

# UNB SPORTS

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DEADLINE: Tuesday, noon

## Devils Draw First Blood

by Frank Denis

On Wednesday night, in their first playoff game in five years, the UNB Red Devils faced the UPEI Panthers and came out on top by a score of 3-1.

The Red Devils played a solid 60 minute game and didn't let up for an instant. UNB coach Mike Johnston

watched the game incognito as he was serving a one game suspension he received last weekend against Mt. Allison. Johnston's presence was missed behind the bench, but assistants Mark Jeffrey and Doug Currie did an exceptional job leading the Red Devils to their victory.

The game began on the right note for UNB as Tom

Gemmell cut in front of the UPEI goal and fired a low shot past goalie Jamie Blanchard and give UNB a 1-0 lead. The first period wound down and the teams went to their respective dressing rooms with UNB up by a goal.

At the beginning of the second period UNB ran into penalty trouble and found themselves two men short for

1:08. What seemed to be a glorious opportunity for the Panthers to tie the game backfired on them. After some persistent forechecking by UNB's Dan O'Brien and Murray Nystrom, the Red Devils increased their lead to 2 goals after O'Brien fed Nystrom a perfect pass. Nysrom's goal at the 5 minute mark brought life to a then silent and passive crowd.

The Panthers regrouped and on the same powerplay Dave Flanagan got UPEI on the scoreboard with a shot UNB goaltender Scott Macdonald had no chance of stopping.

Macdonald had another exceptional game between the pipes for the Red Devils. He was called upon to make some big saves at the start of the third period when the Panthers were looking for a quick goal to tie the game. The only goal of the third period was scored

with 15 seconds to play after UPEI had pulled their goaltender. Gemmell picked up the puck at his own blue line and it was clear sailing from there. Gemmell's empty netter was the final blow to the Panthers.

An important reason for UNB's success on Wednesday was the complete shutdown of the league's most valuable player, Richard Little. Red Devil forward Jamie Colvin was assigned the task of covering Little and deserves full credit for his exceptional job.

The win gives UNB a 1-0 lead in their best of three series. The series resumes in Charlottetown tomorrow night and then if necessary on Sunday. If the Red Devils win this series, and they should, they will play at the Aitken Centre either on Wednesday or Saturday night of the week.

## Raiders Split with UCCB

by Kelly Craig

This weekend the UNB Red Raiders played host to the UCCB team. It was a split weekend for the Raiders as they won and lost a game. Saturday night the Raiders easily defeated UCCB 84-48. On Sunday, UCCB bounced back and squeezed by UNB 74-64.

Saturday's game saw the Raiders dominate UCCB throughout the entire game. The Raiders played very effective basketball and kept the UCCB team from managing offense effectively. At halftime UNB was leading 49-23. Steve Taylor brought his scoring to a season high as he added 18 points to the Raiders. Jamie Watt came up with 13 points for the Raiders and also had a great game in rebounding.

Sunday wasn't as fortunate for the Raiders. The UCCB team rallied back from Saturday's loss and slipped by the Raiders 74-64. At half time the Raiders were behind 46-32. Their shots on basket were not very well executed. Not to take anything away from the Raiders, but the UCCB played excellent basketball Sunday. Yaw Obeng was top scorer for UNB with 19 points and Glen Read added 13.

Next week the Raiders will enjoy a few days rest from the basketball season. The weekend of March 3 and 4 will see the Raiders host the UPEI Panthers. The Raiders have had a very busy season thus far. Most of January saw the Raiders play three games a week. The rest will do the team a lot of good.

On March 3 and 4, the team will play two games against the Panthers at the LB Gym. PEI is currently #2 in the conference. This year the conference is very close. The

top four teams in the conference will head to the playoffs. A win by the Raiders could very easily rain on PEI's parade.

These games against UPEI are UNB's last games of the season. The players are all in a good frame of mind and are very motivated for these games. UNB has already played UPEI three times this season. All games have been close but UNB has yet to defeat them. However, these games could prove interesting. UNB has been steadily getting better

and will no doubt give UPEI some stiff competition.

Saturday, March 3, UNB takes to the courts at 8pm. Sunday, March 4, game time starts at 2pm. All games are at the LB Gym. Also, during the half time of Sunday's game the Raiders will be making a draw for a trip to the playoffs in Halifax. The trip includes airfare to Halifax, hotel accommodations, and passes to all the games. Tickets are available from the Red Raiders and from Coach Phil Wright at the LB Gym.



Yaw Obeng leaps towards the basket for Red Raiders Photo by Glen Vienneau

## UNB Athletes Of The Week

Chrissy Hashimoto of Mississauga, Ont. has been chosen as this week's UNB Female Athlete-of-the-Week. She had just a fabulous weekend as she led the UNB Beavers (women) swim team to the AUAA Championship while winning all six events that she entered, and at the same time breaking all existing school records in each event. Her times were: 400 Free-4:22.80, 400 IM-5:03.44, 200 Free-2:06.93, 800 Free-9:09.56, 400 MR-1:04.60, 400 FR-0:57.30. Chrissy swam against the best the AUAA had to offer and showed she was the class of the AUAA in the events she swam, and was therefore named the female swimmer of the meet. According to coach Fisher "Chrissy competed rested, bit not shaved, so she will be able to substantially improve her performances at the CIAU's." She is a truly gifted athlete who qualified for her CIAU's in all six of her events.

Brian Woods from Norwich, England and Stacey DesRoches of Berwick, NS have been named as co-winners of the UNB Male Athlete-of-the-Week award, due to their outstanding performances at the AUAA's in their respective sports.

Brian had a great weekend at the AUAA Championships as he smashed all existing school swim records and qualified for the CIAU's in two events. His times were: 2nd 400 Free-4:04.42, 1st 200 Free-1:51.96 (CIAU), 4th 100 BF-1:00.10, 1st 1500 Free-16:09.62 (CIAU), 4 times 200 FR-1:52.20, 4 times FR-0:52.20. According to coach Fisher "Brian's determination to swim beyond his limits set the tone for the whole team, as he provided the leadership for the team to capture the AUAA crown." As well, Brian was named the male swimmer of the meet.

Stacey, a 21 year old, second year Physical Education student also had a strong weekend as he helped lead the Black Bears wrestling team to their first AUAA Championship in three years. Stacey, the defending AUAA Champion in the 57 weight class, and last year's UMBN male rookie of the year went out and won the 61 weight class at this year's AUAA's with an impressive performance. By winning the gold medal at the AUAA's he qualifies for the CIAU's along with tow of his team mates. According to coach Multamaki "Stacey's impressive win over past AUAA Champion Rick Bourgeois of MUN in his final started UNB on a roll that culminated in the AUAA team title."