

SPORTS

Panthers Bow To SMU 22-7

By Vic Renfro

The University of Prince Edward Island Panthers suffered the same problem as in last weeks upset loss to the Acadia Axemen; a lethargic offense. The defense maintained its stinginess for giving up touchdowns but was gradually worn down in the fourth quarter.

After St. Mary's halfback Florio returned the opening kickoff forty yards, but the St. Mary's team failed to score, it was obvious the defense would yield little.

On the Panther's second series of plays, hard-running Jerry ajeunesse rumbled eighty yards, broke three tackles and set UPEI up for

its only score. On the next play, ajeunesse burst in for the major.

Jack Sands intercepted a pass from Husky quarterback Jim Aucoin and the Panthers took control of the football on the St. Mary's twenty-five yard line. The inconsistent offense started to roll. Don Murray made a brilliant catch on a deflected pass thrown by Jim Foley. Lajeunesse and Foley each had a rush and picked up the first down. In the next two plays, Foley and Murray rushed for another first down. But two incomplete passes put the Panthers in a third down and ten yards to go situation. Mancuso's field goal attempt fell short and the drive ended.

The hard-nosed defense forced St. Mary's to punt and SMU was called for no yards on the kick. Two rushes by fullback Dick Yost picked up a first down. Tricky Don Murray picked his way through the St. Mary's defense for another first down. SMU was called for grabbing the face mask and penalized fifteen yards. UPEI had a first down on the Huskies thirteen yard line. The Panthers missed the opportunity

to score on an incomplete pass, had minus yardage on a rush, and was forced to go for three points. Mancuso's field goal attempt was blocked and grabbed by linebacker Ted Abercrombie. Abercrombie brushed off UPEI tacklers for one hundred yards and tumbled in for a touchdown. The exhausted Abercrombie is reported to have cried out, "Ye Gads", when the play was nullified for an offside against SMU. On the replayed third down, UPEI failed on a pass play and St. Mary's took possession.

Jim Foley opened the second half with a forty yard runback but the Panthers failed to move the ball as did the Huskies for several series of plays.

SMU got the ball late in the third quarter on their own twenty two yard line. Aucoin hit end Vic Dinardo for a thirty yard reception to the UPEI fifty-two. The running of fullback Rick Konopka and halfback Reynolds Shepard brought the ball down to the Panther four yard line. As Aucoin faded back to pass on second down big defensive tackle Albert

(Duh) MacDonald charged in and threw the quarterback for a six yard loss. The pass on third down was batted down and the defense held again.

UPEI took control deep in their own territory and on an end sweep Folew was trapped in the end zone for a safety touch. UPEI still lead by a score of 7-2.

The Panthers retained possession of the football on their twenty-five yard line. Don Murray burst through the SMU defense for twenty yards. The offense could not manage a first down and had to punt.

SMU started on their thirty-eight and quickly moved to the UPEI thirty yard line. To start the fourth quarter Konopka scored on a long run from scrimmage and SMU had a 9-7 lead.

SMU held the Panthers and took control on their own forty-five. Shepard scampered to the UPEI twenty-five and Konopka scored on his second run. The convert attempt was no good and the Huskies now lead 15-7. The final SMU score came as Konopka bulled in from the UPEI twenty.



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CAGE SEASON BEGINS

The first University of Prince Edward Island basketball team opened practice last week. The coach for the team will be the former coach at Prince of Wales College, Earl Nicholson. Also coaching is former St. Dunstan's University standout Len Sirois.

The basketball team suffered a big loss when 6'6" Vic Chandler returned to Ottawa to attend Ottawa University. Heading the list of returnees from the old SDU team is 6'5" Jim Fitzgerald, from Springtown, Mass. In his freshman year at SDU, Fitzgerald was an all-conference center. He was second in the league in scoring and third in rebounding. He led the league in field goal percentage with 56.6 per cent. In his second year, Fitzgerald was hampered by ankle injuries and slightly tapered off from his first years production.

In utilizing a big man like

Fitzgerald, it is necessary for a team to have effective passers in the backcourt. Attempting to fill this role will be Bob Gray, from Jan Jose, California, and Paul Grillo, from Somerville, Mass.

Out of St. John, N.B. comes two ex-Saints, Brian Lynch and Joe Sullivan. The 6'5" Lynch has all the tools to become one of the best rebounders in the league. Sullivan is one of the teams sharpshooters. Sullivan threw thirty points last year against the Fredericton Caps who featured Little All-American, 6'7" Norman Ruther, from Texas A & M.

Ronnie White, joins the UPEI Panthers after three seasons with PWC. The 6'3" forward will give the Panthers added board strength and offensive punch.

Rounding out the squad will be hometown boy John White, Dennis Marks from

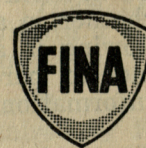
Saugus, Mass.; Bob Corrigan from Vancouver, B.C.; Bob Hunter from Unity, Maine; Vice Renfro from Evansville, Indiana; Herman MacNeill from Podunk, New Brunswick; and Jim MacDonald from Charlottetown.

PANTHERS TO MEET X-MEN

The UPEI Panthers will meet the St. Francis Xavier University X-Men, tomorrow at Antigonish, Nova Scotia. The Panthers will be seeking their first regular season win. The X-Men seem to be the team to beat in the Bluenose Conference. They are currently in a tie for first place with the UNB Red Raiders.

The Panthers will be without the services of two-way man Steve Bednar. Bednar is one of our best linemen; he does his job with little fanfare or talking, and as all football linemen receive little credit. Bednar broke his jaw in two places and lost two teeth while decking SMU quarterback Jim Aucoin. It was a good clean hit and just one of the many freak accidents of football. All other systems are go and the Panthers can defeat the X-Men. Such a victory should not be necessarily termed an upset, as the team is likely to jell and embarrass the three remaining teams.

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