

FOOTBALL and the FREUDIANS

by thomas ferril

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Obviously, football is a syndroms of religious rites symbolizing the struggle to preserve the egg of life through the rigors of impending winter. The rites begin at the autumn equinox and culminate on the first day of the New Year with great festivals identified with bowls of plenty; the festivals are associated with flowers such as roses, fruits, such as oranges, farm crops such as cotton, and even sun-worship and appeasement of great reptiles such as alligators.

In this rites the egg of life is symbolized by what is called "the oval", an inflated bladder covered with hog skin. The convention of "the oval" is repeated in the architectural oval-shaped design of the vast outdoor churches in which the services are held every Sabbath in every town and city, also every Sunday in the greater centers of population where an advanced priesthood performs. These enormous roofless churches dominate every college campus; no other edifice compares in size with them, and they bear witness to the high spiritual development of the culture that produced them.

Literally millions of worshipers attend the Sabbath services in these enormous open-air churches. Subconsciously, these hordes of worshippers are seeking an outlet from sex-frustration in anticipation of violent masochism and sadism about to be enacted by a highly trained priesthood of young men. Football obviously arises out of the Aedipus complex. Love of mother dominates the entire ritual. The churches, without exception are dedicated to Alma Mater, Dear Mother.

The rites are performed on a rectangular area of green grass, oriented to the four directions. The grass, symbolizing summer, is striped with ominous

white lines representing the knifing snows of winter. The white stripes are repeated in the ceremonial costumes of the four whistling monitors who control the services through a time period divided into four quarters, symbolizing the four seasons.

The ceremony begins with colourful processions of musicians and semi-nude virgins who move in and out of ritualized patterns. This excites the thousands of frenzied worshippers to rise from their seats, shout frenzied poetry in unison, and chant ecstatic anthems through which runs the Oedipus theme of willingness to die for love of Mother.

The actual rites, performed by twenty-two young priests of perfect physique, might appear to the uninitiated as a chaotic conflict concerning only with hurting the ovel by kicking it, then, endeavouring to rescue and protect the egg.

However, the procedure is highly stylized. On each side there are eleven young men wearing colourful and protective costumes. The group is so-called "possession" of the oval first arrange themselves in an egg-shaped "huddle", as it is called, for a moment of prayerful meditation and whispering of secret numbers to each other.

Then they rearrange themselves with relation to the position of the egg. In a typical "formation" there are seven priests "on the line", seven being a mystical number associated not, at Jung purists might contend, with the "seven last words" but actually with sub-limitation of the "seven deadly sins" into "the seven cardinal principles of education."

The central priest crouches over the egg, protecting it with his hands while over his back quarters hovers the "quarter back". The transposition of "back quarters" to "quarter back" is easily explained by the Alder school. To the layman, the

curious posture assumed by the "quarter back", as he hovers over the central priest, immediately suggests the Cretan origins of Mycenaean animal art, but this popular view is untenable. Actually, of course the "quarter back" symbolizes the libido, combining two instincts, namely (a) Eros, which strives for even closer union, and (b) the instinct for destruction of anything which lies in the path of Eros, moreover, the "pleasure pain" excitement of the hysterical worshippers focuses entirely on the actions of the libido-quarter-back. Behind him are three priests representing the male triad.

At a given signal, the egg is passed by sleight-of-hand to one of the members of the triad who endeavours to move it by bodily force across the lines of winter. At the end of the second quarter, implying the summer stolstice, the procession of musicians and semi-nude virgins are resumed. After forming themselves into pictograms, representing alphabetical and animal fetishes, the virgins perform a most curious rite requiring far more dexterity than the earlier phallic Maypole rituals from which it seems to be derived. Each of the virgins carries a wand of shining metal which she spins on her fingertips, tosses playfully into the air and with which she interweaves her body in most intricate gyrations.

The virgins perform another important function throughout the entire service. This concerns the mystical rite of conversion following success of one of the young priests in carrying the oval across the last white line of winter. As the moment of "conversion" approaches, the virgins kneel at the edge of the grass, bury their faces in the earth, then raise their arms to heaven in supplication, praying that "the up-rights will be split." Conversion is indeed a dedicated ceremony.

ST. FX UPENDS U.P.E.I. PANTHERS

The St. Francis Xavier X-men overpowered the UPEI Panthers in the final minutes of the Panthers first regular season game.

Brian Lynch kept the Panthers in the game from the outset by timely baskets and rebounds. The X-men led at the half by 42-36.

The X-men kept a steady six to ten point lead in the second half until the 4:58 mark when John White's free throw put the Panthers ahead 59-58. The Panthers were neck and neck with the X-men due to Jim Fitzgerald's work under the basket, and Dennis Mark's popping from the corner. Lynch and Fitzgerald hit the boards for ten and fourteen rebounds respectively, and were instrumental in the comeback.

The Panthers lead was short-lived however, due to John Gabriel's ball-hawking and long-range scor-

ing. The X-men put the game out of reach with one minute left on a basket by Gabriel, thus making the score 73-65. The final score was 77-65.

Panther's scoring: Fitzgerald 22, Lynch 16, White 13, Marks 8, Grillo 4, Sullivan 2.

RENFRO OUT IN BLAZE OF GLORY

by Riceland Grant, CADRE Staff

CHARLOTTETOWN (CPS) — The CADRE's retiring ace sportsie Vic "Branch" Renfro is too modest to admit it, but he is no mean jock himself, whether displaying his athletic prowess on the basketball court or in the heat of a ping-pong match.

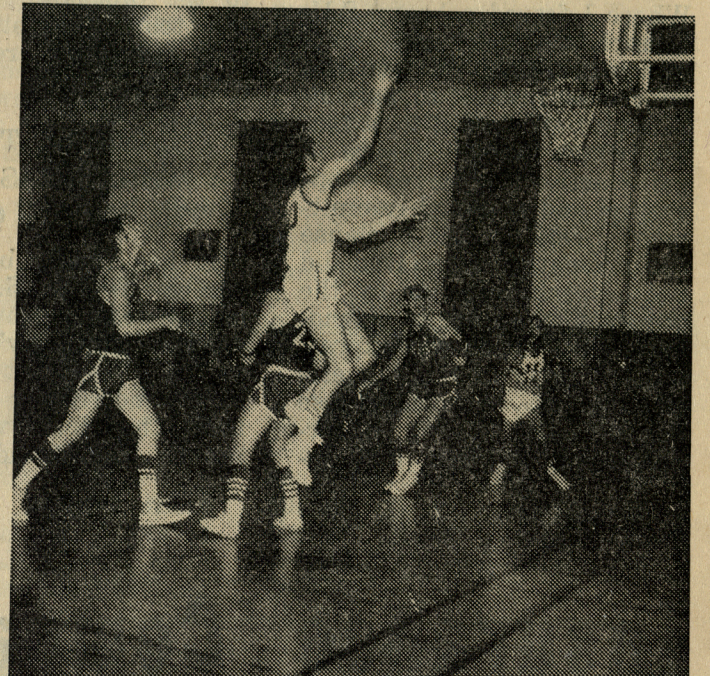
Last Saturday night, Renfro displayed the form that has made him a legend in his own residence, by outpointing an outclassed but gritty Dave Joslin, among others, on his way to the title. All games were played in the Memorial p-p courts.

Renfro's booming serve and wristy follow-through were the difference, and proved the difference, and proved once again that he is indeed.

The Renfro Systematized Apathy Method stood him to a lead which he never relinquished. This, as his many fans are well aware, consists of hitting the ball so slowly and methodically that any opponent is quickly bored to a Jelly-like pulp, and becomes too sleepy to return serve.

Renfro's greatest asset is the variety of speeds with which he encourages the ball over the net. These are, in increasing order of importance, "Slow", "Slower", "Slowest", and "The-Hell-With-It."

Renfro, ya done good — we salutes ya!



Intramural Sports

Intramural and Buzzer Basketball and Hockey has introduced a round-robin tournament as part of the winter sports programme.

BUZZER HOCKEY

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
Juniors	4	1	0	17	11	8
Senior "A"	3	1	1	21	5	7
Freshmen	2	2	1	15	12	5
Sophomore "A"	2	2	1	24	19	5
Senior "B"	1	3	1	15	22	3
Sophomore "B"	1	4	0	24	19	2

INTRAMURAL HOCKEY

	W	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Juniors	5	0	35	9	10
Seniors	4	1	26	18	8
Sophomores	1	4	12	25	2
Freshmen	0	5	17	36	0

BUZZER BASKETBALL

	W	L	PF	PA	Pts.
Freshmen	4	0	182	76	8
Sophomores	3	1	136	110	6
Seniors	1	3	94	161	2
Juniors	0	4	102	143	0

INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

	W	L	PF	PA	Pts.
Seniors	4	0	235	131	8
Freshmen	2	2	156	178	4
Juniors	2	2	206	204	4
Sophomores	0	4	168	246	0

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from the Editors and Staff of The Cadre