

The week in sports

by Frank Denis

Football deflated at St. FX.

On Friday of last week St. Francis Xavier University, formally announced the abolition of their intercollegiate football team. The decision was made on purely monetary grounds as it is estimated that football costs St. FX close to \$175,000 annually. Heading into next season the AUAA will consist of only 4 teams: UCCB, St. Mary's, Acadia and Mt. Allison. That number in the next few days could be brought down to three as the UCCB program is under investigation by their school's board of directors.

Since the grim announcement, students and alumni of St. FX have been on a furious campaign to try and convince those in charge that the money is available for the program. The alumni association has put together a proposal that would in effect fund the team for the next two years.

St. FX's decision to axe football brings into focus a lot of questions. Will other uni-

versities who are having trouble paying for football pull out of their leagues as well? What does that do for those who are lobbying for the rejuvenation of the sport at UNB? On the one hand this event might put pressure on those with the decision to bring it back, to help keep the league alive. The more likely event would see those against it argue that its very difficult to fund a team that runs up a bill of close to \$200,000 a year.

It is unfortunate that officials decided to drop the bomb shell just before exams are about to begin and Christmas right around the corner. For many at the top of their Christmas wish list will read "a St. FX football team."

Red Bloomers win 2

The UNB Red Bloomers were involved in two exhibition games last week and came away winners in both.

A week ago the Bloomers traveled to Husson college in Maine and beat their hosts by a

score of 63-58. Kara Palmer and Jill Jackson led the way offensively for UNB with 15 and 13 points respectively. The trip home from Maine was made all the more exciting when their bus broke down. Luckily they were only a half hour out of Fredericton and were not delayed too much.

Last Sunday, the Red Bloomers held their annual alumni game at the LB Gym and won by an 18 point margin 80-62. Jennifer Hale and Palmer put in stellar performances for the current Bloomers by each scoring 18 point. Sylvia McConkey had 15 points for the "old timers" while former Red Sticks coach Joyce Slipp had 14.

Varsity Mania

by Boner DaBone

There are no excuses for missing this one, not even reports, papers or exams. Tough luck to you if you did miss last Saturday's UNB Red Devil vs. Acadia Axemen hockey cliff-hanger special. Both teams were closely matched all the way to a 5-5 tie at the end of the third. The overtime period, by far the most exciting one of the game, saw the players re-

ally battling it out. The fans were going nuts, right into the last minute of play, when sudden death really found the Axemen. You should've heard the place erupt when Kenny Murchison smacked in the game-winner from Hollis Chamberlain.

Varsity-Mania fan of the game PeeWee Donovan exclaimed "holy smokes, what a

snapper," his buddy with the radio said "yep couldn't of done it better myself, and I used to skate with Wayne Gretzky."


Varsity-Mania thanks all the fans of course, and our sponsors. Good luck on exams, merry holidays. Keep an eye or ear out for upcoming events, next term'll be a dewsy! Steve says "Rock on with Pert Plus" Bone says "Keep on truckin'."



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