

SPORTS

The Sports Department

-a great place to be

By DAVE MOMBOURQUETTE
Co-Sports-Editor

It was a dark and rainy Saturday morning, sometime in early August, when I found myself alone in the confines of the Brunswickan office.

While questioning my sanity for being out of bed so early on a Saturday, I remembered my given assignment. I had been asked, as co-sports-editor, to think of a catchy write-up that would have all of you intelligent and eager freshmen breaking the doors down to help out the sports department, the domain I rule with my cohort Tom Henderson.

"A piece of cake," I said to myself as I proceeded to lapse into a state of writer's block. Sure I could tell you all the obvious reasons for joining. The opportunity to advance your writing skills while gaining invaluable experience could result eventually in persuading the field professionally, as many former staffers have done. There is also the chance to gain an up-close view of your favorite campus team, the personal contact with the coaches and players adding something extra to the view from the stands.

Getting bored with the same old scenery? The sports department offers a very good chance of covering our men and women on the road. The field is not restricted only to campus teams either, as the Aitken Centre at the top of the hill is continually hosting prestigious events. The fact it hosted last year's World Junior Curling Championships, and is currently the home of the American Hockey League's Fredericton Express prove that point.

I'm sure you'll agree the above are all good reasons, but there still had to be a little something more that kept us coming back every week, in the face of nearing deadlines for everything from stories and photographs to the actual layout.

In search of the answer I took a look around the quiet and deserted office. Down past the layout tables I could see the desk of our exalted editor-in-chief, Christie Walker. "Nice girl that Christie," I said to myself, until I remembered it was her phone-call the night before that brought an end to my thoughts of a quiet weekend. Hey, so nobody's perfect!

Closer to home I noticed the abode of Rick Wightman, our

somewhat zany photo-editor. It helps to be on the good side of Rick if you want your pictures to remain in focus.

Opposite Rick, the desks of Jeff Irwin and Bob MacMillan could be seen side-by-side. Although respectively, the managing editor and advertising manager, Jeff and Bob have often shared their numerous talents by helping out a couple of very ap-

preciative sports editors.

To my right, the cluttered desk of our energetic news editor, Tim Lethbridge, threatened to collapse under its own weight. Tim is the guy they were talking about when they invented the work keen. A few more like him and we would not be long in challenging the professional papers in this area.

And tucked away in the cor-

ner behind me was none other than the hideout of Ann Kennerly, our soft-spoken entertainment editor. Ann is always willing and able to lend her photographic talents to give the sports pages a little life.

"Yep! Generally the office was a pretty great place," was the thought that ran through my head. Then it hit me. Without those folks I mentioned above, and all of the other,

'Brunnies', the office would just be another room full of old furniture. I can't be sure what reason will bring you through our doors, but if you stay I can guarantee the other people you meet and work with will have a lot to do with it.

So if you want something more when you leave UNB than just a diploma, give us a try, we are always willing to give you that bit extra.



KICK OFF
with
unb red shirts

By TOMO
Brunswickan Staff

On behalf of my fellow players on the UNB Varsity soccer team, I would like to give a big welcome in introducing new students to the UNB Red Shirts.

Each fall the Red Shirts squad meets to begin preparation for the annual battle with their seven Atlantic university rivals for the AUSA soccer championship. This year we feel particularly excited about our chances of success in this competition, and as a returning player from last year's team I would like to share with you the reasons for our early enthusiasm and the atmosphere prevailing for this year's campaign. I would also like to urge you to support us in our endeavours by coming to the games. All varsity games this year are free for spectators.

We have several good reasons for looking forward to the season with high hopes. The first and most obvious reason is the considerable depth that this year's squad will undoubtedly have, in terms of players with skill and experience. This is due mainly to the fact that we have lost only two players from last year's starting line-up, but also due to the fact that we have a number of players who are always knocking on the door for a first team place and keeping competition for team places at an optimum level. All our players have skill in one department or another and we also have some new faces joining us whom we believe will compliment the experience in the squad perfectly by adding fresh talent. In this way, every player will have to play well and make a positive contribution to the team as a whole in order to keep his place, thus ensuring that at all times we

will be strong in every position on the field.

Another reason is that the Red Shirts already proudly boast a fine record in AUSA and CIAU competition (ten AUSA championships since 1948, plus the historic capture of the national CIAU title two years ago in 1980—the first ever CIAU title to be brought home to UNB). We can smell the same sort of atmosphere as the 1981 season and indeed still have several players from the CIAU winning side. The Red Shirts have always had a reputation for being a tough, skilful team who are always it seems somewhere around when it comes to the playoffs. Last season, our first since the CIAU title win, was essentially a rebuilding year as many starting players were lost. However, the team still finished with a won 6, tied 3, lost 1 record and reached the AUSA final to become the runners-up to Saint Mary's. There is no reason this year why the Red Shirts should not have another outstanding season under the guidance and leadership of coach Gary Brown who has proved himself to be a ver-

satile and inspiring coach.

In addition to our playing depth and past achievements, we have something of a new beginning; that is to say, we have a slightly different set-up. This year, instead of playing home games at College Field (next to the Lady Beaverbrook Rink) where we won the CIAU final two years ago, the Red Shirts will move up the hill and play on the recently improved Chapman Field next to the Aitken Centre, and just above Lady Dunn Hall. Hopefully the new flat playing surface will be conducive to quality, controlled soccer and will encourage our style of attacking play. The field hockey team will also use the field. Not to mention a new field, we also have new goals, new nets and a new strip!

Our forth reason for being optimistic is that we anticipate considerably more support and publicity this year than last, last year being very disappointing considering the national title win. The decision to make all varsity games free to students this year will hopefully encourage students to come and support us. The growing

popularity of soccer in Canada, backed this summer by the extensive TV coverage of the world cup, should also help. The recent and controversial dissolution of the UNB football team, although regrettable, inevitably elevates soccer in the UNB context by making it the number one fall team sport. In terms of publicity, we have a new game program planned for free distribution at home games, and a regular column in the Brunswickan called KICK OFF providing pre-game build-up, news and player profiles. Finally we have a favorable schedule with the notoriously strong SMU, Dalhousie and P.E.I. teams having to travel here to play.

All this adds up to an exciting atmosphere. If you would like to try out for the Red Shirts, we train at College Field every day from 6.00-8.00 p.m. beginning the first week in September. At any rate, please come up to Chapman Field for our opening game of the season against Mount Allison University. This is at 2.00 p.m. on Saturday, September 18. Come prepared for some goals.

Varsity Soccer

the
brunswickan

First General Meeting
Friday September 10, 1982
12:30 SUB room 35

ALL WELCOME

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