

The Front Row

by Maria Paisley
Sport Editor

Nine out of ten soccer balls are illiterate. Help combat soccerball illiteracy by joining us.

Chris Daigle

The above quote got me interested in writing sports, as a result I innocently went to a staff meeting to join to write sports. I decided to help Chris in his efforts to combat soccer ball illiteracy. I certainly learned more about newspaper than writing things like being . . . subjected sleep deprivation, too much caffeine and forgetting what it is like to have a life. After an eventful year(?) at the paper I should have decided that there was more to life than combatting soccer ball illiteracy (not saying that soccer balls are worthless - but reeally).

The following year I decided to join the Bruns to work with the last of the Denis clan. It was great all I had to do was write sports and a bit of layout. I discovered that newspapers and sleep deprivation, caffeine and the lack of a life were not necessarily part of the job description. (This can in fact be misleading at times). I can certainly say that the skills that can be learned are certainly useful - things like computer skills, handling deadlines without killing someone, although being able to function without sleep tends to be a rather beneficial skill.

Well I guess I hung out here too much and people started asking me to think about a being an editor (AACK!) I just wanted to write about sports - really! Not that I didn't think that I couldn't do it - considering that I was being well trained by Bruce. Thaannkks sooo much! I knew what the job of an editor entailed and that's what scares me. There is nothing like being a walking ad for Valium. Noo thaanks - once is enough. But unfortunately writing and newspaper is in one's blood and you can't escape , even if you try to run from it. Not even Ben Johnson on steroids can run fast enough to escape. Well when I decided to consider being an editor - some may consider it a momentary lapse of reason.

We're always looking for new people who are interested in writing, layout, and sports photography. The skills that you learn are certainly transferable to other organizations or could even lead to a job in journalism - which can be a rather exciting job in itself.

Over the summer there were a number of coaching changes made to the varsity teams. These changes started out as simple changes but then started to develop into a continuing saga in which one had to stay tuned on almost a daily basis to know who was coaching what team, and what their position was and would be. The story about the coaching changes can be found on the first page of the sports section. If you haven't kept on top of the changes then you may be advised to read it slowly - to ensure that you don't get lost with all of the changes. The coaching changes are not complete as a men's volleyball coach has still to be named.

I do believe that with all of the changes that it will definately be an interesting year. I wish all of the coaches involved the best of luck in their new coaching duties.

Club Sports

Rugby Team Set For Season

by Bones
Bruns Sports

The UNB Ironmen rugby team has already drawn blood.

Last Saturday, with but a weeks practice under their belts, the first side opened the season with a hotly contested 16-8 loss to the UNB Old Boys in men's first division rugby.

The Ironmen came into the season with impressive credentials. The second fifteen stand as defending Maritime University Champions while the first fifteen just completed an undefeated spring tour which was highlighted by a 45-7 defeat over the perennial US University Finalists, Harvard first fifteen.

Acting as Assistant to veteran coach professor Bob Cockburn is Welsh coach Rod Thomas. He comes as a Law Student to UNB after a stint as Coach of the South West England Divisional Team, Asst. Coach Thomas was impressed, "(Coach Cockburn) has done an incredible job in laying a great foundation. If, with the advantage of two coaches, we can develop the team by emphasizing individual skills and adapting to the modern changes in the game I'll be more than happy."

The match opened with the UNB Old Boys using their size and experience in mauling the ball to take on a younger Ironmen pack playing their first match of the season. The Ironmen staunchly refused to yield ground and the first half see-sawed with the Old Boys holding a slight advantage.

Neither side was able to cross the goal line and the first half ended with the Old Boys up 9-3 on account of the kicking of Paul Wilson who notched 2 penalties and a beautiful drop goal. Fly-half Matt Thorpe replied with the lone marker for the Ironmen.

The second half began like the first with neither side being able to gain the decisive advantage. However, after 15 minutes the Old Boys steadily mounted the pressure, pushing the Ironmen backwards. The Old Boys



Ironmen Dave Damery gets the lineout against the Old Boys.
Photo by Paul Mysak

downfield dive culminated with a five yard scrum on which Chris Mallet went blind on an eight man pick-up and crashed over the line for the try. Paul Wilson converted for 16-3 lead.

Rather than being disheartened the Ironmen were furious and stormed up the field. For the remaining twenty minutes the Ironmen dominated the game, not once letting the Old Boys out of their own half.

The pack was led by the outstanding play of flankers Andrew Lauchland and New Zealander John Sparks, the power of hooker John Baggs, who combined in the lineouts with second row Dave Damery time and time again; and the drive of eight man Dave Murchison. Rucking ferociously in combination with the play of newly returned veteran scrumhalf Jason "Bud" Clark, the Ironmen drove to the goal to be stopped by the strength of the Old Boys

Scrum and the cool kicking of Old Boy fly-half Andy Duplessis.

The determination of the Ironmen was not to go unrewarded. Winger Dean Plant, who had teamed up for several spectacular runs with newly arrived outside center Prentice Durbin, ended the UNB drive by shaking a tackle and diving into the corner to bring the tally to 16-8 as time expired.

This strength of play of the Ironmen bodes well for the future. With a week of training ahead of them the Ironmen first fifteen eagerly await next Saturdays match vs the defending Maritime Champion St. John Trojans. Meanwhile the second side are impatient for their home debut vs Mount Allison.

Anyone wishing to either play or learn how to play rugby and are able to handle a man's game, are invited to attend Tuesday's and Thursday's 5 pm practice at Buchanan Field.

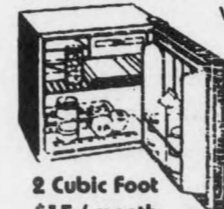
Learn to Rock Climb

UNB Rock and Ice Club will be holding the annual rock climbing school Sept. 24 & 25. An informational meeting is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 19 @ 7:00pm in MacLaggen Hall 105.

For club info call: Mike Gumpert (president) 454-6990 Elise Craft (membership) 459-5268.

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