

Hockey

Naylor brothers leave V-Reds



Luke Naylor didn't get the chance to shoot against UQTR this season as he did last year. photo by Terry Dickson

by Neil Duxbury
Brunswickan Sports

Luke Naylor and Ted Naylor left the Varsity Reds hockey team on Wednesday. Having already lost three productive scorers—Todd Sparks, Derek Cormier and Mike Cavanagh—the loss of the Naylor brothers could prove a devastating blow to UNB hockey, as between the two of them they accounted for approximately 40 points last year.

Luke, who scored 14 goals while working down the right wing last season, opened his 1995-96 account with a goal in Shediac on Monday night. He closed it Wednesday when he confirmed that he and his brother had quit the team. "There were a lot of different rea-

sons [for leaving]. I don't want to say negative things... We thought we'd get a better chance somewhere else," he stated.

"It was their decision," confirmed Shane Easter, assistant coach for the V-Reds. "They felt they wouldn't play as important a role as they thought they could and that they'd be better off somewhere else." Easter also downplayed the impact of their departure. "I think we'll be OK. We've got enough depth with the rookies."

Speaking of finding replacements to fill the 40 point gap the Naylor's left, "It's not going to happen over night. It's going to take the first half of the season, but we're looking to come through in the second half. We

want to be playing our best right at the playoffs."

He finished by saying, "They're great guys, I'm sorry to see them leave."

Naylor cited one specific reason for the siblings' departure from the team as, "It just wasn't fun anymore and it's university hockey, so if it's not fun there's not much sense in playing."

He also went on to confirm that he and his brother were looking to transfer to another school. "We're looking at Dal and St.FX." The Naylor's will not be eligible to play for another team this year, but each has four years of eligibility remaining and their elusive moves on the ice could interest many universities with vacancies on the wings.

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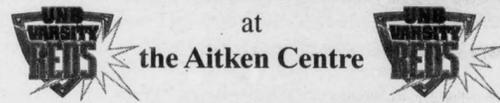
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