

Red Devils robbed in N.S.

by Frank Denis

The UNB Red Devils opened their regular season last weekend with a pair of games in Nova Scotia. On Saturday they were in Sydney to play the University College of Cape Breton Capers and on Sunday in Antigonish playing the St. F.X. X-men. Head coach Mike Johnston and his staff were hoping to come away from the two games with at least 2 out of a possible 4 points. At the end of the trip the team had earned only one point, because of a controversial 4-4 tie at St. F.X. On Saturday the Capers prevailed by a score of 5-3.

The game against UCCB began on the right note for the Red Devils. While on a power play, Ken Murchison converted a beautiful Dominic Niro pass and put UNB up by a goal at the 2-minute mark of the opening period. The Capers evened the mark when UNB captain Murray Nystrom was serving a 2-minute penalty for interference as Michael Perry scored his first of 3 goals on the night. The teams went to their respective dressing rooms for the first intermission tied at 1-1.

UCCB centre Perry began the 2nd period right where he left off the first by scoring a goal early to give the Capers a 2-1 lead. Shortly after that UNB had several quality scoring chances but excellent goal tending by Darren Nixon kept UNB at bay. Tom Gemmell

finally managed to even the score for the Red Devils when he slid the puck between Nixon's legs while short-handed. Seven minutes after Gemmell's equalizer, the wheels fell off for the Red Devils.

John Toney's deflection in front of the net gave UCCB the lead again and less than two minutes later Perry completed his hat trick. To cap things off, Chris Nemis scored to give UCCB a 5-2 lead, too large a margin for UNB to overcome.

After the game coach Johnston stated, "UCCB never let up. After scoring their third and fourth goals they were still hungry and kept coming instead of sitting back and playing safe hockey."

Safe hockey is what UCCB saved for the third period as they registered only 8 shots on Red Devil goalie Chris Somers. Somers had a solid game in goal and was called upon to make many game-saving stops.

The only goal of the third frame came with less than 5 minutes to go as Dominic Niro made the score a little more respectable. The game ended 5-3 in UCCB's favour.

Johnston felt his offense could have had a better game but was pleased with the defensive play. In particular, he felt Derek Scanlon played a strong game and feels he should be a big part of the team's defence throughout the year.

Heading to St. F.X. for Sun-

day's game, the team was looking for a big win and earn their first points of the new season. The Red Devils did manage to earn one point but firmly believe they should have received 2 points and won the game.

The score at the end of regulation time was tied at 4-4 and went into a 5 minute sudden death overtime. With only seconds remaining in the overtime, Tom Gemmell crossed the St. F.X. blue line and fired the puck through the goal tender's legs and into the net. At first the referee signaled a goal but after talking to his linesmen and the goal judge, ruled that time had run out before the puck crossed the goal line. Most arenas are equipped with a green and red light behind each goal. The green light goes on automatically at the end of each period and cannot be on at the same time as the red light that signals a goal. The problem is that St. F.X. does not have such a green light and therefore it is a human decision as to whether time expired before the goal. Red Devil forward Dominic Niro, who sat out the game because of an injured foot, was standing to the side of the goal and strongly believes that the puck was well over the line before time expired. Jim Landine, a third-year Red Devil, was especially upset with the call. "If we end the year needing one more point in the standings to finish in a better position, a lot of us will be

looking back to this game. It's too bad it ended that way."

The game was a much better one for the Red Devils than Saturday's. They came out hitting the bigger St. F.X. team and controlled most of the play. Scott MacDonald played goal for UNB and turned in a good performance, stopping 28 St. F.X. shots. Scoring for UNB were Joey McTamney, Gemmell, Rob Boldon, and Hollis Chamberlain. Replying for the X-men were Brian Keeler, Duane Saulnier with 2,

and Ben MacIntosh. At this point last season, head coach Mike Johnston had as his goal finishing at least fourth in the division and making the playoffs. This year he hopes to finish in at least third place and thinks his team could even battle for second place.

Red Devil fans will be able to see their team at the Aitken Centre this weekend for a pair of games. Friday they host the Mt. A. Mounties and Saturday the UPEI Panthers. Game time for both is 7:30 p.m.

Red Raiders to kick off season

By Kirk MacDonald

Of the competitive intercollegiate sports, men's basketball is always a favourite with the fans. Most AUAA universities would consider basketball the most consistent crowd-gathering sport. The national University Championships have been held in Halifax for the past five years because the Maritimes are known as a hotbed of basketball talent and support.

Come and watch UNB's team, the Red Raiders, this weekend - IT'S EXCITING! The players have been practising everyday for the past month under head coach Dr. Phil Wright, with support from top-notch manager Kevin Lamb.

The 2nd annual Fall Classic Invitational Tournament is the chance for the Raiders to test themselves against the AUAA powerhouse and defending Tournament Champions, the UPEI "Panthers", as well as the University of Ottawa "Gee Gees" and the Bishops University "Gators". The games will take place this Saturday, October 27 at 7 and 9 p.m. and this Sunday, October 28 at 1 and 3 p.m. at the L.B. Gym.

Perennially nationally-ranked UPEI boasts two-time AUAA MVP Peter Gordon and a squad of other Metro Ontario all-stars.

The Red Raiders have an established tradition of success and the upcoming alumni weekend will see the 35th reunion of the teams of 1954-55 and 1955-56.

The current Raiders have a strong nucleus of players in captains Glen Read and Yaw Obeng, plus Steve Taylor and Jamie Watt. Glen, a fourth-year sociology student, lead the team in scoring last year and is in line for league all-star status. Yaw is the team's premier point guard, Steve is a hard-working, sweet-shooting playmaker, and Jamie is a 6'5" crowd-pleasing leaper.

Last year's rookies, Dutt Adams and Vinod Nair of Fredericton, return with twice the ambition and skill. Also returning is former Raider Rick Stubbart of Maine.

New recruits to the Raiders are the following: Craig Isley, a 6'5" Metro Halifax all-star; Alex Kidney, the 6'1" leading scorer of the AAA champion Fredericton Black Cats and brother of former Raider Chris Kidney; Ken Badour, a 6'2" guard from Kingston, Ontario; and Bruce Noble, a 6'6" N.B. all-star from Moncton.

The Raiders also gain Bobby O'Brien, who played for both UPEI's basketball and hockey teams last year. Bobby, at 6'3", is strong, fast, and most definitely someone fans remember. Lee Bragg and Scott MacKay bring their experience from the Mount Allison Mounties to UNB this year. Both are guards with excellent ability in every part of the game.

Brian Elliot, a 6'5" casualty of injury last year, is still questionable, but if his therapy is successful there won't be much standing between the Raiders and the league playoffs in March!

Last year's assistant coach, Andy Hayward; 3rd year veteran Kirk MacDonald; and 2nd year veterans Pat Ryan and Tim Whitters have all decided not to return, mostly in support of their academics. Replacing Andy is former Bloomers assistant coach Keith Comitz.

Also missing are Andy MacKay, due to ineligibility, Dave Perk is due to more lucrative pursuits, and Roy Coccillo to York University.

The Raiders plan on improving on last year and making men's basketball respected as quality entertainment of the highest level. Come to the gym tomorrow evening to see the Raiders kick off their season in fast-breaking, rim-rattling style.

Athlete in Profile-Murray Nystrom

By Frank Denis

Murray Nystrom, captain of the UNB Red Devils and this week's athlete of the week is the subject of our Athlete in Profile.

Nystrom, 24, a third year Physical Education student who hails from Thunder Bay, Ontario, has been playing hockey for as long as he can remember and has had a distinguished career.

At the age of 17 Nystrom decided to pack his hockey bag and leave home to play the sport he loves most. After playing Junior B in Chatham, Ontario, he was offered a try-out with the London Knights of the Ontario Hockey League at the beginning of the 1984 season and made the team. After playing there for 3 seasons Nystrom decided to further his education and did a semester at a small Ontario College.

The college did not have a hockey team and Murray still had a strong desire to play and decided to check out a few different universities. Nystrom decided on UNB after speaking to London Knights' General Manager and coach Gary Agnew. Agnew, a one time

Red Devil himself, spoke very highly of the UNB program and had head coach Mike Johnston contact Murray and before he knew it he was a Red Devil.

While playing junior, Murray was fortunate enough to play with and against many of today's stars in the National Hockey League. Brendan Shanahan, now with the New Jersey Devils, was once a teammate of Nystrom's in London. Nystrom also played against such players as Bod Probert, Shayne Corson and Keith Gretzky and keeps himself in touch with many of them.

Murray's thoughts about a career in the NHL were realistic and kept in perspective because "to tell you honestly, there are so many players in the draft that I didn't have my life set on it. I looked at it

realistically and because it didn't work out I just went on to something else."

With all his accomplishments what does Nystrom believe to be his greatest accomplishment, "I guess playing for as long as I have would be my greatest accomplishment. After playing midget I thought that was the end of the road for me, but it's funny how things opened up from there because I never thought they would."

When Murray receives his degree he hopes to go into education or perhaps do graduate studies but he'll worry about that when the time comes.

Murray is especially happy to be here at UNB and playing for the Red Devils and says "Next to going away and playing junior hockey, it's the best thing I ever did."

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by Mark

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