



By MICKEY PLACE

JOCK TALK

We are happy to comment on three soccer games played at MacAdam Field during the past week. On Thursday we had our first look at the highly touted Panthers as they engaged Mount Allison in what, to us, was a somewhat frustrating scoreless draw. We did not appear to really press until the final minutes of the game &, we think, overcaution cost us a win. In the final minutes we maintained great territorial advantage but they only count the time the ball goes into the net. Our visitors concentrated on defense &, we think, were well satisfied with the draw. A few years ago, during Canadian Football play we lacked a player who could kick a ball through the uprights. It is too bad some of the present soccer team were not available at that time as, in this game, they frequently kicked what in former times would have been a three pointer. We have no idea of what general Vincie said to his charges before the weekend for they certainly altered their tactics. In Saturday's windswept game, played in torrential rain, only such enthusiasts as the Prez., Ross Stewart & your humble informant braved the elements as spectators to see our heroes struggle against the gale during the first half for scoreless action. Then, with the wind behind them our boys really poured it on as Scott Neil scored two while Tom Hogan, Glen

Smiley, Andy Cameron & Roger Vessey added singles for a 6-0 win. We might note, in passing, that adept footwork is not the only feature that counts in this game. We were most impressed with the way Scott Neil rifled the ball in after a rebound off his noggin. That's using your head! On Sunday, with a good size crowd taking advantage of a fine afternoon, Alan Stewart & Scott Neil gave us a 2-0 lead at the half & Scott added three more to close it out 5-0 win. In our last column we gave credit for a shutout to Peter MacDonald (as reported in the newspaper) & we should correct ourself to give credit to Jean Francois Painchaud who has been a tremendous factor in recent Panther successes. In our first game we were scored upon in the first minute of play & they got an insurance marker later in the contest. Since then our goal has been inviolate...four shutouts in a row! Painchaud est tres chaud! We might also note that a great deal of Panther offense seems to be built around this stalwart defender as our players have a tactic of directing the ball back to him to pass or kick. In Both weekend games there were far more S. O. G.'s on our net by our players than by the opposition! The team travels to U.N.B. this weekend for two games against the Red Raiders, currently rated as #4 in Canada. Due

to travelling distance involved the arrangement is that the teams alternate by years in having two home games. We hosted them in 1981. A couple of wins would certainly catapult us into a high position for national standings. And.....speaking of national ratings....our Field Hockey team, for the first time in their short history, got a nod from the sages who enumerate the Canadian teams as they put our women #10. During the past week, however, we regret to report that we dropped a pair (so we might estimate that the oracles made their judgement on potential rather than on mere statistics.) We lost 1-3 to Moncton, dropping behind 0-3 in the first half &, although we enjoyed quite a wide margin of territorial play during the second half, only Barbara Knox was successful in scoring. On Sunday much the same situation was in evidence as Acadia succeeded in frustrating our pressing forwards & were able to keep us off the scoreboard as they eked out a 1-0 win. This brings us to a somewhat disappointing 2-4 record which, with a little better luck, might well be 5-1. This weekend our team travels to U.N.B. for two against the highly rated Red Bloomers & we need at least a split to maintain our high ranking. We offer congratulations to

Marlene Costain, who puts every energy she has into every minute of every game she plays. On Sunday, after playing a full hockey game she has entered a three mile race, with over thirty entrants & won with a 1 minute thirty second margin over her closest rival! We wonder how late she studied Sunday night! We wandered into the Forum this afternoon & watched this edition of Panther Hockey in practise. At times in the past we may have been overoptimistic in our expectations but we do believe that this is the BEST team we have ever iced. We expect to have the best forward line in the league when Norman Beck, Tony MacKenzie & Ron Carragher line up. They'll have lots of backing too with the likes of Dave Currie and Trevor Crawford & others. We should have the best goalkeeping with Avalino Gomez and Dave Reid. Defense in a little thin & we will implore them to be careful of their diets & takes no chances when crossing streets. With no scorecards we can't name the new players who impressed us but they sure looked good. We were very much taken with defenceman Mazuka (When he shoots you could imagine his name starting with A "B".) All in all this could be THE year! The season opens here on 16 & 17 October with seldom-beaten-by-us Saint Marys & national champions U. de Moncton providing really high class opposition. BE THERE!!!!