

Women's Basketball

# Tough losses for V-Reds

by Maria Paisley  
Brunswickan Sports

The Varsity Reds women's basketball team started their regular season off on the wrong foot.

UNB started their season by losing to the UCCB Capers over the weekend. The first game was a nailbiter loss of 69-70. The Capers returned to dominate the Reds on Sunday 70-53.

Rookie Sandy Tomley led the Reds with 16 points in the first game. Heather Grasman and Bonny Munn both tossed in 12 points and Erin Savage helped with 11. The Capers were led by Janice Moseychuck who tossed in 30 points and had 14 rebounds. The Reds trailed at the half 38-34 and the final damage was 69-70.

Sunday wasn't much better as the Reds were down 37-23 at the half and the Capers never looked back as they dominated the Reds 70-53.

Tomley had another good game,

tossing in 14 points. Veterans Donna Retson added 9, while Shelley Ryan had six points and seven rebounds after having six of each the day before.

UNB was out-rebounded in the two games by a margin of 76-55. Coach Joyce Slipp states that "the Capers out-shot, out-hustled and out-rebounded us."

UNB is focusing on this weekends' games as they are worth four points each, unlike the ones against UCCB which were only worth 2 points a piece. The Reds will be travelling to Wolfville to take on Acadia and will then head down the road to Halifax to go against St. Mary's.

Slipp says they have seen Acadia in action and "they play a slower game than Cape Breton and they are very set in their offense." The last time that the Reds played against the Axettes UNB lost by three points. Slipp considers these two teams "a lot more even" than UNB and UCCB.

Coach Slipp thinks the St. Mary's Huskies may be a bit more of a challenge as they have some "very good players and they have added some height to the team, whereas UNB is a short team."

This year's team is comprised of seven rookies and five veterans. One of those rookies, Sandy Tomley has made an immediate impact on the team. In the two games over the weekend Tomley accounted for 30 points. Tomley is originally from Australia and played with club teams there, but not any varsity teams. Slipp points out that the other teams "find her hard to guard" because she plays a different type of game.

As far as what to expect from the team, Slipp states "that it is difficult to tell at this point as I inherited the team. The team has the potential to be good, but right now they are going from game to game." This year they do hope to go to the playoffs.

Swimming

# Swimmers split

by Michael J. Drost  
Brunswickan Sports

In swimming action last weekend, the UNB mens' team once again declared last year's AUAAs champions. The Tigers' 57 points were no match for the Reds' 114.

Bringing UNB to the top, for the men, was veteran, Jason Lukeman. Jason not only won both his specialties, the 50 and the 100m freestyle events, he also managed to set two new meet records with the times of 24:17 and 53:42 respectively. The old records were held by his current teammate, David Pelkey. Lukeman then went on to join his teammates Josh Ballem, Thom Giberson, and Chris Jones to break yet another meet record for the 400m freestyle relay. "Jason has been establishing himself as the swimmer to beat this year, but I feel it will be hard for anyone to challenge him. I am very pleased with his training and very fast early season swimming," says coach Connon.

Once again, swimming his way towards the AUAAs record was rookie sensation, Marty Laycock. Marty has remained unbeaten this year in his events. This past weekend proved no exception as Mr Laycock set a new meet record for the 200m breaststroke event with a time of 2:28.52. Also getting closer to the record books was Reds' Chris Jones with an impressive 200m backstroke of 2:11.73. Two other swimmers having strong swims were: rookie Josh Ballem, who won both the 200 and 800m freestyle events, and veteran Thom Giberson winning the 200m Individual Medley.

The womens' side of events turned out to be somewhat of a disappointment as the Dal women's team dominated the meet 127 to 52. Connon's comments include: "I was rather discouraged to see Dal with such a large team, but I had two of my top performers sitting out this meet, and besides, once we have the equal amount of swimmers as Dal, I am confident we will do better. Also, I feel now that last year's CIAU qualifiers, Robin and Michelle [MacWhirter] are back training fully and completely, we will no doubt be more competitive with Dal."

The Reds are now beginning their race specific training phase, so inevitably more swimmers' times will begin to drop.

## More Michelle....

on the 100m backstroke and the 200m freestyle for CIAUs this year, and with any luck she will be an All Canadian at CIAUs.

"It took some getting used to coach Connon's style of coaching, but so far this year I am swimming faster than last year, so something is working for me. I enjoy working with him and I feel there is so much more left that I can get from his style of coaching," comments Michelle.

When asked what would you do if you had sometime away from her hectic lifestyle? She answered, "I would hangout in Australia for awhile." But, for now she is getting psyched up for a Christmas swim training camp in Florida.

# Sandra Tomley: an internet import

by Peter J. Cullen  
Brunswickan Sports

UNB has begun recruiting players from overseas. Not from scouts, but via Internet. And with the recent results that Canberra, Australia native Sandra Tomley has elicited, her presence on the V-Reds squad should provide the spark that the V-Reds could use this season.

The 22 year old no degree student departed from Down Under to pursue her love of basketball in Fredericton. But she initially learned of UNB in a somewhat odd manner. During her graduate year in Australia, Tomley was scanning the Internet for information regarding relatively obscure basketball players. While on the Net she encountered and discussed the sport with V-Reds team manager, Fabian McKenzie. "We started talking and he asked if I played basketball. I was originally going to the States a couple of years ago on a scholarship, but that fell through at the last minute ... So I had kind of given up, but he said he was the manager of the women's program at UNB. He asked if I was interested in coming and [former coach Claire Mitton] expressed interest, so that's how I got here," she laughed.

While grateful to be playing basketball here in Canada, the V-Reds appear pleased with their import. As a starter and perhaps the most consistent performer so far this season, Tomley's difficulties adapting to the North American style seem rather insignificant. "The standards are pretty much the same ... The tempo's probably pretty much the same, but I'm having a bit of trouble with fouling at the moment. It's a bit



Sandra Tomley.

photo Mike Dean

more physical down home," she said.

In regards to her initial feelings upon joining the team, Tomley explained that "I had to adjust to what my role was going to be. At the Fall Classic I was really nervous, but I knew I could do better ... I'm a rookie, but that's hard for me to adjust to. I feel like a rookie in some ways because I don't know what my role is and whether I should speak out, but then again I've got more experience than a lot of the other girls ... It's still a feeling out period."

In addition to adjusting to her new surroundings, Tomley also has to suffer the wrath of a Fredericton winter. "I just came out of winter [in Australia], come

into winter here, and when I go back I'll be in winter. I'm missing the sun, I'll tell ya ... The lowest we get back home is probably -10, at night. Here when they said -30, I was like, 'This is kinda scary,'" she laughed.

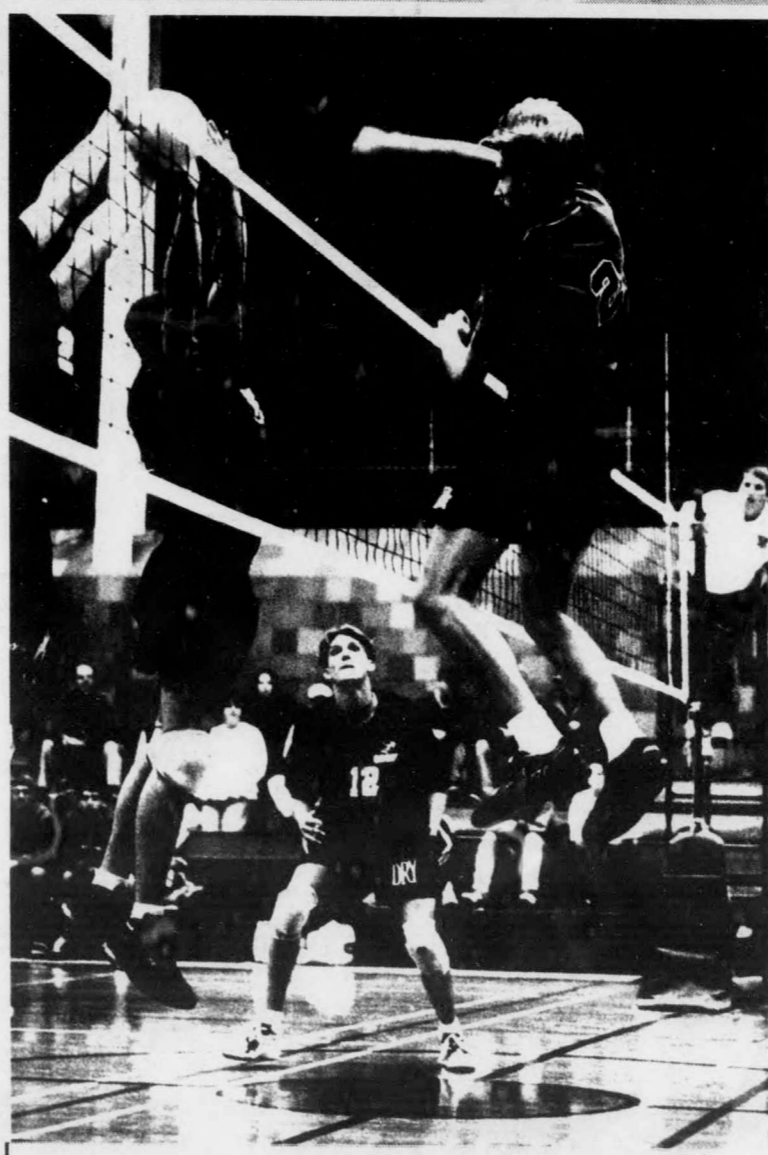
Whether Tomley returns to UNB next year depends on how the current season unfolds. "I haven't made up my mind yet. The girls want me to stay around ... It all comes down to seeing how the season goes," she said. Hopefully for the V-Reds their year bodes well, as Tomley has already proven that she possesses the determination and will to win that the V-Reds certainly need.

## Upcoming Swim Meets

25th November, 95 UNB @ Laval

13th January, 96 Dal @ UNB

14th January, 96 UNB@Mt A



The Men's Volleyball team are back in action this weekend, taking on Memorial Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. Photo Mike Dean

**Keep up with your hoops teams on CHSR 97.9 FM:**

**Men vs Acadia, Saturday 25th @ 8pm**

**Women vs SMU, Sunday 26th @ 1pm**