

Rebels 'set' to return to winning ways

by Stephen Harris

The men's volleyball team returns to competitive action this weekend. The visit of Memorial University on Friday (7.00 pm) and Saturday (1.00 pm) is being keenly awaited by those UNB volleyball followers 'in the know'. This season's performances have been greeted with mixed feelings. Despite not having attained a winning record as yet, performances have improved and a general air of optimism is being shown by the players, coaching staff and trainers alike. The Rebels have achieved a 1, 2 split with Memorial so far this season. Coach Mike Washburn believes that the two games this weekend will put UNB back in front.

The optimism displayed by Washburn and his assistant Eric Bolden would seem to be merited. Reviewing the present situation he reported that "good progress was being made" and that "things were beginning to come together". The indications are that this weekend's games will be close. Memorial were described as a "tightly knit group who are difficult to break down". The effectiveness of

the Rebels' attack could be decisive.

With only four teams competing in this year's Atlantic conference each is assured of a place in the play-offs here at UNB on Feb 28th and March 1st. The players have committed themselves to the task and hope to peak for the event. Washburn is excited by his team's chances where all

teams will again be starting as equals and with all to play for. Can the UNB Rebels produce an upset during the play-offs? They certainly have the playing potential. However, in volleyball the need for individual skills is matched by the need for the players to develop a mutual understanding. In this respect the team is in its infancy with

only three of the team's 10-man playing squad having previously played together. The longer the group spends together the better it will become.

Scholars of social psychology will know that all groups pass through four phases of development. The first three are forming, storming and norming. Recent

events suggest that the Rebels are about to enter the fourth stage of development; PERFORMING, where the group begins to realize its potential. This weekend's games against Memorial will provide a further indication of the team's chances of turning the tables against Dalhousie, U de M and Memorial again in six weeks' time.

Reds take third in a row

The UNB Reds women's volleyball team greatly improved their playoff chances last weekend with a pair of victories on the road against University of Prince Edward Island Panthers.

The Reds took the first match of the weekend set 3-1, with game scores being 14-16, 15-10, 15-13 and 15-8. On Sunday, the Reds swept the match 3-0, winning games by scores of 15-10, 15-4, 15-6.

Cheri Moore led the Reds to the two victories, connecting for 32 aces and six service aces in the two matches. Michelle Mockler was also on top of her game in the matches, scoring 25 kills in the two games. The two victories improved the Reds season record to 3-5, pen-

ding the outcome of a match last Tuesday night against Mount Allison. This weekend, the Reds host Acadia in matches set for the Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m.

"Last weekend was an important weekend for us to get back in the playoff hunt," Coach Sonny Phillips said.

"We have to take each match as it comes and see what happens. We have six tough matches coming up - Mount Allison, Acadia and St. F.X."

Phillips was pleased with the performance against UPEI, however, and hopes it bodes well for the future.

"I was very pleased with the offensive production of Cheri Moore and Michelle Mockler.

Each match Cheri is becoming a player to watch in this league. Carolyn Campbell set well this weekend and Wendy Smith did an extremely good job filling in for the injured Louise Berube."



The UNB ladies volleyball team gained their third win in five days when they defeated Mount 'A' Lady Mounties on Tuesday night. The scoreline was an emphatic 3-0 (15-10, 15-10, 15-4). Coach Sonny

Phillips was "really pleased" by his team's victory over the talented and determined Mount Allison team. It should be pointed out that the visitors placed runners-up in the UNB invitational tournament earlier in the season. They again displayed many of the qualities which brought them that success. The Reds however were simply better in the first game they dominated the Mounties. Good teamwork often efficiently rounded off by the hand of Cheri Moore quickly took them to an 11-0 lead. The Mounties fought back but couldn't save the game, going down 15-10. The second game followed a similar pattern, and in the third the Reds sealed a deserved victory.

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Steak 'n Eggs
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The Liar's Contest starts at 2pm
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Thursday, Jan. 23rd -

Rocky Horror Picture Show Nite
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on Saturday, January 25th