

Why S.D.U. Must Remain In A.F.C.

By Charley MacMillan



THERE HAVE BEEN three games played to date by St. Dunstan's in this year's A. F. C. schedule. Although the Saints could have done better, the results haven't been disastrous. Contrary to opinion expressed in some corners, their record might have been 3-0. But it isn't. However, it's not time yet to press the panic button.

In such times of frustration and depression, there arises several irrational opinions, suggestions, and even threats, which are intended to repair the damage and improve matters for the future. The latest idea, apparently, is the question of SDU's very existence in the Atlantic Football Conference. It is said that SDU should drop out. Despite the absurdity of the idea, it has some following. And for good reason. The causes may seem obvious.

St. Dunstan's does not have the personnel to be considered as a serious contender. To some, it doesn't take a great deal of imagination to picture the Saints ending with a 2-5, 1-6, or even a 0-7 record.

Or take a look at the football layout here this Fall. As late as September 18th and 19th (the first game was October 3rd) Coach Hilton had only 15 or 16 players out on the field. Will the situation improve drastically over night? Even now he has only 27 bodies dressed for each game. Most of the other teams have that many on the bench.

THE OTHER UNIVERSITIES in the Maritimes go along with the system of two or more coaches—one for the line, one for the backfield, or some similar arrangement. St. Dunstan's has for the past few years used a player-coach to assist Mr. Hilton. This year, there isn't even a player-coach.

It was only three days before the first game that the coach had some managers. This is no reflection on the present ones, Bob Donnelly and Al Byrnes, who have done a commendable job under trying circumstances. It is a reflection of mismanagement somewhere.

But this is only one side of the coin, and a very negative one at that. There is another picture which must be presented to give a realistic view of the situation.

First of all, the league itself needs St. Dunstan's for the same reason it needs the other teams; for its very existence. Say SDU did drop out. Would Acadia or Dalhousie, do likewise? If St. Dunstan and Shearwater have another poor season, it is not unlikely that they would do so as well. Where would that leave the league? The AFC realized years ago that a big Maritime league was the only way to survive, and it did its utmost to get all the universities as members. To alleviate the imbalance of the former years, it devised a new type of schedule which draws the weaker teams and the stronger teams together.

ONLY NON-HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

ANOTHER AND MORE powerful reason for keeping SDU in the league is this: SDU happens to be the sole non-high school team on the island. It has an image of being the team to play on. Because of the expanded football program in the high schools on the island, more and more students are learning the game, and they want to play college ball. If SDU was to drop out now, it would cause irreparable damage to not only the high school hopefuls, but also to SDU's image. These new players will provide an annual crop of recruits. It will take time, but it will come.

It has been suggested that another "out" for St. Dunstan's would be a wish to become a one sport university, an idea that is not new: the theory goes that if you can't compete in all three sports effectively, put your eggs in to one basket. I suppose St. Dunstan's "basket" is hockey. Whether this is good or bad, I'm not sure, but I don't think it is any accident that say, St. Thomas has no football team, and a mediocre basketball team, yet they are a perennial hockey threat. Why has St. Mary's become on a par with St. F.X. in the AFC? You may have noticed that the Santamarians dropped out of the hockey league. . . . And so the story goes.

It may sound like a good idea for SDU to leave the football scene, but for the reasons given above, it would serve no purpose. Would a year's leave of absence be any help. Frankly, I doubt it. Especially in view of the fact that a good solid win tomorrow would dispel a lot of

S.D.U. Ties At Wolfville

Although they doubled the number of first downs, collected four times the number of yards on the ground, Ed Hilton's SDU Saints failed to hold a 13-0 lead against Acadia Axemen last Saturday, and ended tied 13-13.

The Saints led 7-0 at the half on a touchdown by fullback Mike MacPhee from the 4 yard line.

In the initial half, the Saints gained 120 yards on the ground, not including another 40 they lost because of penalties.

Penalties again played a heavy role early in the second half. Mike MacPhee made a 72 yard end run for a touchdown after getting away from five Acadia tacklers, but the play was nullified again for a clipping penalty.

The Saints came back in the fourth quarter for a touchdown when Mike MacPhee went over from the nine yard line.

Acadia threatened soon after quarterback Lorrie Schwartz completed an 18 yard pass to Tim Gilbert. Two plays later Schwartz threw the touchdown pass to Jules Oliver. That made the score 13-6.

A fumble and a 15 yard penalty brought the ball to the twenty-seven three plays later. Ron Harrison carried on the next play to tie

fifteen, and then Schwartz ran straight up the middle for the touchdown when he saw the path to the goal line open. On the convert attempt, Schwartz tied the score at 13-13, and time ran out before St. Dunstan's got a chance to come back.

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Axemen Invade S.D.U. Campus Tomorrow

TOMORROW afternoon, Acadia Axemen invade the SDU campus for their return match with St. Dunstan's Saints, knowing that for the loser, it will be the fourth straight game played without getting into the win column.

The Axemen were outplayed last week at Wolfville in every department but desire. Down 13-0 with only minutes remaining in the game, they came back to eventually tie the score for a single point in the standings.

Acadia Coach, Scorchy MacVicar, says that his team is much stronger than last year because of his promising rookies and the returning lettermen. They have played three games to date; lost two and tied one.

The team is led by the young but very talented quarterback, Lorrie Schwartz, who was instrumental in getting both touchdowns for Acadia last week. He threw eleven passes and completed five, one of them for a touchdown and three for first downs. He scored one TD running over from a few yards out.

Meanwhile, in the SDU camp, preparations are being made for the Saints' first home game in



JOHN DRISCOLL

three weeks. After a 6-0 shoutout with Stad Sailors, the Saints got bombed in Sackville against the Mount Allison Mounties 53-6. Last week, they scored three touchdowns, lost one because of a pen-

alty, and then had Acadia tie the score in the final minutes.

The Saints are up for this big encounter, and have their sights aimed at victory number one. With only two completed passes in twenty-one attempts by Quarterback John Driscoll, SDU coach Ed Hilton could change his attack so as to go to the air more, especially in view of the fact that 307 yards gained on the ground failed to result in a victory.

S. D. U. RINK TO OPEN NOV. 1

It was learned this week that the St. Dunstan's rink will be open for use on November 1st. This would mean that work on the ice plant will start almost immediately so as to have the ice ready on time.

The first game in the Intercollegiate league for St. Dunstan's is November 27 against Acadia Axemen. Coach Jack Kane hopes to have several exhibition games before this league encounter, and about four weeks of ice time will be needed.

Last year the rink opened around the Eleventh, a date which was much too close to the first game.

Coach Kane had a meeting with several students who wished to try out for the team, and there are indications pointing to a big try-out camp.

There are several players gone from last year's squad, but Coach Kane said that all positions were up for grabs. Any one interested in trying out for the team may do so by getting out for the first practice, which will be scheduled for the day exams finish.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS UNDERWAY

A. A. A. President, Gene Kinch, announced this week that the Intramural Softball league has terminated its schedule for the fall months, but that it will be resumed where it left off in the spring. There will be a trophy for the league champion. The standings in the league to date are:

Junior Warriors	4	1	0	8
Campus Playboys	3	2	0	6
Senior Yankees	3	3	0	6
Sophomore Braves	2	1	1	5
Sophomore 69's	2	1	1	5
Junior Jokers	2	2	1	5
Freshman Untouchables	1	3	0	2
Freshman Reds	0	3	1	1

Weightlifting, rapidly becoming a popular sport on the campus, here at SDU, is again offered to the students for both the enjoyment and the body-building it provides. Before the basketball season gets underway, the weights will be located in the basement of the gym where showers are available. All those interested can see the weightlifting managers—Ralph Bolger and Gary Foley—for more information.

Intramural football has started with three games already played.

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