

• JOCK TALK •

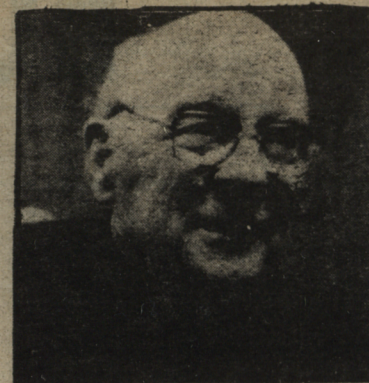
Jock Talk welcomes returning students back to the campus and extends special greetings to those coming to U.P.E.I. for the first time. Considering the frustrations that must inevitably come to those who root for teams from a small college we cannot promise you unlimited successes but we can assure you that, when we do win, the gratification makes all the disappointments seem trivial. To those who might wonder why a Centennial Student (We think that designation has class and is much preferable to "Senior Citizen".) is writing a sports column in a University newspaper we feel we should explain. Several years ago, when we we first engaged as business manager for the student Union, the Cadre (as the Sun was then called) Editor rushed into our office and asked us to compose a column for the edition that was to go to press in less than an hour... our Panther interest being well known. We consented for JUST that issue.. then the next and so on until it became a habit, sometimes a chore and, at other times, a labour of love! We are well aware that some of our contemporaries think us a nut. They prefer to sit in front of their idiot-box screens watching overpaid, underenthusiased businessmen strive for success in endeavours mistermed "Sport". As long as we are having a lot of fun we hate to stop! We hope we never lose our penchant for intercollegiate sport with strong emphasis on Panthers, both male and female!

With that bit of introduction to Jock Talk '83 let us get to the business at hand... Panther activities. Athletic Director Ed Hilton and his staff entertained the media representatives at a meeting last week at which each coach gave a brief resume of the different teams and the prospects for the coming year. We'll delay comment on hockey, volleyball, and basketball until their activities start and, for the moment, concentrate on field hockey and soccer.

Barb Mullaly's field hockey team seems destined to go through yet another year of building toward future strength with Carolyn Drake being the only player in her fourth year of eligibility and Margaret McGee the only one with three. Eight are newcomers to U.P.E.I. However with these having had considerable experience in their high school play Barb has high hopes for the future and claims to have a chance to reach the 1983 playoffs in spite of our having four setbacks in as many games this year. We lost to the U. de M. 1-2 with the winning goal surprizing us with half a minute to go. Dal won 3-0, Acadia 1-0, and S.M.U 3-1. Judy White, last year with Colonel Gray H/S scored both of our goals. St. F.X. and M.U.N. visit us for games this weekend and, if we could win both of these, we'd be back into the contention in our section. It is worth commenting that, although relatively inexperienced in the grade of hockey played in this league, our girls have not been "Blown out" in any of their contests. As Barb remarked, the Canadian intercollegiate game has little resemblance the game that demure english ladies play!

We have, for a long time, thought that U.P.E.I. REALLY needs a WINNER (well, perhaps, second to an athletic complex or vet. college).. a team in any sport that could win an Atlantic championship or even better. Our teams have, a few times, been on the verge but could never come through with the big win. (As the girls used to sing "Why am I always the bridesmaid, never the blushing bride?) Gordon Wilson, new coach of the soccer team, thinks our ambition may be achieved this year! In 1982 we ended up as runner-up in the Atlantic finals and we were rated number 5 in Canada. To date, partially living up to Gordon's expectations we are 2-0-1 in league play. It could have been 3-0-0! On the 18th, in Sackville, contending against wind,

weather, and other adversities we managed to eke out a 1-0 win over the stubborn Mounties. On Saturday playing here we enjoyed a wide advantage in territorial play but had to settle for a 1-1 deadlock with St. F.X.. The X. goal came as a surprize as goalie Jean Francois Painchaud was caught chasing the ball outside his territory and a long hooking kicked ball seemed to be carried by the wind and ill fortune into our net. We evened it up shortly thereafter, freshman Pierre-Gilles kicked from the sideline and Steve Polenz knocked it in. We felt, in this game the ultimate was reached. A. MacAdam played against U.P.E.I. on MacAdam Field! Charlie, how could you? Sunday's game against Dal was much more open but each team seemed unable to finish off plays. The Panthers wasted many opportunities, particularly in the scoreless first half. However our efforts finally resulted in the only score of the game when, midway in the second half, Steve Polenz kicked one close to the goal and brother Gary knocked it in. Dal, previously unbeaten and highly rated nationally, tried hard for an equalizer and seemed to have it twice in the closing minutes but a ball that went into the net was offside and, once with an open side of the net in front of him, their player booted it over the crossbar! We thought that, for early season play our team performed well but it seems to need more of a scoring punch to achieve real success. We heard one onlooker comment that many Panther teams, hockey, soccer and basketball, have seemed to be able to control play but have difficulty putting the ball or puck into the net! (We'll except volleyball from this asperation.) However all of last year's players performed well and so did the newcomers. From an inexperienced onlooker's viewpoint we enjoyed particularly the skill of Richard Pierre-Gilles who displays amazing footwork as he twists and turns. He can also make upward leaps and



seems to stay suspended mid-air! If carrying ball were permitted suspect he could fly the net with it! The crowd at Sunday's game the biggest we have seen a soccer game here and reminiscent of foot days. They were entertained by the Pink Panther, scheduled and also by unscheduled antics of Curtis Brown. Curtis came U.P.E.I. a shy quiet and seems to have developed into a real comedian! team plays at Moncton Wednesday and at S.M.U. Friday. They'll be at on Sunday when old Mount A. visits us. there and root our boys win.

Just as we go to p we have learned that, in C.I.A.U. National Rank for soccer, we are rated number 10 and U.N.B. number 1. We'll have top ranked team here for games on 8 and 9 Oct. Two victories might give a switch in positions!

UNIVERSITY THEATRE
Interested?

Come to a reception the Theatre Room (base of Main) on Wednesday October 5, at 7:00 (just before the opening "Minnie McGee" in Steel at 8:00).

Learn about this year's plans, and become a participant. Whether on stage or backstage, there's a role for you.