

UNB VARSITY REDS SPORTS

SOCCKER • HOCKEY • SWIMMING
BASKETBALL • FIELD HOCKEY • VOLLEYBALL
WRESTLING • CROSS COUNTRY

Reds meet with best in nation Swimmers CIAU bound

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The Reds will be facing tough competition at CI's.

The UNB Varsity Reds swim teams are off to compete in the CIAU's (National Championship) at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario this weekend. UNB will be represented by nine swimmers at the championship. This is the largest contingent attending the championship, Dal has 5 or 6 qualifiers attending, while there is only one from Mt. A.

There were 11 members of the swim team returned from the Nationals which was held in Halifax last weekend. This meet was used as a "preparation for the big meet" at Brock. At the AUA championship some of the swimmers hadn't tapered or shaved because their focus was on the CIAU's. This meet was good preparation for CIAU's as there were a number of Olympians and the top swimmers in the country in attendance.

UNB head coach Andrew Cole believes "This CIAU will be better (than Nationals). Because it is a year after the Olympics and most of the swimmers drop out of university programs for Olympic year preparation as they don't want to go to school and try to train at the same time. Usually the year after Olympics they hop back in (to the university programs) and in the CIAU rankings they are all there."

Cole expects "With two Olympic medalists in attendance that the times will actually be faster than Nationals. In addition most of the Olympic athletes will get prepared for the CIAU's rather than the Nationals, so the level of competition this year will probably be the best it has ever been. If there is a year that it is hard to place at the CIAU level then this is the year."

"I am really excited because this will



The Reds are zeroing in on the competition at the CIAU's.

JUD DELONG PHOTO

mean the team will get the chance to finally race against the best in the country. They will be able to go head-to-head with the very, very best and see how they do as far as best times and placings go," says Cole. As for how he expects the swimmers to do, "I think that some of them have a chance to finish in the top three and finishing in the top eight at CIAU's. Even just to make finals is an accomplishment, just think about being the eighth best athlete in the country."

Cole feels "It is hard to say how the team will do but legitimately we have a shot to finish in the top ten in both the men and women. We have to swim extremely well and the relays will play a critical role. We have to have those who are going to CI's for the first time qualify for the consolation finals and those who have gone before they have to be looking at the finals." He believes that the relay will be critical in the success of the team as this will give them more points.

The women's team will be looking to

even the score against their rivals, the Dal Tigers at the CIAU's. The women were narrowly beaten by the Tigers at the AUA's and are looking to beat them at the CIAU's. Cole says "There will be a little bit of a chance for retribution at CIAU's (for the AUA win) to see if the women can beat Dal. At CIAU's the team will have another shot (to beat them)." At the AUA's the Dal women outnumbered the UNB women whereas at the CIAU level the numbers will be the same for both of the teams. Both of the teams will have five swimmers competing. The V-Reds going for the women's team will be Michelle MacWhirter, Krista Morrison, Stephanie Quinn, Megan Wall and Jennifer Davis.

The men's team will be represented by Thom Giberson, Iain Tennant, Josh Ballem and Marty Laycock.

Cole is confident that the swimmers are well prepared saying "I've done my job (as a coach) and they have done their job (by training very well) so we are ready for the competition."

Pomeroy named CIAU Athlete of Week Wrestlers take to the CIAU mat

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The Reds are hoping to gain a lot on the mat.

The UNB Varsity Reds wrestling team is representing the university at the CIAU's (National Championship) at McMaster University Ontario this weekend. The team is going into the competition ranked 6th in the nation and is the only team from the AUA that is ranked.

This year's team attending the CIAU's is a young team comprised mainly of first and second year wrestlers. UNB's head coach Don Ryan says, "We have a very young team, so we will gain some experience for next year." In fact this is the youngest team that Ryan remembers attending. "But I'm not worried as these are all my athletes that I have coached for a while so I have confidence in them to do their best."

The team has had a week off between capturing their eighth consecutive AUA title and the CIAU's. During this time the team has been preparing by tapering, getting their weight down, and working on their technique.

The Reds will begin with weight-ins on Thursday night and the wrestling will start on Friday with three matches against other wrestlers in their pool. Then on Saturday there will cross-overs to go against the other pool and the gold and bronze medal 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th place matches will take place.

The wrestlers placement in a pool is dependent on a seeding meeting on Thursday night. The seeding is determined by last year's champion and last year's medalists. "We're looking for a good seeding in the pool, for example 1 and 4 would be a good match-up because 4 wouldn't be as strong as 1 but 2 and 3 would be a bad match-up because there isn't much difference



Wrestlers practicing their moves on the competition at CIAU's.

JUD DELONG PHOTO

between them," comments Ryan.

Ryan states "We are hoping to place at least three of our athletes in the top four of the medal round." As of the latest rankings (February 17th) the Reds have 8 wrestlers in the top 8 of their respective weight class. There are 10 weight classes. The wrestlers ranked from UNB are Tim Pomeroy (57kg) and Mark Chesser (90kg) are 4th, in 5th is Kevin Manderson (76kg), Denis Gagnon (61kg), Carlos Spearing (65kg) and Mike McDonald (82kg) in 7th and Gerry Gaudet (52kg) and Corey Palmer (68kg) are 8th.

Pomeroy a Oromocto native was named CIAU athlete of the week for his efforts in contributing to the Reds 8th consecutive AUA title and the team's 20th in the last 26 years. Ryan is pleased with him being recognized by the CIAU. Ryan believes that despite him being ranked fourth "he has a chance to beat two of the athletes that are ranked a head of him (second and third places). He hasn't met Kerry

Ashley from Brock but he has beaten a wrestler who beat Ashley. It's not to say that he will beat Ashley because of different styles but it will be a fun match to watch."

This year the CIAU will be making history by adding women's wrestling as a demonstration sport. UNB will have one athlete competing, Tricia Gallant, who won the previous weekend in PEI and a number of other tournaments. Ryan is hoping that she can place in the top 2 or 3. He is excited to have women's wrestling added at the CIAU level and hoping is that in a year or so it will be added as a CIAU sport. As for whether it will be added in the AUA Ryan is unsure but he is certainly hoping so. UNB has had women wrestlers for the last three years and currently UNB has 6 athletes training and next year there will 5 others joining. Ryan says those who are joining "are the top 2 in Canada and they are coming here hoping that in a year or two it will be a CIAU sanctioned sport."

UNB men split weekend series V-Ballers reach AUA Final

JONATHAN CLINCH
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Playoff bound and looking for their first title.

The UNB men's volleyball team is heading to Halifax this weekend for the AUA championship.

The Reds split last weekend's matches, losing 3-0 to the Dal Tigers, and then rebounding to beat the Memorial Seahawks by the same 3-0 score.

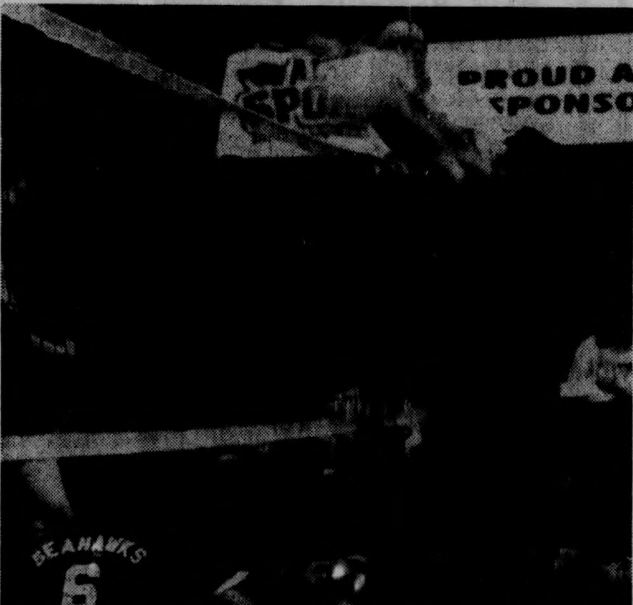
Friday night's match against Dal had a bit of everything, both good and bad. UNB jumped out to an early 7-0 lead and looked unstoppable. However, Dal calmly chipped away at the lead and eventually won the game 15-9. The Tigers comeback seemed to have taken the wind out of the Red's sails, as Dal roared to a 15-1 victory in the second game. Game three was a bit better for the Reds, playing with Dal in the early stages, however lost 15-5 in the end.

Reds' head coach Mark Thibault attributes Friday's loss to "making mistakes at bad times." Thibault stated, "Our guys missed a lot of serves at the wrong times. It seemed that every time we were on a roll, we missed a serve."

On Sunday, the Reds picked up the pace and easily defeated the Seahawks by scores of 15-8, 15-2, and 15-7. By virtue of this win, UNB's record improved to an even 5 wins and 5 losses.

However the question still remains: Can the Varsity Reds defeat the Dal-housie Tigers?

It is a feat they have yet to accom-



Reds get the jump on the Seahawks.

AARON MACEachern PHOTO

plish. Although they came close a couple of times, Coach Thibault ensures that "our guys feel that we can beat Dal this weekend. We just have to eliminate the easy mistakes we've been making."

UNB continued to practice this week before heading to Halifax this weekend. And, according to Thibault, these practices should not be too stressful. "What we need to work on this week

is blocking and serving, everything else seems to be working fairly well," says Thibault.

Game 1 of the AUA's of the UNB-Dal series will take place Friday night at 8pm, followed by game two on Saturday. If necessary, the third game will take place on Sunday. All of these championship games will be played at Dal. If all goes well for the Reds, they could be enjoying their first AUA title.

UNB takes first game in... "Battle of the Hill" the final

CHRISTINA ATKINSON
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Reds draw first blood in the "Battle of the Hill".

The UNB Varsity Reds hockey team downed the STU Tommies on Wednesday night at the Lady Beaverbrook Rink. This game was the first in a best of 3 series between the two cross campus rivals. The Tommies were defeated by the Reds 5-8.

This was the first meeting of these two teams in the playoffs since 1995. The Tommies took that series.

Reds' Jeff Andrews was the first to score during the first period, putting UNB on the board and in the lead. UNB's goalie Ken Carroll kept the Tommies from scoring and UNB managed 4 unanswered goals, taking a 4-0 lead at the end of the first period.

The second period proved to be a bit tougher for UNB as the Tommies came out ready to do battle. Both teams scored a goal leaving a 5-1 score on the board at the end of the period.

The third period was an even more difficult battle for UNB who struggled to keep the lead. STU scored 4 goals consecutively and gained on the Reds. UNB, however, stood their ground and kept the Tommies from collecting any further goals. The Reds took the game, with two goals in the last 3 minutes making it 8-5.

Reds' Jeff Andrews was given the player of the game award for his efforts. UNB's Jason Campeau was not dressed



NEIL DUNBURY GRAPHIC

for the game, due to an injury he suffered the last time UNB met STU which was in February. He is not expected back for the weekend game.

UNB head coach Mike Kelly commented, "We came out with a lot of energy in the first period." He also remarked, "I thought we backed off a little and obviously in the third period we did...I thought we were lucky to hang on."

UNB faces off with STU again on Saturday at 1pm in the Aitken Center in

the second game of the best of three series. The third game will be played if it is necessary on Sunday at 2pm and will also be played in the AUC. In reference to the upcoming game on Saturday, Kelly remarked, "I think it's going to be a high energy game."

More hockey on
Page 10

Upcoming UNB Games

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
Swimming @ CIAU's (Brock Univ.)
Volleyball (M) @ AUA's (Dal)

SATURDAY, MARCH 1
Swimming @ CIAU's (Brock Univ.)
Wrestling @ CIAU's (McMaster Univ.)
Volleyball (M) @ AUA's (Dal)
Hockey vs STU @ 1pm (AUC) (AUA's)
Basketball (W) vs UPEI @ 6:30pm (LB Gym)
Basketball (M) vs UPEI @ 8:30pm (LB Gym)

SUNDAY, MARCH 2
Swimming @ CIAU's (Brock Univ.)
Volleyball (M) @ AUA's (Dal)
Hockey vs STU @ 2pm (AUC) (AUA's) (if necessary)
Basketball (W) vs UPEI @ 1pm (LB Gym)
Basketball (M) vs UPEI @ 3pm (LB Gym)

Results

VOLLEYBALL
Women (AUA's)
UNB 1 StFX 3

Men
Dal 3 UNB 0
MUN 0 UNB 3

HOCKEY
UNB 7 U de M 1
U de M 1 UNB 7
UNB 8 STU 5

BASKETBALL
Women

UCCB 53 UNB 88
UCCB 62 UNB 80

Men
UCCB 102 UNB 97 (OT)
UCCB 64 UNB 62

Athletes of the Week

DAX MACLEAN, HOCKEY

Dax MacLean, a member of the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds hockey team has been named UNB's male athlete of the week. MacLean, a 2nd year Kinesiology student, led UNB to a pair of 7-1 victories over U de Moncton as UNB swept their best of 3 playoff series in 2 straight games. MacLean scored 3 goals and 3 assists over the course of the 2 games. In Saturday's clincher, he had 2 goals and 1 assist and was named the All-Sport player of the game. UNB head coach Mike Kelly stated that "Dax's scoring ability is a definite asset to the team, but it is his tenacity and competitiveness that is his biggest asset." MacLean was UNB's 2nd leading scorer this season with 38 points, and was selected to represent the MacAdam division at this year's AUA All-Star game. He is a native of Miramichi, NB.

CHARLENE WOOLAVER, BASKETBALL

Charlene Woolaver, a 1st year member of the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds women's basketball team has been named UNB's female athlete of the week. Woolaver played a big role in helping the Varsity Reds to a pair of weekend victories over the UCCB Capers. On Saturday, Woolaver scored 15 points and added 2 assists to lead UNB to a 88-53 win. Sunday, she netted 22 points, while adding 4 assists, 8 rebounds, and 7 steals as the V-Reds completed the sweep with an 80-62 victory. UNB head coach Joyce Slipp stated that "Charlene had an outstanding weekend, playing the way she started the year by totally dominating inside." By virtue of her play, Woolaver was named the All-Sport player of the game in both weekend contests. The native of Fredericton is studying in the Faculty of Kinesiology.