

Muddy Game-Muddy Refs

by John Neville

It was indeed an ugly afternoon for football last Saturday when our Panthers travelled to Antigonish, N.S. to play the X-Men of St. Francis Xavier University. The field was nothing less than a quagmire and it was pouring rain. In spite of all this, the fans who did show up were treated to an excellent and exciting first half of football.

The X-Men opened the scoring and when Kevin Aver intercepted a Kip Puiia pass for a touchdown the X-Men led 8-0. Phil Ridley, who was the X-Men's finest runner all day, scored the first of his two touchdowns, and the X-Men led 15-0. The Panthers did not play dead. Instead they showed us the most explosive offense of the year. Anderson hit 'Loco' Gallant for a 47 yard touchdown. Minutes later Anderson hit 'Loco' for 51 yards and when Lundrigan ran it in from the 3 for the major score the Panthers trailed by just one 15-14. Kevin Aver, scored the second of his three touchdowns just before the half and the X-Men took a 22-14 half time lead.

The second half unfortunately was not as entertaining. As ugly as the weather was, what was to follow was uglier. The X-Men blocked a Panther Punt with about 6 minutes to go in the 3rd. quarter and scored the major. The lead was now 29-15. From this point on the game deteriorated. For those of you who listened to the CIMN broadcast, this is nothing new to you. The

Officials lost total control of the game. The game turned into a drawl and there were close to 500 years in penalties handed out.

In my opinion, this turn of events was not the players doing. The officiating was inconsistent all afternoon and one could see that things might get out of hand. That they did. Judging by that game I think we have to take a hard look at the training of our officials. The officials ruined an exciting and well played football game. They were incompetent and non-professional in their actions. It is just fortunate that no-one was seriously injured because of them.

The Panthers, well, they played a good football game and possibly could have upset the X-Men. Rest assured that the X-Men knew they did not have a pushover. If the game had not deteriorated as it did, who knows what would have happened. The Panthers next game is Sunday when they play Dalhousie. A performance like Saturday and the Panthers will have a victory to their credit.

Halftime show



Photo: Mark Rock

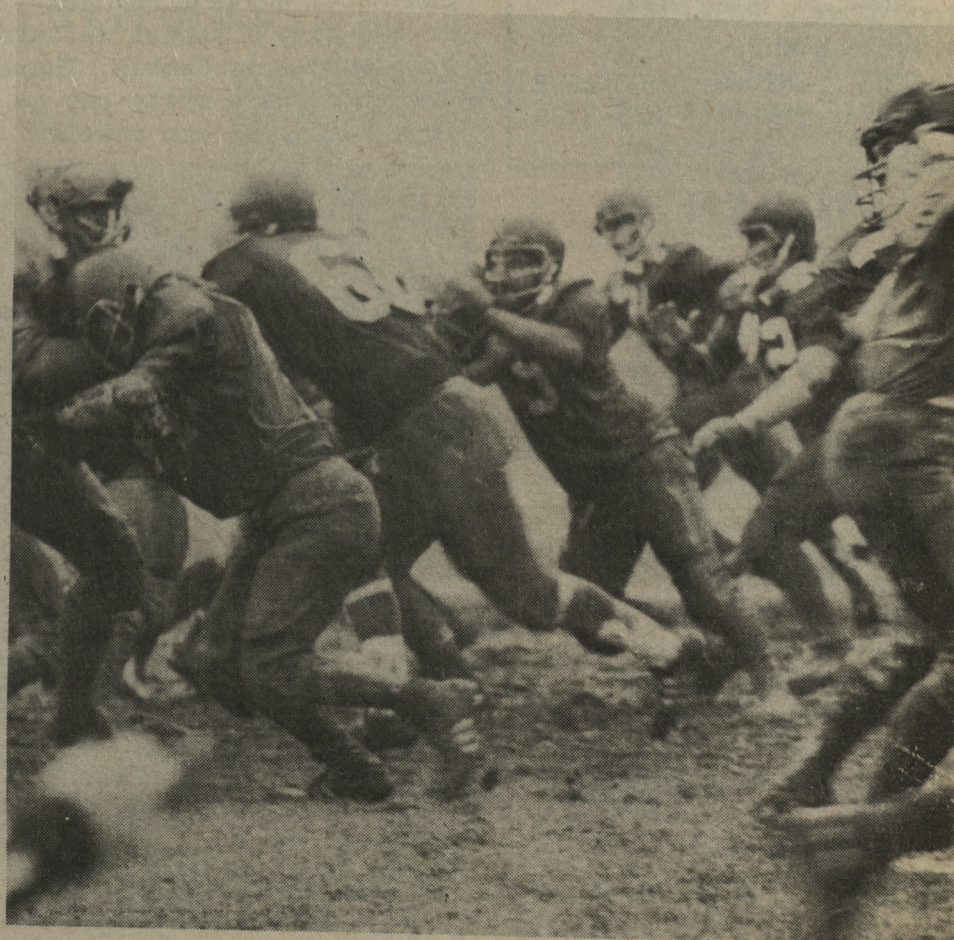
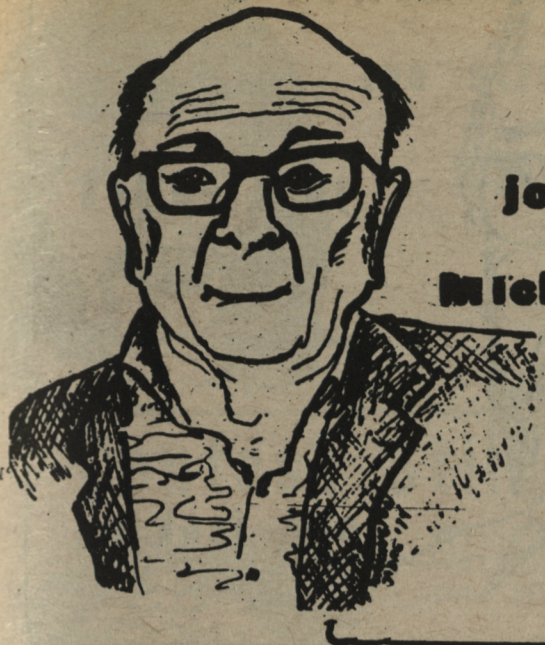


Photo: Mark Rock

The Mudbowl



Jock talk

Mickey Place

Alex W., Go Home

We were quite insulted this past week when we picked up an attractive hitching co-ed at University & Euston who greeted us brightly "Oh, I know who you are, I recognise you from your picture in The Cadre." We considered putting on the brakes & making her walk as we had hoped there was absolutely no resemblance between us & the accompanying caricature that must remind olk Dick Tracy fans of "Prune Face" Any who expect future rides should avoid such references.

Editor Dave MacRae just came in to tell us he has made other arrangements for coverage of the soccer and field hockey games, so friendly critics please note....I was one of the few at the games here and enjoyed them both immensely. These sports deserve more support.

We were fortunate enough not to have journeyed to Antigonish for the football game, in water polo guise, and so have to rely for comment on CIMN coverage by Paul Durant and John Neville. While we got the impression that St.F.X. probably deserved a narrow win; a good amount of the 34 point margin (49-15) could be attributed to the referees. In fact as we listened we wondered, with so much publicity being given to United Fund campaign these days, if it were possible that this could be a demonstration of what the handicapped can perform and if the game had been handed over to the C.N.I.B. for officiating.. of course we were listening to a pair who might be prejudiced. Upon his return we asked John for comment

and he reported "The FBNMIOURC?'7%\$4x *(*)&%\$#!!!!"

Next action will be in Halifax next weekend against Dal...we think we should win this one and if enough students want to go over & see our first football win of the year they should hustle down to the Student Union office & let Jane know. Our star bus driver, Vera, like Barkis, is willing.

We'd like to end off with comment on the article in last week's Cadre by Alex Walling which was reprinted from The Fourth Estate.

While we can understand his arguments we cannot accept them. Like him we really can't condemn the efforts by some colleges to achieve excellence, nor can we see anything wrong with this pursuit...we would like to do the same and would feel like hypocrites to claim otherwise...just in the nature of things..or we might say by the law of averages...bigger schools should beat us more often than we can win from them...or schools which admittedly, put more emphasis on athletics than we do... should come out on top in the majority of their games with us... BUT OH THE JOY WHEN WE WIN... will any of our fans ever forget the 1973 win over heavily-favoured Acadia...or the "Almost" win that same year over top-ranked S.M.U.?(we still believe Mike Reid caught that T.D. pass in bounds.) In hockey we have more than held our own --15 seconds from a win over S.M.U. and 8 seconds from one over Moncton last year...our basketball team seems good. We think things are really looking up this year & we are not looking for protection from any of those big bad mainland teams...we look forward, with great anticipation to at least a souple of upsets in the coming season & please, please Alex Walling do not start a movement that will take the opportunity for such exultation away from us.....