

Ironmen trounce Lions

The 1987 Ironmen Rugby Football Club appears to have finally gotten things under control after losing and drawing on their first two matches of the season.

Both games were held in early September, the controversial start-up date passed by the governing body of the New Brunswick Rugby Union who had slated to begin regular season play before the core of the teams has returned to school.

Last Saturday saw the Ironmen defeat St. John Kings County Lions "A" division side 20-0 in a rather one-sided game. The Lions failed to match UNB's fitness and scrummage work seeing all tries scored by the forwards. It was a textbook example of stable, conservative play led by Fredericton's Exiles scrumhalf expatriate Peter O'Flaherty. The back row forwards John Warner, Tony Lester, and Mike Parent ruled the day, attacking with conviction around set play. The three quarter line, when deemed worthy, received a smattering of very good ball which was well run throughout.

Honourable mention goes out to the totally revamped line who played hard in attack and defense. Chris Carr and Ragnar O'Borne ran well from the centres, while David Simon and rookie Dwayne Harris shut down the Lions' outside movement. Paul "Adonis" Keery played a total of 160 minutes of R rugby on the day, a staggering feat.

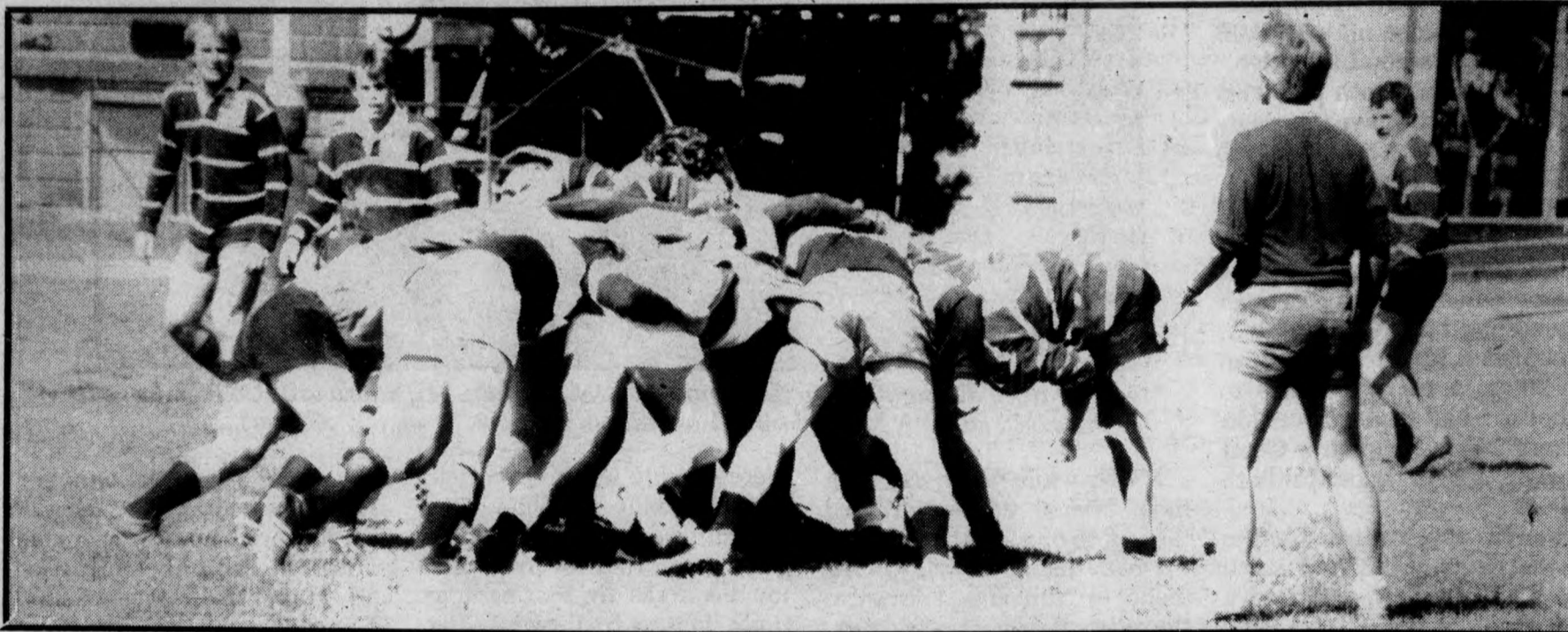
The first half of play saw two ties go in on total pack efforts inside the Lions 22 metre mark; Mike Parent went in for one midway into play from a five metre set, while the backs remained content to play a more conservative positional game utilizing some well placed kicks. Howard Constable scored the second try of the game running with his tight

five on a great second phase play. It was his first score in three years of rugby at UNB (if you see him, buy him a beer).

Randy Ketterling was good for one field goal and a single conversion as the halftime whistle blew. In the second half, UNB was held to a single try by Bob Parent, the front row section of the "Parent Upper Canadian Connection".

Ketterling went two for four on field goals with one two-point conversion. Limestone sidamite Gerry Guest and veteran Mike McClare hoarded all lineout balls, even those that travelled somewhat askew of Hooker John Carr's wishes.

UNB "A" plays next week on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 3 p.m. on College field vs. the Fredericton Exiles.

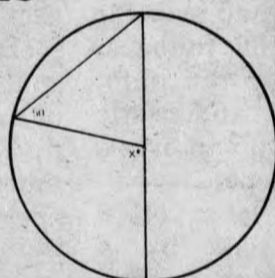


File photo. Ironmen rugby football club in a scrum.

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