

Ironmen tie Exiles in rugby action

By J.C. MORTON

A return to the original playoff format where the league winner advances to the Maritime Championships has added importance to every fixture in the New Brunswick Rugby Union -first division. No one knew this better than the UNB Ironmen I who played the Fredericton Exiles I this past weekend. If UNB lost their chances of winning the league were slim. On the other hand, the Exiles knew a victory for them would enhance their chances of post-season play.

The Ironmen seemed determined to strike first, but a penalty kick that went wide gave the Exiles the opportunity to draw the first blood. The Exiles took full advantage of an opportunity provided them on a UNB penalty near their goal line. It was Mike Arthur who crashed through Ironmen defenders to open the scoring. Taggett Phillips converted the try and the Exiles were ahead 6-0. It wasn't long after, that another UNB penalty provided Fredericton with an opportunity to further their lead. This time Phillips kicked a penalty goal which gave the Exiles a nine point bulge.

This seemed to awaken the Ironmen attack as they struck back with a try. Grant Mitchell chased down an up-and-under in the Exile end zone. Doug Stewart provided the convert to narrow the gap at 9-6 in favor of the Exiles. Sloppy play in the loose by the UNB forwards resulted in the Exiles gaining possession from an Ironmen maul.

A quick chip towards the UNB goal was gathered in by Phil Northy for the second Fredericton try. Once again Phillips convert was good and the Exiles regained a nine point lead.

However, their nine point margin was narrowed when UNB converted a penalty goal courtesy of Doug Stewart, which brought the Ironmen within four points of the Exiles.

A determined Fredericton offense came right back at the Ironmen, led by the strategic kicking of out-half Phillips. It was Mike David who scored the Exile try, increasing their lead to ten points as the convert went wide. The score remained

unchanged in the final minutes of the first half.

Possession went back and forth for the early going in the second half as both teams were trying to establish position to attack from. UNB's anxiousness to score was demonstrated a number of times when a play began developing only to fall short on the account of a dropped ball. However, the Ironmen settled down as the half wore on and began attacking the Exile defenders at every opportunity. This offensive strategy paid off when Sean Curran took the ball and raced forwards into the end zone diving in for a try. The try went unconverted and the score stood at favor of the Exiles.

The try revived the Ironmen and they didn't hesitate to take the play back to the Exiles, pressing them constantly in their own end. A number of UNB opportunities fell short before Grant Mitchell burst through the Exile defense and into the end zone. Doug Stewart's conversion split the uprights and the score was tied at nineteen.

With only a few minutes to play the Ironmen kept pressing Fredericton in their own end. One final attempt was made for an Ironmen victory, but the drop goal went wide and when the final whistle blew the score remained at 19-19 tie.

Individual play was not the order of the day as the Ironmen survived a shaky first half to put in the best

team performance to date. Congratulations to the UNB XV's for a great second half.

Other UNB rugby actions saw the UNB Ironmen II play the Moncton Marshawks on Sunday. The first half was all Moncton as they opened up a 11-0 halftime lead on the strength of two unconverted tries and a penalty kick.

A more determined UNB XV emerged at the beginning of the second half only to have the wind knocked out of their sails by another Marshawk try. Determined running and crisp passing finally paid off as the Ironmen got on the scoreboard when Eirc Morgan outran Moncton defenders into the end zone for a try. The conversion goes wide and the score stands 15-4 in favor of the Marshawks.

UNB's comeback is short lived as the Marshawks strike back with a converted try of their own to open up a seventeen point lead. This margin was soon narrowed by Brian Donovan's try with a Dave Pizio conversion. Donovan's try rounded out the scoring giving the Marshawks a 21-10 victory over the Ironmen.

Rounding off the weekends results on Friday, UNB Ironmen III defeated Fredericton High School (no score available). This weekend the UNB Ironmen II play Moncton Marshawks at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9 at College Field, while UNB Ironmen I travel to Saint John Saturday.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

backwards as many times as possible. Forbes prizes were a pair of hand knitted braces, a wooden bench, a bag of beans, and a jug of cider.

In Sunday's doubles events, team captain Jim Ketterling and again Campbell Forbes took first place, winning the log decking, splitting, speed chopping and water boil events. They share two bags of potatoes, two bags of flour, two bags of bran, two jugs of cider and a pair of braces each.

Members of the women's team unfortunately did not come away with any victories, but did well none the less. In the most hotly contested events, the pancake eating, Joe Gushue narrowly defeated Melanie Richardson 14-13, while Jeff

Crossman, coming on strong in the final minutes, was still behind when time was called. While Richardson looks good in the pancake eating, the rest of the women's team is strong in the speed chopping, splitting, and sawing events.

The King's Landing competition was an informal affair, but it was still a competition, and gave the three UNB teams a chance to practice under pressure. This weekend, Thanksgiving, is the first real test, at Unity, Maine. In two more weeks, October 22, close to thirty teams from Canada and the United States will be entered in the year's most important event for the UNB team, the UNB International Woodsmen's Competition.

THE

ARMCHAIR QUARTER BACK



Divisional rivalries highlight this week's NFL match-ups; 11 out of the 14 games being played are intra-divisional contests. This is the week that some of the pretenders will be separated from the contenders.

I'm not feeling very verbose this week, so here are my picks for this weekend's games:

MIAMI over Buffalo by 4 - The Dolphins have been playing poorly as of late, but they should still be able to down the Bills who have not shown a whole lot of offense.

Denver over HOUSTON BY 5 - The Broncos are another team that hasn't had much 'O' lately, but they should be able to hand the winless Oilers their sixth loss.

Green Bay over DETROIT by 10 - The Pack is back - after 49 first-half points against the Bucs last week, what else can I say? The Lions will be in for a long afternoon.

RAIDERS over Kansas City by 6 - this one has upset potential, due to the long-standing rivalry between these teams; but the Raiders should roar back from their loss to the Skins to hand the Chiefs loss number 4.

SAN FRANCISCO over Los Angeles by 3 - showdown in the NFC west; should be an excellent game. Give it to the 49ers on the basis of home-field advantage.

Minnesota over CHICAGO by 3 - another good match-up; the Vikes had Dallas on the ropes last week but couldn't deliver the knock-out punch. The Bears are a much-improved team, but they're still a year or two away from being serious divisional contenders.

New England over BALTIMORE by 5 - the Pats dropped their season opener to the Colts up in Foxboro, so they shouldn't have any motivational problems. And the Colts are not THAT good.

ATLANTA over New Orleans by 2 - the Falcons dropped a close one to Philly last week, and will be looking to rebound. The Saints look more and more like they're for real, every week. But they have to lose sometime, and after a couple of fantastic performances, look for them to let down a little against Atlanta. (Also, they might be looking ahead to next week's game with the 49ers)

NY Jets over CLEVELAND by 7 - the Jets are rolling again, after a couple of shaky games, and shouldn't have too much trouble putting up points against the Browns' weak secondary.

NY GIANTS over Philadelphia by 8 - the Giants keep finding new ways to lose games. If they don't continue with that trend this week, they should beat the Eagles.

Seattle over SAN DIEGO by 7 - the Seahawks beat up on Cleveland last week, and should do the same to Air Coryell this week. When you have to score 41 points to outscore the Giants, you know you've got problems on defense.

DALLAS over Tampa Bay by 12 - Packers 55, Bucs 14 - what else needs to be said? Dallas should breeze by the Bucs who are destined for the cellar.

ST. LOUIS over Washington by 3 - Whenever I pick the Cards to win, they lose; when I pick them to lose, they win. I'm going with them this week because they always seem to play well against the Skins in Busch Stadium.

Pittsburgh over CINCINNATI by 7 - one way or another, the Steelers keep on winning. The Bengals have not played well at home this year - their only win was against Tampa on the road.

RECORD: Last Week: 9-5 (.643) vs. the spread: 8-1 (.889) overall: 36-34 (.514) vs. the spread: 17-6 (.714)

The first UNB-STU blood donor clinic of the season will be held: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - October 17, 18, 19. Place: UNB SUB BALLROOM. Time: 1:30 - 4:30 PM and 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Quota: Monday - 125 donors, Tuesday - 200 donors, Wednesday - 200 donors.

Inter-residence competitions are very much in evidence at UNB blood donor clinics. Last January Neville House squeaked past Aitken, having registered 73 donors to Aitken's 65, to win the Moosehead and Labatt Interhouse competition.