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Outcome of the season was a record of 3-2-1—three wins, two losses and one tie. The Jays defeated Macalester 4-2, Hamline 3-1 and 3-1, then won by a forfeit over St. Mary's, and tied Gustavus in the rain 0-0. They lost to the University of Minnesota 7-0 and St. Thomas 3-2.

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Once more the St. John's team was coached by Abel Laguna, the Peruvian soccer strategist, with Puerto Rican Bob Marchan as team captain. There was little change in the team personnel, with the exception of Dave Kowalski, Mark Studer and Steve Pollock, all three of whom made valuable contributions to a good season, especially on the offensive. Bahamian Jim Burrows served as the star goalie and made good use of his baseball experience in blocking the entrance to the goal, despite a leaky defense that sometimes left him as the sole guardian of the net. It was a developing team, however, with the greatest weakness being the lack of finesse in scoring goals after the fullbacks and halfbacks had turned the ball over to the forwards.

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The 1969 soccer team finished the year with an overall record of five wins, one tie and two losses. The conference record was 4-1-1 for second place. It was a strong, well-balanced team despite having been defeated by Gustavus 4-0, the Gusties winning the crown with a record of five wins and only one loss.

Soccer had come a long way since its beginning in 1966, three years before. The proportion of games won versus the number lost was approximately the same, but the quality of play had improved significantly. One by one, the conference colleges had taken up soccer until in 1969 the only conference member without a soccer team was Concordia. Players and spectators alike had arrived at the point where

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they could recognize good soccer and appreciate the fifteen goals the 1969 team had scored versus seven by the opponents.

In a resume of the season, Tim Tuohy of the *Record* staff quoted Coach Vivaldelli's praise of the work and improvement achieved by the "Kickers." He attributed their improvement to greater finesse around the opponents' goal, more skill and astuteness in passing the ball, and greater aggressiveness of the players. Individuals singled out for commendation were Tom Keul for his work as goalie (three shut-outs), Doug Apel for his six goals, and Tim Broback, Mark Studer and Tom Gilligan for their aggressive play. The player-coach Vivaldelli had become an outstanding defensive fullback.

With only Kinwah Ng and Steve Pavkovich graduating, the coach was looking forward to 1970 for the best soccer team St. John's had thus far produced (*Record*, November 7, 1969, p. 4).

— 1970 —

Sometime in the interim between the 1969 and 1970 soccer seasons, Athletic Director George Durenberger appointed Axel Theimer, music instructor and director of the men's chorus, coach of the soccer team. The appointment of an Austrian who had played soccer in his native country brought a flavor of Europe to the St. John's athletic scene. He was a vigorous young man, not yet twenty-five and greatly in need of exercise. He first became interested in watching the St. John's soccer team practice and in time joined in the training exercises, running and kicking. Now and then he would stop to give the players a tip when it was apparent that a fault was correctable, sometimes suggesting a play that was successful in European soccer—pointers on finesse that the American players at St. John's had never heard of before.

The appointment was almost to be expected eventually. James Vivaldelli, the 1969 coach and player, welcomed his successor for the reason that it gave him the opportunity as assistant coach to exercise the leadership that the squad needed in order to make progress in mastering the game. Moreover, a number of the 1969 team members had not returned, and there were vacancies to be filled by new men. Missed, especially, were Mark Studer, the leading 1969 scorer, Tom Keul, who had developed into a first-class goalie, and Kinwah Ng, their outstanding halfback who had graduated.

The overall record for the season was four wins, four ties and two defeats; the conference record three wins, three ties and two losses. The number of tied games is indicative of the stubborn defense the team had developed. The season ended with St. John's in third place behind Gustavus (first) and St. Thomas (second).

The only team members mentioned in the game reports were Tim Hogan, John Weiss, John Cretzmeyer, Steve Pollock, James Vivaldelli, Tim Broback and Ning Yuen Chen.

— 1971 and 1972 —

The *Record* for the years 1971 and 1972 showed little or no interest in soccer. For that reason the outcomes of the 1971 and 1972 seasons have been culled from the *Sagatagan*: 1971, four wins, six losses, four ties; 1972, six wins, nine losses.

Returning for the 1971 season were the following veterans: Weston Cutter, Daniel Dimarco, David Farnesi, Patrick Machogu, Vinh Dink Nguen, Thomas Weber, John Weiss, David Yeh, Stephen Pollock and Steven Young (*Record*, October 1, 1971).

SCORES—1971		SCORES—1972	
SJU	Opponents	SJU	Opponents
0	Gustavus 8	0	St. Olaf 2
0	Macalester 0	6	Luther 0
3	Augsburg 3	0	St. Thomas 7
6	Hamline 1	0	Gustavus 9
2	St. Thomas 3	1	Macalester 4
3	St. Olaf 5	1	Augsburg 3
0	Gustavus 7	3	Hamline 2
4	Macalester 1	(?)	St. Thomas 2
3	Augsburg 2	2	Gustavus 5
1	Carleton 2	0	Carleton 5
2	Hamline 1	1	Macalester 2
0	St. Thomas 4	2	Augsburg 3
		3	Hamline 2
		6	Concordia 1
		2	St. Cloud 1

RECORD

Overall: 4 wins, 2 ties, 6 losses

RECORD

Overall: 6 wins 9 losses
Conference: 4 wins 8 losses

— 1973 —

The 1973 soccer season was one of transition from an experienced coach, Axel Theimer, to a beginner in the coaching game, Matthew Sikich, a 1972 graduate of St. John's. Captain of the team was David Yeh, a native of Hong Kong who had done all his earlier playing in the techniques of a country where soccer was an international sport. On the team were two other players experienced in foreign-style soccer, Geoff Murphy and his brother Brian, both rugged American players who had lived in Athens, Greece, during the years when they were going through grade school. Like Captain Yeh, they were expert soccer performers. With the exception of a few other players on the team, the 1973 edition was made up mainly of beginners who had little knowledge of the game and practically no experience. The *Record* gives the names of only a few of the veterans on the team: Carl Neuburger,