were making sloppy passes and not giving good pursuit to the ball. The Red Shirt defenders were also not in top form as compared to Saturday's game. They were backing up on the attackers, who were able to break easily and quickly. If it had not been for Akinyemi in goal, the score would probably been higher.

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