



ATHLETICS

St. Dunstan's has had a very unsuccessful record this year as far as sports on the Intercollegiate level are concerned. The reasons for this are many and varied, depending solely upon whom you are speaking to. Yes, there are many reasons offered, but not too many people know the real stories, if there are any real stories, and we will have to be content here with the opinion of the staff and a factual account of some of the better encounters.

The football picture was sufficiently covered in the last edition. The Saints won one game, against Acadia, should have won the St. Mary's encounter, and battled powerful Mount Allison to one touchdown and a convert. University of New Brunswick walked all over the Saints after a very good showing by the Red and White squad during the first half, and the final score was 54-2. The team will suffer a great deal this year because of graduation. There are twelve linemen who will not be returning, also, a couple of the backfield men. A. J. MacAdam will certainly have his hands full next year, and we take this opportunity to wish every success to the departing members of the squad and to A. J. when he tackles the tremendous task he has facing him next season.

Father Charlie MacDonald, in his first year as basketball coach at St. Dunstan's, took four veterans, all Seniors, and six newcomers, all Freshmen, and tried to build a winning combination. He did not quite succeed, although the team played some good ball at times. The boys could not seem to really "click", even when they exhibited the definite ability necessary to form a smoothly working squad.

The intercollegiate games played here at St. Dunstan's against Mount Allison and U. N. B. ended in defeat for the Saints, as did the road games in Sackville and Fredericton. That is the record in this competition, four losses, no wins. Nothing to crow about when one knows the team could have very well done much better.

Mount Allison—54

St. Dunstan's—53

Everyone went to the first game of the year against Mount Allison, last year's champions, (this year's, too, now)—more out of curiosity to see what the Saints had to offer than to see a basketball game. The rafters were ringing with the home fans' cheers at half time, and the cheers were well deserved. The Saints could do no wrong as they completed play after play to gain a substantial 16 point margin at the half.

The fans were certain the game was in the bag. Everyone except the ten men in the dressing room being harassed by Gus MacFarlane thought the same thing. What Gus said we will never know, but it was sufficient to make his squad play good steady ball the second half, take every advantage the Saints offered, and win the contest by a single point. That was defeat number one.

University of New Brunswick—60

St. Dunstan's—44

The next weekend, the last of January, the second game of the schedule was played at the Red & White gym. U.N.B. were the visitors this trip and the Saints were out to erase the humiliating defeat at the hands of the Garnet and Gold of the previous week. The tide of battle changed several times early in the first half, but the Red Raiders slowly began to forge ahead to master an eight point margin at the half. The second stanza was a very different story as the New Brunswickers sat back and waited for the Saints to attack and took advantage of every mistake the locals made, and there were many. The disorganization of the Saints' attack proved to be their undoing and the final whistle showed the visitors on the long end of a 60—44 score.

St. Dunstan's 35—

Mount Allison—78

Travelling to the mainland for their first game away from home the Saints still had a chance of redeeming themselves, if they could drop both their former conquerors by convincing margins. Frank Garrity was lost in the starting minutes of the Mount Allison game when he fractured his leg in several places. Again, the Saints suffered from a very bad case of disorganization, and their shooting was far from being the best as they missed several comparatively easy shots on occasion. Mays ran wild for Mount A and could not be stopped as he led the Garnet and Gold attack with an all around brilliant performance.

St. Dunstan's—58

University of New Brunswick—65

Perhaps the best game the Saints played this season was the one against U. N. B. in Fredericton. The outcome of the encounter was always in doubt as one squad after the other gained the lead only to lose it to a determined opponent. On no occasion did the lead exceed eight points, and this added to the fact that there were many beautiful plays executed by each team served to produce a game which was very exciting from the spectators point of view.

For the first time this year, the Saints were "clicking" as was easily seen by the many nice passing and scoring plays they completed. But, the U.N.B. boys knew their business and the play was equal for the most part. In the last minutes of the game, the Red Raiders took the lead and the Saints tried vainly to catch and pass them. The final score was 65-58 for the New Brunswickers, but both teams played well and those present at the encounter certainly saw a good ball game that afternoon.

Father Charlie had entered his team in Senior B competition, but was forced to withdraw due to the loss of some of the squad via injuries and the pressure of studies. That, then, winds up the varsity basketball picture at St. Dunstan's for this year. Not a very bright one, perhaps, at first glance, but Fr. MacDonald has a strong nucleus around which to build next season and we may hope for better days in the future.

Changing from the basketball floor to the ice lanes, we find that the hockey team had a little better luck in Intercollegiate competition than the basketball squad. They won one game and could have very easily won at least two more if the breaks had gone their way. Against Mount Allison, the Saints were victorious on their own ice but lost in Sackville. Al MacIsaac was the hero of the first encounter as he remained staunch in the Red & White nets and stopped repeated Mountie attacks, many of which would have ended in goals except for his fine feats between the pipes. In the second period, Al was at his best as he led the Saints to a 7-3 win.

In Sackville, the Mounties fought hard for a 5-2 win, breaking the second period tie score by firing three unanswered tallies in the third frame. The Henderson brothers, the big offensive men for Mount A ran amuck as they potted four goals and collected six assists.

The U.N.B. series saw the Saints come out on the short end on both occasions, 8-6 and 6-4. The first encounter was at St. Dunstan's and was noted for the rough and ready play on both sides. The first period ended in a 2-2 tie, with Earl Shepherd making some tremendous saves in the Saints' nets. In the second, U.N.B. fired three and the Saints managed to answer once. The New Brunswickers added two quick ones at the beginning of the third and the Saints, with their backs to the wall, fought gamely to make it 7-6 with minutes remaining. However, Andrea's breakaway and goal at the 18 minute mark put the fat in the fire and the game out of the reach of the hard fighting Saints.

In Fredericton, these two teams put on a whale of a show which ended in a 6-4 victory for the home lads. The Saints appeared to be very weak on the defensive at times and this could, perhaps, be given as the reason for at least two of the victors' tallies. MacIsaac was besieged time and time again and was forced to falter on occasion.

The St. Thomas Tommies, after trouncing the Saints 15-5 in a very loosely played game at Lord Beaverbrook Rink at St. Thomas, visited the Island a week later and took another victory, 6-1. Again, those periods of slackness cost the Saints goals and, although MacIsaac tried his best, more than one goal was scored over his prone body following a nice save and a rebound that could not be cleared fast enough.

POOR SPORTSMANSHIP

The U.N.B. game here at St. Dunstan's was followed by an incident which merited dishonorable mention in the U.N.B. press. We refer to the scramble in which the assistant manager of the Red Devils and several St. Dunstan's fans were involved immediately after the final whistle as the visiting manager was making his way to the dressing room. Tension had reached a zenith late in the third period until Andrea scored around the eighteen minute mark, thus putting victory well out of the hands of the Saints. Hopes were dashed and anger rose.

We herein make public apology for the showing put forth by several of our fans at this time; a showing which was, without a doubt, well beyond the realm of good sportsmanship and which did nothing to enhance the reputation of St. Dunstan's in Maritime Intercollegiate sporting circles. Also, we would like to erase the false impressions created by the highly colorful account of this fracas in the U.N.B. press. True, the incident was something to forget and was bad enough in itself without being played up in the University press. The point was made quite well, maybe too well, and we would like to clear up any wrong notions which may have been created . . . again, we apologize and trust that, with the inauguration of a Campus Police at St. Dunstan's, such will not happen in the future, and that no one will be so narrow minded as to judge the whole by the actions of a few.

The varsity hockey team also played in the Island League again this season and we find them in fourth place as the semi-finals approach. There have been some very good games in the University rink and in Charlottetown, too many for us to take them into account here.

Returning to basketball, on a lower level this time, we find that the Second Saints, though not setting the City League on fire, are holding their own rather well and are assured of a play-off spot. A quick look at their record shows that, with very few exceptions, their games have been won or lost by only a few points. In many cases, with the addition of a little more experience, the tide of battle could have very well turned in their favour. We are watching them closely as they enter the semi-finals, not only because we all like to see good basketball, but, also, because the team stands a 50-50 chance of taking the Island title and we get a good look at the prospects for next year's varsity.