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UNB SPORTS

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DEADLINE: Tuesday, noon

Red Sticks Opt for SMU Turf

by Kelly Craig

Enthusiasm! A perfect word to describe the atmosphere of the UNB Red Sticks. Last weekend turned out to be the weekend for UNB field hockey. Saturday saw UNB easily defeat St. FX 3-1. On Sunday, the UNB team finally defeated the St. Mary's Huskies 2-0. Tuesday, UNB convincingly put down UdeM 1-0.

UNB traveled to St. FX Saturday for their final regular season game against this team. As shown by the past two victories, St. FX was no match for UNB. Defeating St. FX 3-1, UNB showed why they are number one. Joan Robere, Angela Cormier, and Kara Keays each scored a single goal for the winning UNB team. Scoring for St. FX was Ann MacMillan.

Sunday, UNB went on to Halifax for a well-played match against St. Mary's. This match

was played under hard mental conditions as the winner of this game would earn the right to host the AUAA's. However, St. Mary's posed no threat to UNB as the Sticks out-handled them 2-0. Joan Robere picked up both goals in this game.

According to Coach Slipp, "The girls have peaked and played very well." St. Mary's is a tough opponent for UNB, especially on their own turf. St. Mary's plays on an astroturf field which usually causes trouble for the UNB team.

Tuesday night, UNB hosted UdeM at Chapman Field. Once again UNB came out on top 1-0. Josette Babineau scored the lone goal of this game. UdeM played a good game but UNB came out on top.

This weekend the UNB squad has earned the right to host the AUAA's. Joining them at Chapman Field will be St. Mary's, UdeM and UPEI. Coach

Slipp is a little worried about the play this weekend due to the field conditions of Chapman Field. Chapman Field is used for both the field hockey team and the soccer team. Over the past two months the field has been worn

down. Joyce Slipp referred to the field as "the equalizer". At this stage, anything can happen at the AUAA's.

Saturday at 1:00 PM the UNB team will play UPEI in the semi-final game. At 3:00 PM

Moncton will play St. Mary's in the other semi-final game. Sunday at 1:00 PM the final game of the AUAA playoffs will be played. All games will be played in Halifax this weekend at St. Mary's.

Harriers Running in AUAA Finals

By Tim Lynch

The results of an enduring cross country season are about to unfold for the UNB Lady and Red Harriers. This weekend both teams travel to Antigonish for the AUAA championship meet hosted by St. Francis Xavier.

Harrier head coach Rick Hull is optimistic about the team's chances of capturing one or both of the titles. He strongly believes that the Red Harriers have an "even chance" at

winning. Earlier in the season, the men's team defeated the likes of Dalhousie, St. FX, and Moncton on the St. FX course. With respect to the Lady Harriers, Hull points out that it would be an "upset of fairly big sorts, but the possibility is there." However, the Lady Harriers did begin to realize their potential late in the season. Three weeks ago they captured the Codfish Bowl in Boston and a week later, they gave the favoured Dalhousie Lady Tigers a tough race.

Heading to tomorrow's meet, the Harriers are fairly healthy. The Red Harriers have no serious injuries, but Lady Harrier Willa Jones has coach Hull concerned. "She's had problems with her leg muscles all season yet she's been able to race well despite not being able to train as well as she liked," added Hull.

Veteran Michelle Cormier will be competing in her final AUAA meet this weekend.

Coach Hull looks towards her to lead the Lady Harriers if they hope to defeat Dalhousie. The favorite in the race is Dal's Lucy Smith, last year's CIAU champion. Cormier should join Smith in the battle for the top three positions. If Cormier finishes no worse than second, she would earn berth at this year's CIAU championship.

Rod Clarke and Mike Fellows should lead the men's team tomorrow. However, coach Hull stresses "a team championship. That's all going to depend on Mike Fellows, Rod Clarke, Garn Pomeroy, and Jeff Staples grabbing the lion's share of the top ten spots," mentioned the coach.

Both teams are on the verge of an AUAA championship. Saturday's weather and the course conditions will affect each runner differently. According to coach Hull, "it's going to be a real dogfight among the five schools competing this weekend."

UNB Reds Hosting Tournament

by Tim Lynch

Three seasons ago, the UNB Reds reigned supreme in AUAA Women's volleyball. Heading into the upcoming season, the Reds have a new head coach at the helm in Mark Thibault and have four players back from last year's squad. As well, there will be eight players who will be wearing a Reds' uniform for the first time.

The Reds first see action tonight in the first game of the UNB Invitational. Other teams competing in the tournament include: Moncton, UPEI, Mt. Allison, and the Fredericton Seniors. The Reds play the Fredericton team at 6 PM tonight at the L.B.Gym, and they play against UPEI at 9 PM as well. UNB hosts Mt. Allison at 11 AM Saturday, and they later play Moncton at 2 PM. The

semifinals are set to begin at 3:45 PM while the finals are slated for 5:30 PM tomorrow.

There are presently eight teams in the women's conference with the top four teams qualifying for post-season play. According to Thibault, the Reds have set a pre-season goal of being one of the top four teams. When asked to reflect upon the team's weaknesses, Thibault

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Red Shirts Clinch Right to Host

By Mark Savoie

Last weekend the UNB Red Shirts clinched the right to host the AUAA soccer championship tournament with successive home victories over the Memorial University of Newfoundland Beothuks. The first of these was an easy 6-1 win on Saturday followed by a mild scare in their 2-1 win on Sunday. This gives the Shirts a West Division leading 20 points, while second place Mt. Allison has only managed 14 points.

The Shirts dominated the weaker Memorial Squad throughout the first game. At the half they were leading 2-0 and in the second half pushed that score up to 6-0 before Memorial got one in the 82nd minute.

This was the first goal allowed by the Red Shirts at home this season.

The next game also saw the Red Shirts dominating play during the first half, again ending the half with a 2-0 lead. In the second half Memorial finally began to show some life and answered with a goal at the 78th minute. This turned out to be too little too late as keeper Chris Miller and the rest of the Shirts held on for the final victory.

A pleasant note to the weekend was the return of Jamie Pollock. Pollock had missed five games as a result of a knee injury suffered against the Mt. Allison Mounties. Pollock is one of the strongest wingers in the conference and was selected as CIAU Athlete-of-the-Week earlier this season because of his strong play. With his return the Shirts enter this final weekend, and

hopefully the playoffs with a healthy team.

This afternoon at 3:30 the Red Shirts play their final regular season game. This is a home game against the Mt. Allison Mounties to be played at Chapman Field. In their previous meeting this season these two teams played to a scoreless draw. This game will serve primarily as a tune-up game for the Shirts, while the Mounties are sugging it out with UPEI for the final playoff spot.

A further note is that Stewart Galloway has been named AUAA Athlete-of-the-Week on the strength of last weekend's play. This despite Coach Gary Brown withdrawing Galloway's nomination for UNB Athlete-of-the-Week because of swimmer Phil Chaplin's excellent four wins in four races performance.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Phil Chaplin, from Fredericton, NB, has been named as this week's UNB Male Athlete-of-the-Week. The second year Civil engineering student had a fantastic weekend for the Beavers Swim team as he won 6 out of the 6 swims he entered. The high point of the weekend occurred when he beat the reigning AUAA champion, to help UNB defeat DAL for the first time in at least five years. According to coach Fisher "Phil had a fantastic weekend. He played a significant role in the Beavers dual meet victories over Acadia and perennial AUAA champion Dalhousie, and looks like he is headed towards another tremendous season for the Beavers."

Josette Babineau, from Moncton, NB, has been chosen as this week's UNB Female Athlete-of-the-Week. The first year business student and Junior National Team member for the past two years, assisted on 3 out of the Red Sticks' five goals as they defeated St. FX 3-1 and SMU 2-0. She controlled the games from her midfield position as she improved her season stats to 2 goals and 9 assists. According to coach Slipp "Josette dominated both games offensively and defensively from her midfield position. She made the right play at the right time over and over again."