

UNB heads to exhibition tourney Volleyball sweeps Memorial at home

SPORTS STAFF

THE BRUNSWICKIAN

The Reds had a battle on their hands over the weekend.

The UNB Varsity Reds women's volleyball team faced stiff competition from the Memorial Seahawks at the LB Gym. UNB swept MUN over the weekend taking the two games, but it wasn't easy.

In the first game UNB won 3-1 against MUN. The Reds lost the first match 13-15 then battled back to take the next 3 matches 16-14, 15-11, 15-6. UNB's Chantal Martin was named player of the game having led UNB with 32 kills and 3 blocks.

The Reds returned on Sunday to meet a tough Memorial team. UNB won the first two matches 15-11, 15-4. Then the Seahawks proved to be tough competition taking the next two matches 7-15, 8-15. UNB fought back in the final match to win 15-12 and take the series 3-2.

Going into the games against MUN last weekend McGarvie states, "We didn't know what to expect from Memorial since they beat UPEI 3-0, 3-0 and beat Mt. A. So they are better than those teams and we felt that we were probably evenly matched going into this weekend."

This year's edition of the Reds is a "young team" with 8 rookies and on the weekend, 3 of the rookies were on



UNB goes for the block against MUN.

AARON MACEachern PHOTO

the floor. In spite of the youth of the team, Reds' head coach Al McGarvie believes "We have the defensive ability this year, more so than in the last couple years." He also states that the team is not a big team but "we have a couple of impact players, and we have lots of help from the other players."

The Reds are looking for more execution from other areas of the floor to be more effective in their game against their opponents. As for UNB's big hitter, McGarvie says, "that it is pretty obvious who it is and if we can keep the ball away from her then we can give teams a harder time." McGarvie

would like to see the team passing the ball much more rather than relying on their power.

The games against Memorial were "big matches because we are looking at a playoff spot and so are they. We would like to be in fourth or fifth spot or even better than that," says McGarvie. There are six playoff spots in the AUSA's.

The Reds may be taking a week off during their AUSA schedule, but they won't be idle as they will play in an exhibition tournament. UNB will travel to Saint John this weekend to play in a Senior A tournament at UNBSJ including teams from Nova Scotia, Fredericton, Saint John and Moncton.

The team from Moncton is as "good as the top four teams in the university league," according to McGarvie.

The V-Reds will be using this tournament to work on their strategy. McGarvie believes that "the tournament will give the team an opportunity to work on transitions more and to work down balls more and work on our offense and defense under a more relaxed environment."

Since this is an exhibition tournament McGarvie states, "There is no pressure (on us) to win that tournament. We would certainly like to play well but it doesn't matter if we come in first, second, third, fourth or whatever. As long as we play well and we work at what we have to do to play against the teams in the AUSA."

Jennings wins big in... V-Reds' 'Cashfest' Contest



Chestnut/Moosehead guaranteed win night - The Chestnut/Moosehead Cash Fest winner of \$1,500 was Mike Jennings. Jennings received his BBA degree from UNB in 1993 and is currently enrolled in the MBA program part-time. He is a native of Fredericton, NB. He won the \$1,500 while attending the UNB/STU hockey game on November 27, 1996, which was "Guaranteed Win Night." Presenting the cheque are from left to right: Steve Duggan (Chestnut Club), Mike Jennings (\$1,500 winner), Mike Bacon (Moosehead Rep.), and Clint Hamilton (UNB Men's Basketball Head Coach).

PAT FITZPATRICK PHOTO

U of T women's hockey gets a room of its own

RAY ORTIGAS

U OF T VARSITY STAFF

It may have been only the opening of a dressing room, but for the U of T women's ice hockey Varsity Blues, the occasion meant so much more.

In a ceremony yesterday afternoon at Varsity Arena, the new women's hockey dressing room was officially opened, much to the delight of the team which has won 14 of the last 17 OWIAA championships, but did not have a permanent place to change until now.

"We look to it like we're finally getting recognized. It's a step in the right direction for women's hockey, and its only going to get better in the future," said Blues captain Lori Dupuis, a sixth year veteran with the team.

Bruce Kidd, acting director of the department of athletics and recreation, agreed.

"It's a strong statement that women's hockey is here to stay, and it's a strong message that we at U of T are committed to equity for our female student in all things, particularly in athletics and recreation," he said.

Formerly, the Blues had changed in a room in the east wing of the arena, but

they had to clear their belongings from the room so that other people could use it. The team now changes in the southwest corner of the arena, not too far from the men's dressing area.

"This is the last little cornerstone," commented fourth year defender Mary-Beth Challoner. "We had the equipment. We gradually got to where we were equitable with the money and ice...[but] this is the biggie, and we got it. We're thrilled."

So was U of T head coach Karen Hughes, who is herself a former Varsity team captain.

"Today's a really special day for us... It's something that we as alumni prob-



The times, they are a changin': Karen Hughes, coach of the women's hockey Blues, shows off their new change room yesterday afternoon.

Gregor Madden/VIS

ably never dreamed would happen when we were players here," she said. "We think it's fantastic, the commitment to our team and the support."

"That's really changed a lot from early in the '90s when we were just struggling to keep our team around," added Hughes, who was an assistant coach with the Blues when they were slated for the chopping block by DAR four years ago.

The Showcase team of the OWIAA, the Blues now have their own dressing room like every other team in the league, and they are ready to blaze trails as they look forward to this year's provincial championships and the inaugural national CIAU championships next season.

Meanwhile, DAR continues to move towards achieving gender equity, and while yesterday's ceremony is a landmark event in that movement, department equity task force chair Kristine Drakich knows it's far from over.

"There's still a long way to go, in terms of equity in sports and athletics, but this is proof that change can still happen," she said.

<http://www.compustyle.uwaterloo.ca/groups/varsity>

Wostawea-Mactaquac Ski Loppet 1997

Wostawea Cross-country Ski Club of Fredericton will host a Loppet at Mactaquac Provincial Park, Sunday, January 26. This event is one of the provincial series of loppets sponsored by Cross Country New Brunswick and Louis Garneau.

This loppet is for classic technique which means no skating is permitted. Please note that this event is being held

at Mactaquac Park rather than Lindsay Valley as previously announced.

Registration: 9-11am. Official start time: 11am. Those who miss the official start time are welcome, but the cut-off time for late starts will be 12:30pm.

Awards will be offered for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in various categories, for each of 5km, 10km, and 25km distances. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

This fun participation event is open to all ages and abilities. It's not meant to be a race, but a chance to ski a good distance at your own pace. There will be feeding and security stations along the trails.

For more information, please contact the Chief of Loppet, Ernie MacGillivray, at 453-5582 (days) and 472-5166 (after hours).

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For the month of February the UNB Student Union will be giving the "Student of the Month" a beautiful Alexander Keith's winter jacket. The jacket has a black exterior, and a soft green interior. So if you or some one you know has made a great contribution to university life...

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UNB

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ADMISSION

Adults	\$6.00
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* Varsity Game Admissions & Complimentary Passes not valid for this game

Tickets available at:
Aitken University Centre, Brookside Irving, Mazzuca's, Fenety's Irving

Proceeds will be dedicated to the Mark Jeffrey Memorial Scholarship Fund

UNB/STU Judo Club
-Sport, Fitness Competition
-Black Belt Instruction
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The Brunswickan
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