

DALHOUSIE Gazette SPORTS



TIGERS, X-MEN BATTLE TO DRAW

Sports Roundup

TIGERS STALLED BY ST. F.X.

The Dalhousie Tigers drive for first place in the Nova Scotia Canadian Football League received a setback on Saturday as the Tigers were held to a 17-17 tie by a fighting St. F.X. squad. The Bengals seemed to have the better of the play throughout the game but everytime St. F.X. needed a touchdown to stay in the running they pulled one out of the hat in one way or another. A missed convert was the difference between victory and a tie. Ace place kicker for the Tigers, Charlie MacKenzie, missed a convert in the final frame and it has been quite a spell since that happened. Highlights of the game were provided chiefly on the plays that resulted in touchdowns, all of which resulted from wide-open crowd-pleasing plays. The officials also provided a little show of their own as on more than one occasion they seemed uncertain as to what to do to get the game going.

BIG TRIP SET FOR SATURDAY

Because of the thrilling game that the two teams engaged in on Saturday, interest should be at an all time high for the forthcoming game in Antigonish on next Saturday, October 30. The officials of the Rink Rats Organization are working hard to arrange a train to take Dalhousie supporters to see this encounter. However, a minimum of 200 tickets must be sold before the train can be officially engaged and this number must be reached by Wednesday or the trip is off. Therefore if you have not yet bought your ticket, but are thinking of doing so, don't put it off or it will be too late. "Get on the Bandwagon for X" as all the signs say.

AGE OVER YOUTH

It is an old maxim in sports that experience will in the long run triumph over youth. We hope the professional schools wouldn't take this "age" tag too seriously, but it seems that early results in the Rugby League support this theory. In the first two games of the season the Lawyers trounced the Engineers 7-2 and the Doctors from Forrester downed the Commerce crew 13-2.

The reason for the belatedness in publishing the schedule for this league is that the DAAC has not yet decided on the teams that will make up the loop. Pharmacy, unable to support a team of their own on account of a shortage of players, are resirous in joining with Arts and Science in putting in a combined team. Arts and Science, by far the largest faculty on the campus, for some reason finds great difficulty in fielding inter-fac teams, and this corner suggests that if the smallest and the largest faculties can unite in this venture perhaps they can produce a winner, or at least a team that will show up for scheduled games. Disgruntled Law and Med students, who in past years have shown up for games scheduled with Arts and Science only to find that their opponents didn't show up, will undoubtedly appreciate this greatly.

Jane McNeil Scores Winning Markers in Hockey Contests

The Dal girls' ground hockey team continued their winning streak last week when they defeated teams from both Kings and Acadia. Dal now stands in first place in the Nova Scotia Girls' Intercollegiate Ground Hockey League by virtue of their three wins and no defeats.

On Tuesday of last week the Dal team defeated Kings by a score of 1-0. Jan McNeill scored for the winning tally. Gwen MacDonald and Carolyn Flemming were outstanding for Dal, while Nancy Hyndman, the King's goalie, also played a good game.

Dal played Acadia on Saturday at Studley and again were the victors by a very slight margin, the game ending 1-0. At the end of the first half there was no score, but in the last five minutes of play Jane McNeill once again scored the winning goal. Barb Clancy and Jane McNeill played well for Dal.

Dal will play Kings again Tuesday at twelve on King's field. If Dal wins this game the team will play Mount A in the very near future for the Maritime Girls' Intercollegiate Ground Hockey Championship.

Cross-Country Race Postponed to Nov. 2

The Annual Interfaculty Cross-Country Race, scheduled originally for Oct. 23, has been tentatively postponed to Tuesday, Nov. 2, at 1:15 p.m. The reasons advanced for the change in date are (1) it was thought that there would be too much confusion at the football game at half time to have the finish occur at that time and (2) time was needed to consider a proposal by Pharmacy that they unite with Arts and Science in interfaculty competition. Advanced word has it that the engineers are out to win this event to prove that they can win something. (Ed. note — Law downed the engineers 7-2 in interfac rugby competition.)

Engineers Go Down In Defeat to Law

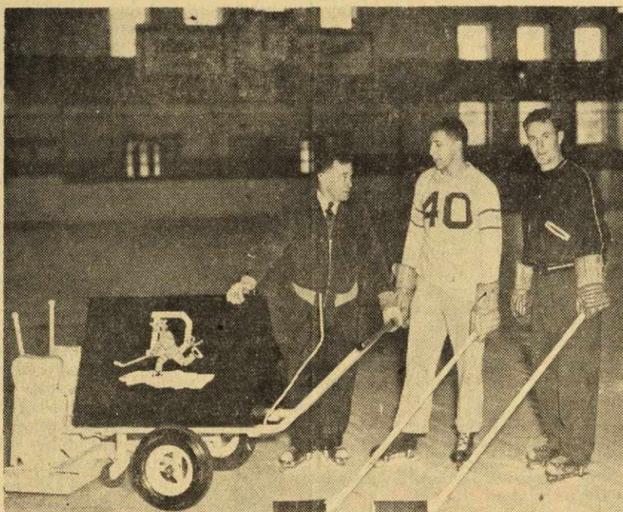
"Try to stop us"; this is what we heard after the game around the locker room following Laws 7-2 triumph over the Engineers last Thursday in the first regularly scheduled game in the Inter-Fac Rugby League. Playing on a wet field, the Lawmen displayed too much power for their younger foemen from the "shack". Paced by Pat Nowlan and Eric Demont, Law went ahead early in the first quarter when Demont racked up 2 points on a penalty kick. In the second quarter, Engineers tied it up as harding working Dave Thomas booted the ball through the uprights to put Engineers back in the running. This breather lasted until early in the third quarter when big Pat Nowlan went over for a try to put Law ahead 5-2. Demont ended the scoring when he converted Nowlan's try, leaving the score at 7-2.

Both scrums turned in an excellent job and before the season progresses too far we expect to see a good brand of ball from both teams. A rumbling is already being heard from the fellows down on the corner and the talk is war.

Football Schedule

Following is the schedule of the remaining game of the Dalhousie Tigers football team:

- October 30— Dal vs. St. F.X. at Antigonish
- November 6— Greenwood vs Dal at Studley
- November 13— Shearwater vs Dal at Studley
- November 20 — Semi-finals
- November 27 — Finals



Shown in the above picture snapped last week in the Dalhousie Memorial Rink are two members of Dal's Phys. Ed. Staff out for an early fling on the skates. From left to right: "Pop" Jones, in charge of the ice-making procedures, and coaches Al Thomas (40) and Angus Gillis.

"Some Changes I Hope": One Man's Views on Dal Football

We have now watched the Tigers play four football games and can quite easily come to the following conclusions. Firstly, that the team is well cached. Secondly, tha the team consists of good players. Thirdly, that for the first time in many years the team has depth. Fourthly, that the team plays good football only when they are forced to play good football.

Let us examine what has happened in the last three games. We see that after a pitiful first half, the boys finally got down to business and scored a few points in the third quarter in order to bring themselves within a respectable distance of the opposition. Now there is no logical reason why this could not have been done in any of the other three quarters. Something is missing on our football team, and this something could very well be a little bit of "guts" football. There is no reason for our football players to play in low gear and still believe that they can win the game. Perhaps the tussle with X proved this point, for two of the three touchdowns which they scored were nothing but presents, and could not, to say the least, be considered the results of sharply executed offensive strategy. Again, the Tigers ought to have scored at least three more times than they actually did, but were held by nothing but the sheer determination of a not too tricky defence. Let us hope that this apathetic attitude is rectified before it is too late.

Pass Defence Good

One of the bright spots of the X game was the presentation by the Tigers of a reasonably sound pass defence. While it was true that Pete Lassaux did manage to complete a few forward passes, most of them were either knocked down or were poorly thrown because the passer was rushed. It ought to be pointed out that a team which relies so much on its pass of fence must be expected to complete at least a few of its attempts, and in the light of this it may be said that the terrible threats from the local press concerning a furious pass offence from X did not quite jell in Saturday's game.

Now, for the biggest beef. It was obvious from the stands that many of the Tigers offensive platoon were not certain of their plays. Now, of all the crimes of which a football player may be guilty, this is the worst. The offensive strategy has been outlined time and time again by the coach and the plays may be found in the coach's office for the benefit of those whose memories are a mite infirm. Should the same situation occur next week at Antigonish, perhaps we shall start to mention names, so that the blame does not fall on those who are innocent.

From the defensive point of view the picture is much happier. The line is playing good football and the secondaries are contributing able assistance. Don Murphy has proven himself to be a real rock in the defensive backfield and Larry Travis and Bob Miller added great tackling power. If anything at all is wrong with the defence, it would be found in the centre of the line, and even at that, ththey have been showing adequate form.

Council is Lax

One final criticism should suffice for this week's column on football, and this is directed toward the Student Council. Football is the major sport during the fall term at the University and it attracts most of the students from both campuses. Everybody likes to watch their own team play a good game, and the players want to play a good game. But how would you feel if you had to play the game in equipment which is highly inadequate and is a risk to player's well-being. I ask you, have you ever seen a hockey or football team from either Acadia or X look as shabbily dressed as Dalhousie? What is important also is that the average Dal student likes to watch a team which looks like something and again is sufficiently equipped so as to fill the heart of the player as well as the student with a little pride for old Dalhousie. Now it was alright for the Council to say a few years ago that it could not afford to support a team which incurred such a great expense; but that was a few years ago and times have changed, for now the team makes more money than is paid out to maintain it. A few facts: Charlie McKenzie had to buy a new pair of boots because Dalhousie could not outfit him. Gary Watson had to bind the front of his football pants in order to keep them together in the Sad game. Bob Miller played the X game in an obsolete helmet because there was not one which would fit him. Bayne Henderson is forced to change helmets with a player on the offensive platoon. At least 8 players are wearing defective boots and about the same number have inadequate hip and kidney pads. About half of the linemen have not blocking pads. There is no guarantee that a serious illness will be completely paid for should a player be so injured.

Stage Set for Sat. After 17-17 Tie

Last Saturday, before a crowd of 2300, the favoured Dalhousie Tigers ran up against a powerful football team from St. F.X. and barely managed to come away with a 17-17 tie. The result prevented Dal from tying with Stad for second place and placed the team third in the five-team-loop. The St. F.X. team displayed a sharp passing attack and a solid defensive line in their first game of the season against the Tigers, while the Bengals, brilliant at times, played on the whole a poorer game than was expected of them. The draw set the stage for a lively return match in Antigonish on next Saturday.

The Tigers struck early in the game on their first sequence of plays. From their own 40, runs by Bryson, Cluney and MacVicar carried the ball to the St. F.X. 35-yard line. On the next play Cluney unleashed his first pass of the game and found Watson in the clear on the ten. Watson carried across for a touchdown and MacKenzie converted to give Dal an early 6-0 lead.

St. F.X. Take Over

Early in the second quarter the X-men struck unexpectedly. With Dal in possession on their own 45, a lateral by Cluney found its way into the hands of Xaverian lineman Verrier. Pursued by four Tigers, Verrier eluded them all and scored standing. Shea's convert tied the score 6-6, and no further scoring resulted in the first half.

The half-time rest appeared to strengthen the St. F.X. squad. After a beautiful runback of the Dal kick-off by Kenny Flinn, runs by McInnery, Montminy and Flynn brought the ball all the way to the Dal 19-yard line. Dal tackle Don Lyons hauled down McInnery on the line of scrimmage on the next play so quarterback Lesaux took to the air. One pass to Frank Shea picked up 13 yards and another to the surefingered end was good for a touchdown. Shea's convert attempt hit the uprights and St. F.X. lead 11-6.

At this point the referees decided to get into the act, and they succeeded in holding up the game while they argued about a rule interpretation. The eventful result was that the Tigers got the ball on their own 18-yard line instead of on the 55 where it had been before the debate took place. Why? Who knows. At any rate no further scoring occurred in the third quarter and going into the final frame the Tigers trailed 11-6.

Meds Triumph Over Commerce Rivals

Age and experience once again has proved its worth on the gridiron when last Friday the powerful Med team trounced an inexperienced Commerce team 17-2 before a fairly large crowd of students. Controlling play for most of the game, the Med boys had little trouble. Perhaps the hardest working player on the field was Ellis Ross, who booted Commerce's lone two points early in the first quarter to put Commerce into a 2-0 lead. This was shortlived as a try by Ransom put the "medicine men ahead 3-2. Within the next three quarters trys by Mike McCollough, Shultz, Cruikshanks and Jardine opened up a 15-2 with no answer-reply from Commerce. The final try by Jardine was converted by Kinley.

By the way the Commerce scrum was working, it was evident that not too many of the squad had played the English game before. A standout for Medicine was Cruikshanks who spearheaded on the strong Med scrum. Sparking the Commerce efforts were Ellis Ross, Dave Matheson and Dave Shaw.

Football Standings

Following is the standings of the teams in the N.S.C.F.L., including games played up to October 23:

| Team | P | W | L | T | F | A | Pts |
|----------|---|---|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Shear. | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 110 | 102 | 10 |
| Stad. | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 93 | 70 | 6 |
| Dal | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 75 | 68 | 5 |
| St. F.X. | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 62 | 56 | 3 |
| Grnwd. | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 58 | 102 | 2 |

Fourth Quarter

On the second play of the fourth quarter Dave Bryson electrified the crowd on a driving run around right end that was good for 14 yards and a touchdown. MacKenzie converted to give Dal the lead once again 12-11. Shortly afterwards, X - quarterback Lesaux threw a pass from deep in his own zone. Tiger Gary Watson, playing a headsup game, literally grabbed the ball out of the intended receiver's hands on the 20-yard line and zig-zagged his way for a touchdown, his second of the afternoon. The convert attempt was missed and Dal lead 17-11.

The Xaverians quickly knotted the score. The kick off was run back to their own 39-yard line. From there Lesaux tossed a pass to Higgins who waltzed down the field for a touchdown as the Dal defenders seemingly were counting the crowd. Shea's convert tied the score 17-17 and it remained that way until the final gun.

Bits and Pieces — Missing from the Dalhousie game, because of injuries were halfback Nip Theakston, fullback John Nichols and linebackers Mel Young and John Bourinot. As a result of the injuries, coach Al Thomas came up with a new backfield combination. The Dal defensive line was steady but the backfield defensive setup appeared weak on many of Lesaux's passes. Flynn, Scatlone, Huck and McInney played well offensively for St. F.X. The referees, commonly referred to as "the blind mice" throughout the afternoon, were Noble, Maskell and Reid. New players for Dal were Bob Miller and Lany Travis, both of whom stood out as defensive linebackers.

Scoring Summary

- First Quarter
- 1. Touchdown, Dal, Watson
- 2. Convert, Dal, MacKenzie
- Second Quarter
- 3. Touchdown, St. F.X., Verrier
- 4. Convert, St. F.X., Shea
- Third Quarter
- 5. Touchdown, St. F.X., Shea
- Fourth Quarter
- 6. Touchdown, Dal, Bryson
- 7. Convert, Dal, MacKenzie
- 8. Touchdown, Dal, Watson
- 9. Touchdown, St. F.X., Higgins
- 10. Convert, St. F.X., Shea