

# Sports



## Varsity Briefs

### Volleyball teams undefeated

Both Varsity Red Volleyball teams held on to their perfect records last weekend. The women increased their record to 6-0 with a couple of wins over the Memorial Seahawks. The Reds won the first match 15-11, 15-8, 15-5 and followed up with another straight set win 15-7, 15-6, 15-11. They now sit atop the AUAA with 12 points, 4 better than Dalhousie. The men ascerted their strength in their season opener against the Seahawks. They bounced back from a two game deficit to win the first match 3-2 and then followed up with a 3-1 win on Sunday. UNB setter Darcy Harris was Pepsi Player of the Game Saturday while Mark Coy was given the honor Sunday. The women head to Moncton for the UDM Invitational today while the men have the weekend off before heading to Dalhousie for two league games next weekend.

### W. Basketball downs Memorial

The women's basketball team set the stage for the men by winning both their weekend games against the Memorial Seahawks. They claimed an 82-68 decision on Saturday as Laura Swift was named Pepsi Player of the Game. The Reds dominated Sunday as they ran away with a 91-65 win. Laura Swift again lead the way for the Reds with 24 points but Krista Foreman managed to nab Player of the Game honors with 21 points of her own. The women head to Cape Breton to take on the UCCB Capers tomorrow and Sunday.

### Hockey takes two on road

The Varsity Reds managed to bring their win-loss record back up to respectability with a pair of convincing wins last weekend. Rob Knesaurek returned to form against Mount Allison as he netted three goals to lead the team to a 7-2 victory. Toby Burkitt, Chris Peach, Derek Cormier and Todd Sparks each had singles. The team then traveled to Halifax for a 10-3 shelling of the St. Mary's Huskies. Cormier, Burkitt, Trevor Boland and Sparks each had a pair while Knesaurek and Peach rounded out the scoring with singles. The Reds now sit 2 points behind UDM with a 5-5 record. They host UCCB tonight and CIAU #1 ranked St. FX tomorrow night.

### Swimming handles Dal, Aca

UNB Swim teams went 3-1 over the weekend in regular season meets. The Men's team handled Acadia 108-60 and Dalhousie 93-90 while the women defeated Acadia 62-48 but fell to Dalhousie 99-65. Iain Tennent led the men on Saturday with two gold medals while the 400 medley relay and 400 freestyle relay teams also took gold. On the women's side, both Paula Crutched and Michelle MacWhirter scored a pair of wins while the 400 freestyle relay team also took gold. Iain Tennent and Dave Pelkey found gold twice against Dal and UNB again claimed both relay events. However the women did not fair as well. Iona Allen Took two gold and the women's 400 Freestyle relay team won gold but it wasn't enough. The team heads to Michigan next weekend for the US Open meet.

## Athletes of the Week

Michelle MacWhirter, Swimming  
Iain Tennent, Swimming

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**UNBelievable!**

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# 3 and 0000000h!

Mitchell, MacKay lead team to respectability

Matthew J. Collins  
Sports Staff

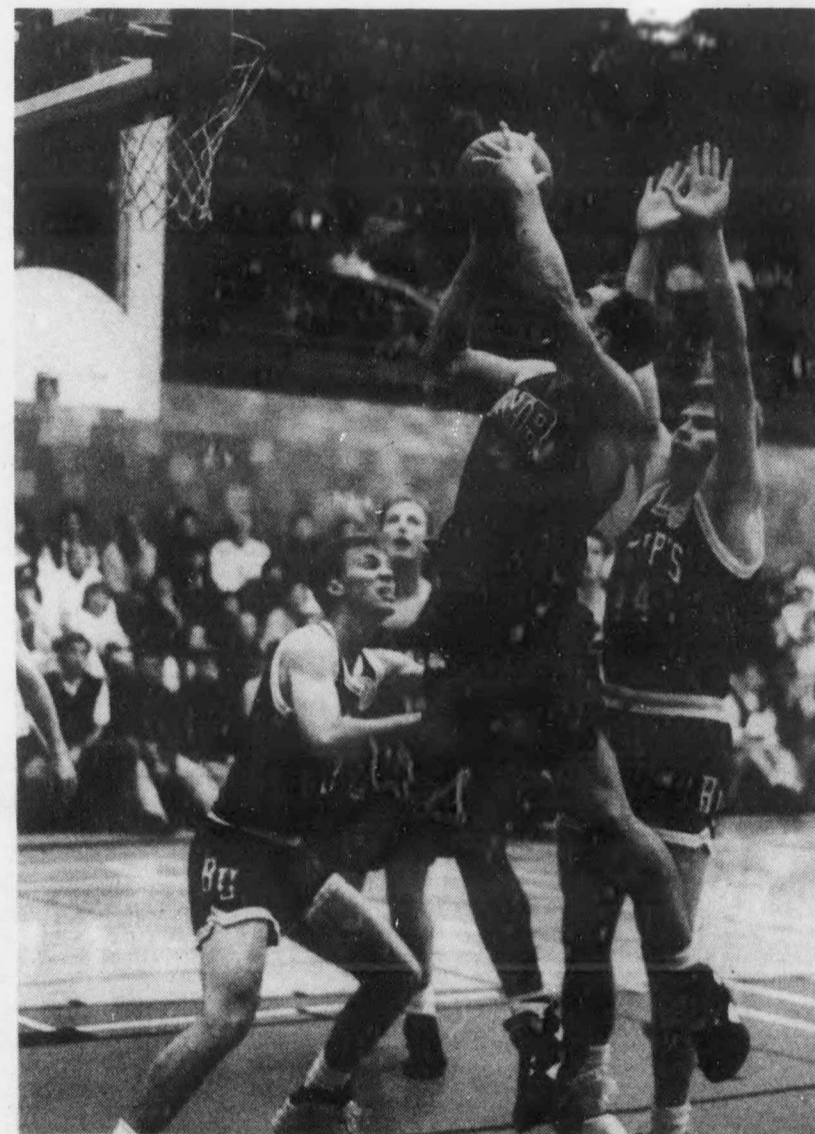
Who would have thought that the UNB Men's Basketball Team would be sitting atop the highly competitive AUAA conference after the first two weeks of the regular season? Well, believe it or not, that's where they stand after a pair of weekend victories against the Memorial Seahawks. With the wins, UNB finds itself with a perfect 3-0 record in what is considered by many to be the toughest league in the country.

The Reds took to the hardwood Saturday night to the rousing applause of the standing room only crowd, many of whom were out in conjunction with the Varsity Mania event. 'The Pit' only got louder as time wore on, especially during the warm-up, when the rookie combination of Mitchell and McNeilly treated the fans to their version of the highwire act as they displayed their ability to get 'above the rim'. This not only raised the level of intensity of the players, but it raised the excitement level of the fans. And as Coach Hamilton points out, strong fan support is important to have when you're playing at home. "During the first half, my players were a bit nervous about the crowd, but the students were great... We hope to see more of it, because it really gives our floor a home-court advantage."

For the first five minutes of the game, Stanleigh Mitchell gave the fans what they wanted. Scoring 10 of UNB's first 13 points, Mitchell displayed every aspect of his offensive arsenal. But MUN responded with firepower of their own, through the barrel of sharpshooter Bruce Nowe. The 'Jock from the Rock' connected on five three's in the first half alone, as both teams jarred back and forth, exchanging the lead. But the intermission saw UNB ahead by one, 36-35.

The second half was much the same with one exception. Hamilton focused in on Nowe and placed the quick-footed Andy McKay on him defensively. McKay held him to only two connections in the second half, as he closed down MUN's primary offensive threat. Nowe became later as his patience wore thin and he was forced to take a seat on the sidelines due to foul trouble. The Reds then went up by as many as 12, but the Seahawks refused to die. They fought back to within five with 2:16 remaining. But then the 'TSN Turning Point' took place, as McKay rejected a lay-up attempt on a Memorial fast break. This would have cut the lead to three but instead, UNB got out on their own fast break where Gregg Mapp sealed the victory with a baseline jumper.

Leading the assault for the Reds was Stanleigh Mitchell, who netted 24 points while distributing the ball for a handful of assists. Backing up this performance was the big man



The Reds were flying high against MUN last weekend.

Photo Kevin G. Porter.

Brian Elliott. In limited minutes, Elliott compiled 13 points while ripping down 9 boards and was named the Diet Pepsi Player of the Game. When asked about Elliott's impact on the team Hamilton stated, "We're a different team when Brian Elliott hits the floor. He's a force in the AUAA, and he is extremely difficult to match up with. He's a very mature player; he doesn't let his emotions dictate his game. And I'll tell you, I don't think there's a lot of better post players in the AUAA than Brian Elliott."

In Sunday's match-up, the Reds showed what kind of flawless ball they are capable of playing. The guys stormed out to a 17-0 run, and went up by score of 24-6 in the first eight minutes of the game. But then the team became lackadaisical and allowed MUN to slip back into the game. As Andy McKay points out, "In the first six minutes, everyone just played hard 'D'[defense]. Then we kind of had a little down, we got comfortable, and stopped moving the ball." The lead also affected the way in which the Reds approached the rest of the game. According to Mitchell, "Once we saw the lead we just kind of relaxed, and took these guys for granted." This attitude provided Memorial with an opportunity to go on a run of their own, outscoring the Reds 30-12 in the second portion of the first half. The Seahawks left the court with a renewed confidence, the Reds found themselves wondering where their

lead had gone.

In the second half, both teams played competitively but the Reds were able to build a 6 point lead at the 11 minute mark. While the Seahawks hung tough, they could not endure the UNB attack. The Reds stepped it up defensively and attacked the Memorial squad hard on offense. UNB surged to forefront posting an 82-70 victory. A strong performance was put forth by McKay in the win, who threw in 20 points and was named the Player of the Game. Also contributing was Mitchell with 19, and Elliott, who grabbed six off the glass and pounded his way inside for 15 points.

The Reds are on the road this weekend competing against one of the better teams in the conference, UCCB. Hamilton feels that, "It's important for us to play well there. And if we can sneak one out then were in pretty good shape heading into Christmas." But he is not quick to put 'expectations' on his team. More than anything, "...our key is to be consistent. If we play consistent, we're a tough team to play against." From what's been observed so far, there has been a drastic turnaround in the program we saw just one year ago. The Reds have an unblemished record heading into this weekend, and if consistency is the key, the future looks bright for UNB Basketball and its fans.