

Soccer Panthers home openers

By Marc MacDonald

The UPEI Women's Soccer team lost their 3rd game of the season 2 - 0 to the Memorial Seahawks of Newfoundland on Saturday September 23rd.

The Panthers played before an average crowd filled with their usual supporters which include mostly members of the Island's soccer community. There was a



beer tent at Saturday's game but it did not appear to increase student attendance. However, fans' responses to the referees calls seemed to be increased.

Karen Eason scored the first goal for the Seahawks 15 minutes into the first half and Sarah Arnott picked up their second at the 61 minute mark. Memorial's keeper Marlone Porder recorded the shutout. UPEI's Scott Cousins who tore his ACL last season went down in the first half when fighting for possession of the ball with a Memorial player. Cousins did not return for the rest of the game and did not play in Sunday's match.

On Sunday the Panthers played the Dalhousie Tigers in the rain before a handfull of fans. UPEI had a chance late in the first half to open the scoring when Sherri MacKay was awarded a penalty shot. Gallant was unable to net the ball, however, and the teams closed the first half tied at 0.

The second half was dominated by the Tigers who were able to score twice courtesy of Julie

Pigozzo, and pick up the win.

The UPEI Men's Soccer team did not let down their new coach and were able to start their season with a 3-0 win over Memorial. Netting the Panthers first goal at the 34 minute mark was first year full back Mark Beer. The second half saw more of the same as fourth year striker Ryan

O'Connell used his usual aggressive style of play to pick up two goals and a yellow card.

The Panthers' game on Sunday, played in the rain at MacAdam field, was a 0-0 tie against the Dalhousie Tigers. This match was an aggressive one with UPEI's Carson Gill receiving a yellow card and Ilir Koligi and Carlos Ensminger each getting one for the Tigers.

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Rugby Panthers destroy

By James Scheib

Saturday, Sept. 23rd- Today is the first day of fall. Mother nature cooperated by providing sunshine, wind, and cool temperatures as the UPEI First XV took the field against the Mount Allison First XV. The club had won a hard fought and costly victory against St. Thomas First XV one week earlier, in a game played in torrential rains. The 13-0 victory was costly due to suspensions and injuries. No one really knew what to expect save for another hard match, in a repeat of last year's final.

The Panthers set the tone early with their hard hitting and aggressive forward play, especially in rucks. The game started off with an early try five minutes in, when Jonathan Darrack benefitted from good ball movement, by the backs, to beat his man into the corner. What looked like the makings for a serious stomping took a weird turn for the rest of the half. The club was unable to penetrate the Mountie defense. The game flowed from end to end with several exciting open field runs. But at the half, the score remained 5-0.

Whatever got said at the half seemed to have worked. The club dominated possession of the

ball and put up 35 points to run away with a 40-10 victory. The forwards did a better job of maintaining possession in loose play. It resulted in Darrick adding another try, Ian Richardson scoring off a penalty from 20 meters out with a few Mounties hanging on his back, Jason McQuaid showing off his blistering speed for another score, and the man of the match (in the author's view) John Michael Murphy scoring two tries, converting two tries, and making two penalty kicks for half the sides points. Murphy was dangerous all afternoon finding holes, kicking, and going on long, galloping runs.

After getting off to a late start, relative to other schools, the Panthers are 2-0. The real test for the club will occur on Saturday, Sept. 30th, when they travel to the University of New Brunswick, which is a perennial rugby power. While the team played well, they will have to take their game up several notches to avoid a repeat of last year's first match versus UNB, when they got blown out. Last Saturday proved they were capable, this Saturday will be a measure of their character.

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