

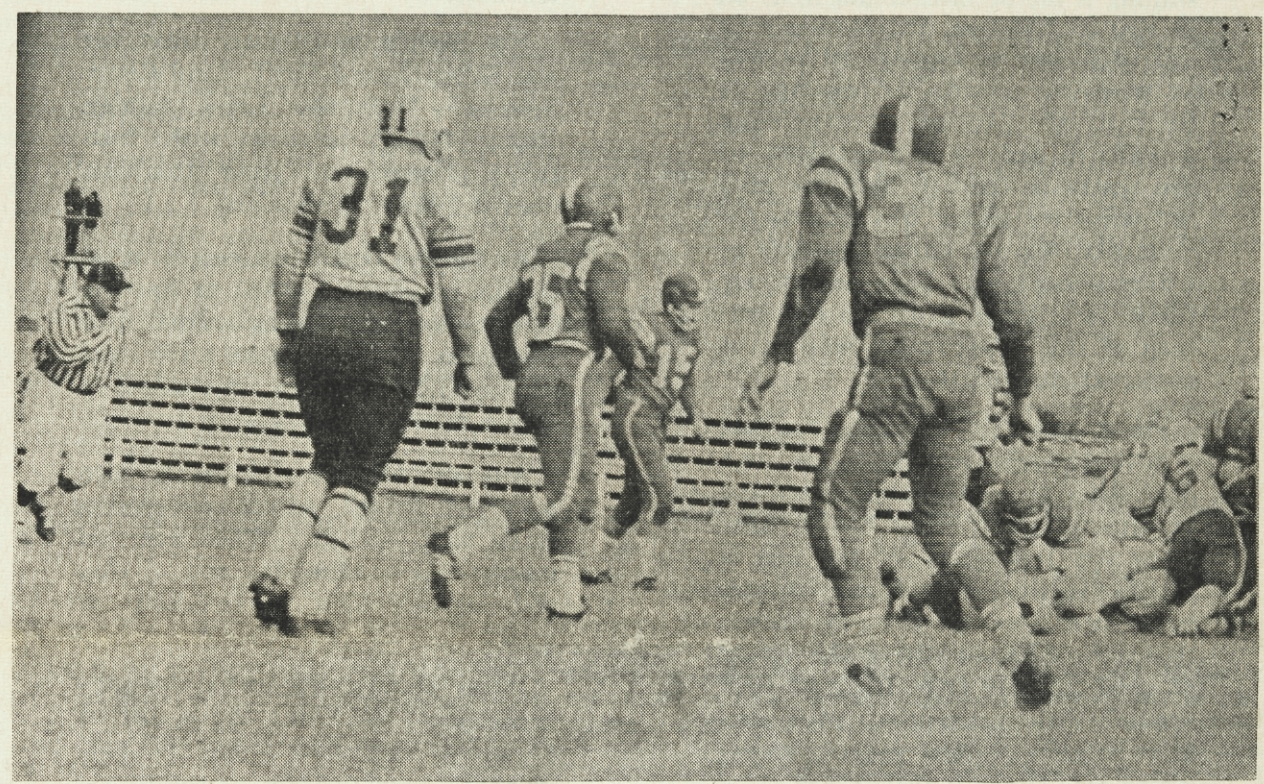
THE
ATHLETIC
FARCE
AT
S.D.U.

RED AND
WHITE

ARCHIVES
U.P.E.I.

STUDENT PUBLICATION OF ST. DUNSTAN'S UNIVERSITY

VOL. 6 No. 3 CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. NOVEMBER, 1965



LOOK AT THE SUPPORT BACK THERE

present condition of the
University athletic program is
deplorable. With the exception
of hockey, our athletic teams
have been hopelessly inade-
quate. The hockey team's suc-
cess can be traced to a mod-
est recruiting program and
good fortune of having the
players come to this Uni-
versity at the right time. I can
imagine sit idly by and watch
ill-trained, ill-equipped and
manned varsity teams be
physically and numeri-
cally into submission. The com-
mittee, the faculty, and the
student body is intolerable. The
athletic department has little or
no recruiting program.
Faculty members seen re-
luctant to see their teams lose
after week. The student
body is by far the worst bunch
in all of Canada. There
is exemplified by the
noise they generate
at sporting events.

her than continue this de-
clat of our Athletic pro-
I would like to outline
of reconstruction. What
rival Maritime Univer-
doing? A careful analy-
the athletic program at
X. might provide many
ideas for our dynamic
Director. Why is there
a tremendous attraction
sports at St. F.X? Could
they have something to do
that? Why does St. Dun-
High School have better
uniforms than do our
? I am again wandering
from reconstruction and
ng back to ridicule. This
barrasing, isn't it? I
y not to wander again -
difficult not to.

Our first need is an Athletic
Public Relations man. This man
will direct an Athletic Com-
mittee. He must be willing to
do a little work, no reflection
of course. Letters should be
sent to every high school from
here to Ont. inviting students
to come to St. Dunstan's and
play for their varsity teams.
A short 16mm film could eas-
ily be prepared, showing our
campus and our athletic teams.
These films could easily be
mailed to various High School
guidance directors with instruc-
tions to show them to their
athletes. A steady stream of
mail to these guidance direc-
tors would alert them to the
fact that St. Dunstan's is in-
terested in having their stu-
dents attend. This year we have
let slip by one of the best
advertisements this school
has ever had. Last year St.
Dunstan's was the number two
Inter-Collegiate hockey team
in all of Canada. Did we take
advantage of the prestige of
this position?

Why weren't team pictures
and letters sent out to various
prospects asking them to come
and play hockey for the Uni-
versity that finished second on-
ly to the University of Manito-
ba? The answer is simple —
no one cared. The name of Bil-
ly McMillan might draw pros-
pective players to our Univer-
sity. This opportunity is now
waning. Our hockey team might
have once again taken a posi-
tion among the best in Can-
ada. Now, it may prove to be
mediocre. Can we be satisfied
with being mediocre — sure
WE can. WE have to be NOW.
Who can ever forgett the joy

that raced through the cam-
pus the night WE BEAT ST.
F.X! We do not have to be
great, but let us at least be
competitive.

The support from the alumni
and student body is the next
step in reconstruction. Frank-
ly, I don't know how we can
reach the alumni. Let us all
take a vow NOW committing
ourselves to the future sup-
port of this University. At pre-
sent, the student body must
unite behind our athletic teams,
whether they are winning or
losing. We should have 100
per cent attendance at every
athletic event. It seems that
the only time a St. Dunstan's
crowd makes any noise is when
we are winning. Let us change
all that. Let us make a reputa-
tion for ourselves as a RAH
University. Statistics
show that fan participation can
aid a team's performance by
as much as 15 per cent. We
need desperately a Rally Com-
mittee with both male and fe-
male cheerleaders.

Earlier in the year, an at-
tempt was made to start a
cheerleading squad among the
Freshette girls but it was
shortlived due to Faculty op-
position. This Committee
should be considered a regular
school organization under the
jurisdiction of the Students'
Union. With one hundred per-

cent attendance, cheerleader s
and noisemakers, the students
could thereby play an im-
portant role in the athletic
success of our University's
teams. At present, student con-
tribution is next to nil.

Our attention must now be
directed to the Faculty and
their role. I feel that if we are
to achieve this athletic success
some concessions will have to
be made regarding the acade-
mic admission requirements.
Last year approximately 42 per-
cent of the Freshman class
failed to achieve the academic
standards required to remain in
this University. Why could not
five percent of the incoming
freshman be athletes with
questionable academic back-
grounds? If they fail they
will only comprise a small per-
centage of the total that will
inevitably flunk. Of course the
argument will be voiced that
these admissions will deprive
a better student from an op-
portunity to attend University.
Concessions have to be made if
the faculty desires to pro-
duce a competitor that will
pose a threat to such Univer-
sities as St. F.X. Even if con-
cessions regarding admission
are not made, the faculty might
play a very important role in
providing extra academic care
for athletes. The Athletic
committee might provide tut-
ors for athletes having trouble

with their studies. All these
things could provide St. Dun-
stan's with a steady flow of
Athletic talent.

I cannot place enough em-
phasis on the importance and
attention that should be given
to the athletes. They should be
placed above the average stu-
dent because they are contri-
buting a great deal to the
name of the University. They
should have proper medi-
cal attention and special food.
Their equipment and other faci-
lities should be of the highest
caliber. Thus far I don't believe
my plans would bring any ex-
tra financial burden on the
University.

Speaking of finances, once
the program takes shape, an
effort must be made to im-
prove the income possibility of
these teams. A Student and
Faculty admission charge will
be the first step in having a
sport finance itself. Is fifty
cents too much to pay in order
to have a successful Athletic
organization. A careful hand-
ling of gate receipts and po-
lice control at the various gat-
es will provide the necessary
control to increase revenue.
Of course, the key to financial
success is good competition. An
improvement in basketball
could be easily achieved. It on-
ly takes five men to make a
team. Arrangements could be

made to play our home games
in the Vocational High School
gym which seats twelve hund-
red people. Who knows — our
athletic teams might some day
provide extra revenue for the
University.

We are happy to announce
that certain members of the
faculty have formed an Ath-
letic committee that will dis-
cuss many of the problems cit-
ed above. We hope that this
venture will prove successful.
As it stands now our contri-
bution to the Inter-collegiate
league is negligible. All the
other teams seem to be im-
proving and we seem to be
regressing. There are alterna-
tives open to us. We can drop
Inter-Collegiate sports complet-
ely, play in a league of lower
caliber or attempt to bring our
team up to the competitive
standard of our rivals. I think
we all would like to see St.
Dunstan's University take up
the challenge of remaining in
the league and competing on a
higher level. The purpose of this
letter is to make us all aware
of athletic complacency that
exists at this University. We
hope this article will arouse
much discussion among stu-
dents and faculty members. The
Red and White office welcomes
your letters of assent or diss-
ent.

JOSEPH CONDON