

Sports editorial: UNB Red Sticks

by: Frank Denis

Monday should have been a day of celebration here on the UNB campus. No, not because students were heading into a holiday shortened school week, but because the Red Sticks field hockey team had finished second at the national championships in Vancouver over the weekend.

Instead the accomplishment of these 16 athletes went relatively unnoticed by the university administration and in particular the UNB Athletics department. Nobody, students or faculty, was at the Fredericton airport when their plane landed Monday at lunch time. And when they stepped off the bus shortly thereafter outside the Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium no one in the Athletics department seemed to have had the time to get up and welcome them home. Instead the girls had to go to the department offices before anyone found the time to congratulate them. In fact one member of the team says that a varsity coach strolled past them and without stopping said "Nice medal girls." It was probably a good thing that the coach in question did not hang around because "He would have got a medal down his throat." For all that they have done, the Red Sticks don't deserve that kind of treatment.

The Sticks are one of the most successful teams on campus. They have consistently been the team to beat in the Atlantic University Athletic Association (AUAA) and have been in the top ten nationally year after year. They have brought honor and respect to the Athletics department and to the whole university. While the players were not hoping for a national holiday to be declared in their honor they were looking for some recognition for a job well done. It would have very simple to do.

The players and coaches could have been introduced at a reception at the LB Gym upon their return. Signs could have been posted announcing the rally at the gym and I bet you would have filled the place. There they would have been, walking into the gym with their silver medals around their necks while people cheered them on. Speeches could have been given by the Dean of Physical Education and Recreation Terry Haggerty as well as Athletics Director Jim Born. Then coach Donna Hornibrook and the players could have said a few words. The whole thing would have taken no more than 30 minutes.

A reception such as this would have left UNB students feeling proud of the team and of the athletics program here. That pride would have rubbed off on some and made them realize that UNB offers some first rate programs. Who knows that might have put more people in the stands for UNB games.

Some have accused the Athletics department of not caring about what happened in Vancouver this weekend or, they argue, "They would have done things differently when the Sticks returned home." but this is unjust. I'm sure the department did not want to leave the team feeling unappreciated. The lack of celebration was an oversight on someone's part that hopefully won't be repeated when a varsity team puts together a performance as brilliant as the Red Sticks.

The UNB Red Sticks have made the university and the whole province proud for putting together an outstanding season. Tonight the Red Sticks will be recognized in a pre game ceremony at the Red Devils hockey game at the Aitken Centre. As they say better late than never.

Bloomer basketball coach Claire Mitton had the right idea when she presented the team with a bottle of champagne for their efforts. Enjoy it girls, you deserve it.

Last week's trivia answer: Scott Pellerin was named best US college player last season.

This week's trivia: Which NHL team has an igloo on its sweater? No it's not the Penguins.

Wrestling Bears place two at McMaster

UNB placed both of their entrants at the tough McMaster open this past weekend in Hamilton. National team member Terry Pomeroy placed 2nd in the 48kg class and team captain Stacy Desroches finished 6th in the highly competitive 64kg weight class.

Pomeroy got to the final by beating Brock's Deyung Bui in the semi final. However in the final Pomeroy met CIAU medalist and national champion John Smith. The 2nd year Bear had beaten Smith in their last meeting at the Canada Cup in July. However on this day Pomeroy was slow in his attacks and allowed Smith to get behind twice. "Once behind, the more

experienced Mac wrestlers, powered Terry over in a gut wrench and the match was over, 10-0" commented coach Don Ryan.

Desroches' sixth place finish was a bitter sweet success. After beating Paul Gray and Dave Mair the captain of the Bears ran into younger brother Joe Mair and Fred Clark of Brock. In the last match Desroches suffered a cut to his head preventing him from wrestling for 5th place. His competition in this match was to be defending AUAA champion Brian Hicks of Mt. A.

The Bears next competition will occur Nov. 21st at Mount Allison.

Sportswire cont'd

Athletes of the week

This week UNB honours the entire Red Sticks field hockey team as Female Athletes of the Week for their outstanding play this season and at the CIAU Championships. The Red Sticks were undefeated in the regular season and the AUAA Championships. Josette Babineau, Tanya Whalen and Wendi Gallant were all named First Team All-Canadians and Natasha Connel was a Second Team All-Canadian. This past weekend, the Red Sticks went to the CIAU Championships in Victoria, B.C.. UNB was ranked fifth in the nation on Friday, and therefore had to play the first place team in Game One. They tied Victoria in game one (Vic-0, UNB-0). Kelly McCormack was named Player of the Game. In Game Three against York University Tanya Whalen scored in the last two seconds of play to tie the game with a score of 1-1. Tanya was named player of the Game. In the semi-final against Alberta, Krista Thompson, the goalkeeper for the Red Sticks played exceptionally stopping 33 of 34 shots, keeping UNB in the game to win with a score of 2-1. Krista was named Player of the Game. Krista had another outstanding game on Sunday, stopping twenty-seven out of twenty-nine shots. UNB finished the tournament with a silver medal and a second place National standing. The final score of the final game was Victoria-2, UNB-0. Kelly McCormack and Krista Thompson were named Tournament XI Players. Our congratulations to ALL of the Red Sticks team members!!

Male

This week's Male Athlete of the Week is Trevor Boland. Trevor is a second year Physical Education student from St. John's, Newfoundland. Trevor scored 5 goals in two weekend games as UNB beat the number two team in the country, the Acadia Axemen, as well as the highly regarded Dalhousie Tigers. Coach Johnston said "Trevor single handedly brought our team back on track, scoring five goals against two of the top AUAA teams. Most important though, is the fact that his work ethic matched his scoring pace." Trevor has accumulated 12 points in 7 games so far this season. He was named Diet Pepsi Player of the Game on both Friday and Saturday.

AUAA Hockey

MacAdam division

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
UNB	6	1	0	44	28	12
UDM	4	2	1	28	26	9
STU	4	4	0	36	38	8
PEI	1	5	2	31	43	4
MTA	0	7	0	27	46	0

Kelly division

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
ACA	5	1	1	39	23	11
UCB	3	2	1	33	31	7
SMU	3	4	1	43	49	7
SFX	3	3	0	27	29	6
DAL	2	2	0	24	18	4

W. Basketball (Dal Tourney)

Queen's 52 Acadia 38
UNB 85 Concordia 78
McGill 69 UPEI 68
Dal 61 Carleton 57
Concordia 44 Acadia 42
UPEI 67 Carleton 29
Queen's 84 UNB 70
McGill 76 Dal 46
Acadia 75 Carleton 40
UPEI 61 Concordia 58
Dal 61 UNB 57
McGill 71 Queen's 65

CIAU Top Ten

Ice hockey

1. Regina
2. Waterloo
3. Acadia
4. Western
5. Toronto
6. New Brunswick
7. Alberta
8. Saskatchewan
9. Guelph
10. UQTR

UNB/STU Club news

Badminton

There are six playing times left in this term.

Friday's 7-10pm
November 13, 20, 27
and December 4, and
Saturday's 2-5pm
November 14 and
December 5 in the

West Gym. Next term practice will begin

Friday 7-10pm
January 8, 1993.

There will be a regional tournament held on January 16 in the LB Gym further details on this tournament will be posted later.

Budokai Ju-Jitsu

"The most effective and scientific method of fighting ever devised"

If you want to know more call Randy Breau at 457-3005.

Women's ice hockey

The UNB Red Blazers will host the UNB Saint John team in an exhibition game at the Aitken Centre Saturday at 8pm. The team has been busy practicing and is looking forward to its first game.



Diet Pepsi night at the AUC

Tonight UNB vs. UPEI Panthers at
7:30pm

"Let's make a deal" residence challenge

Peter Allison's

