

UNB VARSITY REDS SPORTS

SOCCER • HOCKEY • SWIMMING
BASKETBALL • FIELD HOCKEY • VOLLEYBALL
WRESTLING • CROSS COUNTRY

Tommies edge Reds 3-2 Men and Women beat Acadia then lose to X Weekend Split for UNB Hoops



Troy Maguire gloves the puck as Dax MacLean (left) and Billy Wright (right) threaten his goal. PAT FITZPATRICK PHOTO

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKIAN

The Varsity Reds hockey team split their final home games of the first half of the season. The Reds doubled the Mount Allison Mounties 8-4, before falling to the Saint Thomas Tommies on Wednesday night.

The Reds were narrowly beaten by the visiting St. Thomas Tommies 3-2, who were coming off a weekend split, losing to St. FX and downing Saint Mary's. UNB outshot STU 35-25, but simply ran into a hot goaltender, Troy Maguire.

Reds head coach Mike Kelly felt that "...we played pretty hard. But give St. Thomas a lot of credit, I think that they took advantage of the opportunities they had and they played quite hard."

The Tommies were first to get on the board when Jason Underhill used their powerplay to find the net early in the first period.

Later in the period Dave Gilmore made it 2-0 for STU, taking advantage of UNB's shift change to arrive unchallenged at Reds' goalie Ken Carroll's doorstep.

Kelly stated that against Maguire "...we had some great opportunities and I thought that Maguire played outstandingly."

UNB's player of the game Toby Burkit got the Reds on the board at the 10 minute mark of the second period to narrow the Tommies lead to 2-1. However, Underhill got his second goal of the game with only seconds remaining in the period to return STU's lead to two.

Carroll started strongly in the third, robbing the Tommies of three goals. Rookie Peter MacKellar was able to beat Maguire just over 10 minutes into the period to bring UNB back within one goal of STU.

The Reds, in a valiant effort, pulled Carroll from the net with less than one minute remaining. The Reds battled in front of the Tommies net but Maguire kept them at bay, finishing his evening of grand theft by grabbing Billy Wright's potentially game-tying shot. Maguire was named Tommies player of the game for his efforts.

Kelly did not think that the game was chippy but rather "...it was quite a competitive game and emotions ran high. But I thought that both teams did a fairly decent job in keeping their emotions intact and playing hard and focusing towards what was important. It was a pretty good hockey game tonight, it was exciting for the fans."

As for the loss, Kelly said that "...you are not happy about losing, but at the same time you've got to keep things in perspective."

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The one noticeable absence was that of rookie Jason Campbell who is out of the line-up with an unspecified injury. Kelly noted that Campbell's absence "hurts a little bit." Prior to his injury, Campbell had 15 points. The date of Campbell's return is still uncertain. "We're still taking a wait and see (attitude). It's a day to day type thing. We don't anticipate having him back for Moncton, but hopefully for next Wednesday (against STU)," said Kelly.

UNB 8 - 4 MtA

The Reds downed the visiting Mount A Mounties 8-4 on Friday night before a small crowd.

Reds veteran Bill Wright beat Mounties net-minder Trent Mann eight minutes into the first period. The Mounties got on the board just a minute later on the powerplay to even up the score.

The Reds struck again just over two minutes later when captain Wade Simpson beat Mann on the powerplay taking a 2-1 lead. Less than a minute later veteran Jason Campeau added another goal giving the Reds a 3-1 heading into the dressing room at the first intermission.

The Mounties returned in the second period to get the first goal of the period at the 1:30 mark.

UNB responded just over three minutes later when Mann was screeded and Simpson fired a shot for the point and Wright tipped it in to get his second goal of the game.

The Reds kept the goals coming when Burkit scored a short-handed goal just over nine minutes into the game to give UNB a 5-2 lead. Less than a minute later rookie Craig Minard cut to the net and tucked one by Mann.

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Mt. A got the last goal of the second period still trailing UNB 6-3 heading into the dressing room.

The Reds started off the third period with two quick goals taking a commanding 8-3 lead before the Mounties could get on the board again. UNB handed Mt. A their sixth straight loss after the 8-4 pounding on Friday.

Looking Ahead

The first half of the Reds season is coming to a close for the Christmas holidays and Kelly felt that "Well I thought that it was just the way that we had projected. It was a learning half, it was a half where we saw a progression of our team. Where they elevated their play technically and tactically and the thing that I'm really happy about is that they have elevated their work ethic and elevated their competitiveness and that is really encouraging."

The Reds have two games remaining in their schedule before the break. UNB will be heading to Moncton to take on the U de M Blue Eagles. Kelly doesn't believe "That is not going to be an easy game. They're playing quite well. They came from behind against St. FX and tied them 5-5, they came from behind 5-1 or 5-0. They're a good team, they play very, very well in their own building and it will take a good effort on our part to be successful. You have to control the things you can control and we can control our effort and our game and that is what we are going to have to do."

The last time that UNB fans will be able to see the Reds in action is when they visit the Tommies at the LBR on Wednesday, December 4 at 7:30pm. Kelly believes that "the game may be a little bit different given the size of the building. But I expect it to be quite competitive."

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NEIL DUXBURY
THE BRUNSWICKIAN

The UNB Varsity Reds men's basketball team began their weekend on a winning note downing the tenth ranked team in the nation, the Acadia Axemen 63-57.

After a strong effort in the first half of the game had allowed UNB to take a 34-22 lead into the half, the Reds kept the Axemen at bay with their strong defensive play. Acadia played with a sense of urgency in the final minutes of the game, however the Reds sank enough from the charity stripe to win 63-57.

Fourth year veteran Gordon McNeilly lead UNB in scoring with 24 points. Sophomore Jon Kreiner chipped in 16 points, 12 of those came from behind the arc.

StFX 84 - 75 UNB

Slow starts to both halves cost UNB dearly as the speedy St Francis Xavier X-Men lead from tip-off to final buzzer.

Right from the start UNB were down by 11 as St FX burst out to a 15-4 lead. Containing the explosive X-Men proved to be difficult as UNB went to halftime trailing, 38-26.

The second half started in much the same way for the Reds as they were outscored through the early minutes. Then, just as those in attendance were contemplating how early to leave to avoid the rush, the three pointers that the Reds had been tossing up all afternoon finally started to drop.

The revival was keyed by Jon Stevenson. His back-to-back threes sparked the run which reined X's lead back to single digits. Just as things were starting to look good for the Reds, the three pointers started clanking off the rim again rather than swishing through the net. St FX made the most of their late foul shots on the way to a 84-75 win.

Overall, UNB shot 11 of 37 from three point range. Dave Low lead the

way for the Reds with 21 points, shooting 4-7 from behind the arc. Jon Kreiner's 10 rebounds lead UNB in that category.

After the game, Gordon McNeilly, who had faced the best defense he had seen all year from rookie X-Man Fred Perry, was unhappy with his team's performance. "We didn't put it together for 40 minutes," he said, "[St. FX] deserved to win the game."

St FX's coach, Steve Konchalski, wasn't phased by the Reds hot streak in the second half. "I thought we were in control the whole game."

UNB travel to PEI for a pair against the Panthers this weekend. UNB host Laval in an exhibition encounter on the 4th of January before resuming their AUSA schedule when the Saint Mary's Huskies visit "The Pit" a week later.

Women's Basketball

After extending their winning streak to 3 against the Acadia Axettes, the Varsity Reds women's basketball team dropped their first of the season to the St. Francis Xavier X-Women.

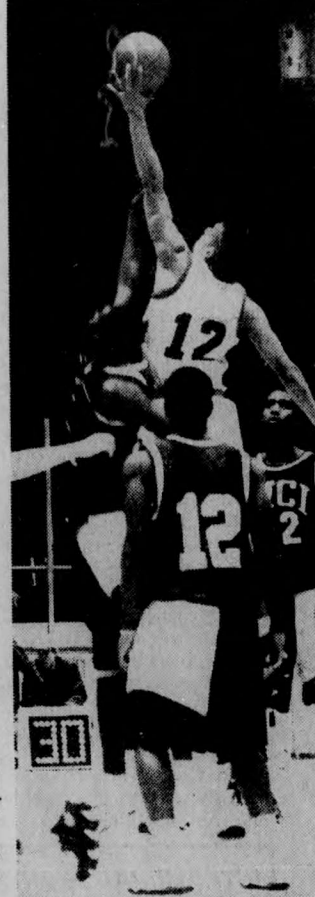
The Reds came out slightly ahead at the end of a see-saw first half, going into half-time up 31-29. UNB eventually emerged victorious, 62-53. Leading the way for the Reds was Shelly Ryan, shooting 10 for 14 to score 24 points, and Bonny Munn, who was 7 of 12 for 19 points.

You could say that the Varsity Reds women's basketball team was hit by an express on Sunday.

After 20 minutes of battle against the tough St FX X-Women, the Reds took a 41-34 lead into the intermission. When they came out they immediately fell under a spell cast by X-Women head coach Doc Ryan. For almost the entire second half, the X-Women played like they had 6 athletes on the floor as their full court press stymied the Reds.

The X-Women dominated the half, shooting 55.9% from the floor as they outscored the Reds 53-25 for a final score of 87-66.

Theresa MacCaish lived up to her



Gordon McNeilly in action. MARIA PAISLEY PHOTO

MacSwish nickname, leading St FX with 30 points. Shelley Ryan lead UNB with 14 points before fouling out while Kim Newman scored 8 points and pulled down 12 rebounds.

The Reds travel to Charlottetown for a pair of games against the UPEI Panthers this weekend. Their next game on campus will be on the 11th of January when the Saint Mary's Huskies come to town.

Wrestlers fight through injuries

NEIL DUXBURY
THE BRUNSWICKIAN

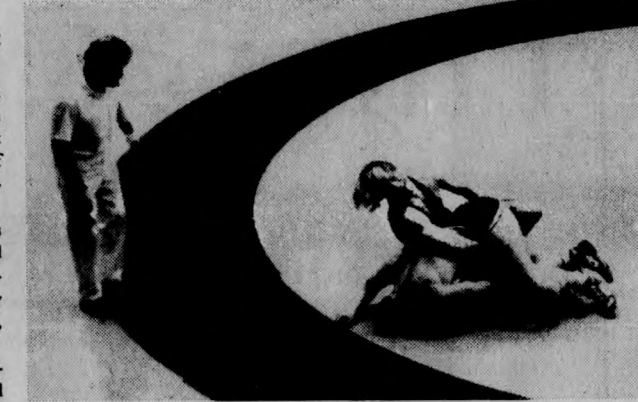
The Varsity Reds wrestling team won the university section of the Eastern Canadian Championships. They beat Dalhousie and Concordia in spite of missing several veterans due to injuries.

With knee injuries and concussions taking their toll, the wrestling team had to look to their next generation of wrestlers to carry them. Leading the way last weekend was first year wrestler, Cory Palmer.

Palmer, wrestling in the 158lb category, went 4-0 to capture a gold medal at last weekend's Eastern Canadian Championships. His efforts also earned him Athlete of the Week honours. So far this season, he has finished 4th at the Concordia Invitational and 6th at the University of Toronto Open.

Tim Pomeroy, another rookie, also impressed. According to UNB wrestling coach Don Ryan, Pomeroy won his three matches in the 127lb category "handily." "I don't think he had a point scored on him" said Ryan. Tim is the brother of 5 year AUSA all-star Terry Pomeroy whose impressive university career ended at the end of last season.

Second year captain Kevin Manderson was also in good form at the championships where he won the



BRUNSWICKIAN FILE PHOTO

180lb category. Ryan was pleased with the team's win, especially in light of the missing wrestlers. However, this is only an indication of the team's potential as "when the veterans start to heal up, we should be even stronger."

The week before, the wrestling team, competing as the Black Bears club, placed second in the Concordia Invitational, behind the New York Athletic Club. UNB wrestlers compete under both Varsity Reds and Black Bears names because of the joint funding for the team. The Black Bears club is financed by the Canadian National team

to develop wrestlers in Atlantic Canada. The highlight of the season so far, for coach Ryan, was a dual meet against Roger Williams, a university in Rhode Island. Fighting against the team who won their regional championships in the US last year, the event saw many strong performances from UNB wrestlers, despite losing the meet by 10 points.

The wrestling team's next scheduled competition is at the Montreal Open on January 4th. They should be on the road the following two weekends before returning home for the UNB Open in the Main Gym on the 25th of January.

Results

Women's Volleyball
UdeM Omnium Tournament
UdeM 2 - 0 UNB
UNB 2 - 0 Acadia
M'ton Sr A 2 - 0 UNB
Aca 2 - 0 UNB

Men's Volleyball
Guelph Tournament
UofT 3 - 0 UNB
UNB 3 - 0 Guelph
UNB 3 - 0 McGill
UNB 3 - 0 Windsor

Women's Basketball
Acadia 53 - 62 UNB
St FX 87 - 66 UNB

Men's Basketball
Acadia 57 - 63 UNB
St FX 84 - 75 UNB

Hockey
MtA 4 - 8 UNB
STU 2 - 3 UNB

Schedule

Hockey
UNB @ STU
Wednesday, 7:30pm, LBR

Athletes of the Week

Cory Palmer, Wrestling

Cory Palmer, a member of the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds wrestling team has been named UNB's Valley Graphics Male Athlete of the Week.

On Saturday, Palmer won a gold medal at the Eastern Canadian Wrestling Championships, that were held at UNB. He went 4-0 to capture his first university medal.

So far this season, he has finished 4th at the Concordia Invitational and 6th at the University of Toronto Open. His overall match record is 7-4.

UNB head coach Don Ryan stated that "Cory's hard work is starting to pay off. He is a very explosive wrestler." A native of Shubenacadie, NB, Palmer is a first year Kinesiology student.

Shelley Ryan, Basketball

For the second straight week, a member of the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds women's basketball team was named UNB's Valley Graphics Female Athlete of the Week.

Shelley Ryan, a third year member of the V-Reds, was the top scorer in both of UNB's games on the weekend. On Saturday, Ryan was named the Player of the Game as she scored 24 points, in UNB's 62-53 win over Acadia. In Sunday's game she scored 14 points, as UNB suffered its first loss of the season, 87-66 to St FX.

UNB head coach Joyce Slipp stated "Shelley is a phenomenal athlete. In the Acadia game especially, she was unstoppable." Ryan, a native of Fredericton, NB, is studying in the Faculty of Kinesiology.

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