

Last minute goal gives game to Dal Tigers

By ALBERT EL-KHOURY

Contrary to their goals, the Red Shirts soccer team experienced a very unproductive weekend last week. St. Francis held them to a 1-1 tie and Dalhousie, third in the nation last year edged them 2-1 on a last second goal.

In the game against St. Francis, a score of 6-1 in favor of UNB would have been more indicative of the play of the game. UNB executed their plays to perfection until they penetrated the St. Francis 18 yard line where erratic shooting and inability to finish their plays hurt them.

The St. Francis goalie with key saves also lead to UNB's downfall. It looked like St. Francis was going to pick up a most undeserving two points until dependable David Stringer headed the ball between the goalposts with less than two minutes remaining in the game.

The recent years UNB students have complained about the performance of various varsity teams. Their criticism is not well grounded when referring to the UNB varsity soccer team. UNB has participated in the playoffs in the last two years and are currently battling Mt. A for a playoff spot.

A quick look at the number of spectators attending the most important game of the season for UNB indicated that there were almost as many fans in the stands as there were players on the field. UNB could have played the game away and they would probably have won. At least they will not be insulted by the number of fans

attending the game. UNB actually has one of the worst attendance records of any team in the league.

Last year UNB's record away was 3-1-1 and at home we had three wins, two loses and two ties. This year so far UNB has won five games out of seven away and at home has only managed one point out of a possible six.

Against Dalhousie, a grand total of about fifty spectators watched the game, the largest regular season crowd over two years. Most of the fans were Fredericton residents who do not take courses at UNB.

In the game, Winston Ayeni proved again why he is considered as one of the best goalies in the league. Ayeni has a 1.25 goals against average. He made some spectacular saves that many times brought the fans to their feet. He has reflexes of a cat and in many instances manifested this inherited talent by making acrobatic saves.

It was a last minute goal by a hard-working Dalhousie player that ruined an otherwise sensational performance.

UNB's only goal of the game was scored by Jim Kakeletus on a direct free-kick from outside the 18 yard line. Dalhousie's defenders set up a wall 10 yards from the ball and Kakeletis curved the ball around them and pucked the top left hand corner. UNB has now lost three games by one goal with the outcome being decided in the late stages of the game.

Most of the UNB players performed well against Dalhousie and there is nothing to be



Soccer action last weekend had Dalhousie and St. F.X. visiting the hometown Red Shirts. The Shirts, suffering from a lack of fan support were defeated in both games. Photo by Jack Trifts.

ashamed of when you lose by one goal to a team that is considered the best in the league.

However, two players, Robert McFarlane and Gary Tardivel were very impressive.

In the standings Mt. A has a 6-3-2 record and UNB is 5-4-1. Mt. A has one game to play compared to UNB's two. These two teams confront each other on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. All UNB has to do is beat Mt. A, to edge them out for a playoff spot.

The Red Shirts also need two points against U de M and this should not be any problem. Although U de M has defeated Mt. A this year, they have failed to provide UNB with any kind of competition in the last three years.

In their last three showdowns the Red Shirts have humiliated them 6-0, 6-3, and 4-1. If UNB happened to beat Mt. A by more

than one goal, they could afford to tie the University of Moncton.

This will leave both teams with identical records but since the goals against average between the two teams will favor UNB, they will end up in front of the Mounties.

This situation is reminiscent of last year's occurrence when UNB had to win the last four games of the season to participate in the Championship finals. Three of these games were won by

impressive scores 5-2, 6-0, 4-1 and in the other one they defeated Mt. A 3-2 as they pumped in three goals in the last thirty minutes of the game after Mt. A had taken a first half 2-0 lead.

There is no reason why UNB should not repeat their great performance of last year. They have proven that they are a team to contend with as they have

defeated high calibre teams like Memorial and St. Mary's away.

If UNB does make the playoffs, it will certainly not be because of fan support but because of a

desire of its players to win, combined with skill, discipline and hard work. If Mt. A does make the playoffs it will not be because of talent but because of press coverage in the Telegraph Journal and great fan support in the last six weeks.

Mt. A has only three players that can be considered talented and the rest are there to protect them and intimidate the players of the other team.

With this in mind, the making of a very interesting and exciting match is in store for UNB skill being challenged by violence, good against evil. Who will come out the winners? Only time will tell.



Jim "the Greek" Kakeletis and an opposing player put their heads to work as Gabe El-Khoury looks on.

Photo by Lorne Morrow.

X interception decides game

By MIKE GANGE

A fifty-four yard punt return by Kevin Aver of the St. Francis Xavier X-men in the dying minutes of the game was all that stopped UNB's Red Bombers from bettering their previous season's average last weekend in Antigonish.

The Bombers opened the scoring early in the game with a run by Hodgeman from his own endzone to the X-men's four yard line. The Bombers went on to

move the ball into the X-men's zone for a major strike very early in the game. The UNB team continued to move the ball well, and dominated the first half with a 10-0 score.

The X-men fought back in the second half, and limited the Bombers to very little gain in field position, and to no gain in points.

With only minutes to go, X led the game 12 to 10, and UNB could

have pulled the game out of the fire with a field goal. The Bombers

were driving until forced deep into their own territory, as a result of a supreme effort by the X defence.

This place the Bombers deep in their own territory on a second down and long yardage situation.

The third down rolled around, UNB was forced to kick, and then Aver stepped into the picture.

As result of this weekend's action, the Bombers win-loss record is now 3-3. St. F.X. has moved their record to 2-4. St. Mary's and Acadia are both 5-1,

but Acadia is in first as a result of their win over SMU.

UNB meets second place SMU in Halifax this weekend. X plays Acadia in Wolfville to determine the first place winner of the conference.

Despite scoring only one point

in the last two games against SMU, the Bombers are sincerely going into this weekend's game with the hopes of producing something extraordinary. Having played SMU once will be an asset for the Bombers, as they can view the game films. If Jim Born and his coaching staff make use of the video, one thing is for sure—they will realize that SMU was not as decisive as they are touted to be.

Game time for this weekend's game is 1:30, in Halifax.

Stats	X	UNB
First downs	10	5
Yards rushing	103	-29
Yards passing	138	38
Total yardage	241	9
Punts-average	7-17	7-17
Punts	9-33.6	14-32.6
Penalties	3-35	5-65
Field goals	1-4	1-1
Interceptions	2	2
Fumbles recovered	2-0	0-2