

# SPORTS

Deadline for stories is Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. Sports Desk 453-4983

## Red Devils win one for Jeffrey

by Frank Denis

The UNB Red Devils scored an emotional 8-4 triumph over the STU Tommies last week at the Aitken Centre. The game was dedicated to long time Red Devil player and coach Mark Jeffrey who lost his life last August.

Prior to the game, Jeffrey's sweater number 17 was officially retired, becoming the first number to be retired by the university. The ceremony was brief and tough for many of the Red Devil players to cope with.

"The pre-game ceremonies affected me quite a bit as well as some of the other players, but (coach) Mike Johnston did a good job in preparing us for what would happen," said Red Devil Gord Christian who scored three goals and was named player of the game.



Gord Christian

According to Christian, the banner with Jeffrey's number was unveiled and will be hung from the rafters will have special significance for years to come. "Everytime you look at that banner you're going to think of Mark Jeffrey and the things he meant to you."

The Red Devils were sluggish in the early going of the game as

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**Gord Christian**

STU jumped out to an early 2-0 lead. Scoring for the Tommies were Mark Thompson and Vojtech Kucera.

UNB coach Mike Johnston knew his team would not come out flying in the early going. "We realized that coming into the game, we would have very little control over some of the things we would do early in the game. Emotion took its toll, but as the game went on we began to focus on the things we had to do."

And focus on the things they had to do they did.

The Red Devils scored 3 goals in the 2nd half of the first period to take a 3-2 lead heading into the first intermission. Replying for UNB were Christian with two and Rob Knesaurek with one.

UNB began the second period where they left the first, tallying two early goals by Karl Taylor and Neil Hawrluk.

STU mounted some sort of a comeback, but could only pull to

son and Mark Rupnow made the game 5-4 for UNB, but that was as close as STU would come.

Christian completed his hat trick when he fired a shot high over the Tommie netminder with only 37 seconds remaining in the second period.

Ken Murchison and Knesaurek scored the only two goals of the third period to make the final 8-4 in UNB's favor.

Following the game the Red Devils dressing room was very quiet and Mike Johnston attributes that to the emotion generated for the game. "Our guys knew that one way or another we were going to come out of the game with a win. Once that task was done everyone's emotion was spent."

"For me the game was tougher near the end because we knew that we had finally done it. It was really exciting for me."

The game, according to Christian and Johnston would have pleased Jeffrey. "Mark is just such a big motivator for all of us and it feels great to come through for him. I know that he is smiling some-where," said Christian.

"Mark loved every win, but a St. Thomas win was especially sweet. He'll be savoring this one that's for sure," added Johnston.

In sports, it's often said that winning and losing doesn't mean everything. For the Red Devils the win last Friday meant everything. A great tribute to a great man.

Photo by Mark Bray



Mark Jeffrey's jersey being raised to the rafters of the Aitken center

## Bloomers off to the Cape

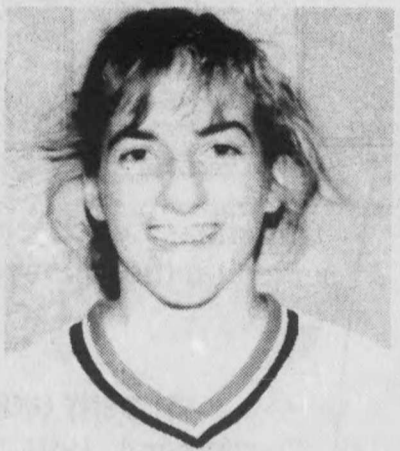
by Peter West  
Bruce Denis

The UNB Red Bloomers will be on the road this weekend as they head to Cape Breton to play the UCCB Capers in their last pair of league games before the Christmas break.

Last weekend the Bloomers came home with a win over Acadia and a lost against Saint Mary's.

Acadia was UNB's first opponent last weekend. The exhibition game loss against Acadia earlier in the season helped the Bloomers to prepare for Acadia's style of play. Co-captain Jen Hale says "We practiced all week in preparation for this game. As a team, we were anxious to play and we knew what it would take to win."

"We had some trouble with our offensive game. We weren't as



Bloomers co captain Kara Palmer, an integral part of this year's team.

consistent as we have been in previous games shooting wise." Hale continues, "On the other hand, it was probably the best we have played so far this year."

The game was close all the way through and the Bloomers were rewarded for their efforts with a final score of 53-45.

The second game last weekend saw the Bloomers take on the Saint Mary's Huskies in Halifax. The Huskies seemed to be well prepared for the Bloomers as the home team prevailed 70-64.

"Give Saint Mary's credit. They played a really strong game and deserved the win," said Hale.

The game was close throughout the early going and Saint Mary's was ahead by a 2 point margin at the half. Cursed by lapses in offence, the Bloomers could not get the points when they needed them. "We played hard but things just weren't coming together for us" says Hale.

When asked if her team concentrated too much on the Acadia game and not enough on the Saint Mary's game, Hale said

"That's a good possibility. All week in practice we had our minds set on beating Acadia and when we did maybe we took Saint Mary's for granted."

The Bloomers now possess a 3-1 record, good enough for a three way tie for first place. The Bloomers maintained their ninth place ranking nationally.

### ATHLETES of the week

Meaghan Seagrave of the Beavers Swim Team has been chose female Athlete of the Week. This former AUAA and UNB Athlete of the Year 90-91 captured wins in the 100m Free (2X), 100m Breast Stroke, 50m Free style, 200m Breaststroke, and a 2nd place in the 400m Free style. Meaghan supported the team and showed how UNB will be a force to be reckoned with at the AUAA Championships. Meaghan is a 2nd year Phys. Ed. student from Fredericton, NB.

Gord Christian of the Red Devils is the male Athlete of the Week. Gord scored 3 goals for the Devils 8-4 defeat over STU at the Mark Jeffrey's Memorial Game. Gord's timely goals assisted the team to survive early pressure by the Tommies. He was also named Player of the Game. Gord is a 3rd year Arts student from Mount Hope, Ont.