

# The Reds dance alone

by Matt Collins  
Sports Staff

In years past, the UNB basketball team has done everything in their power to get an invitation to the AUAA spring dance.

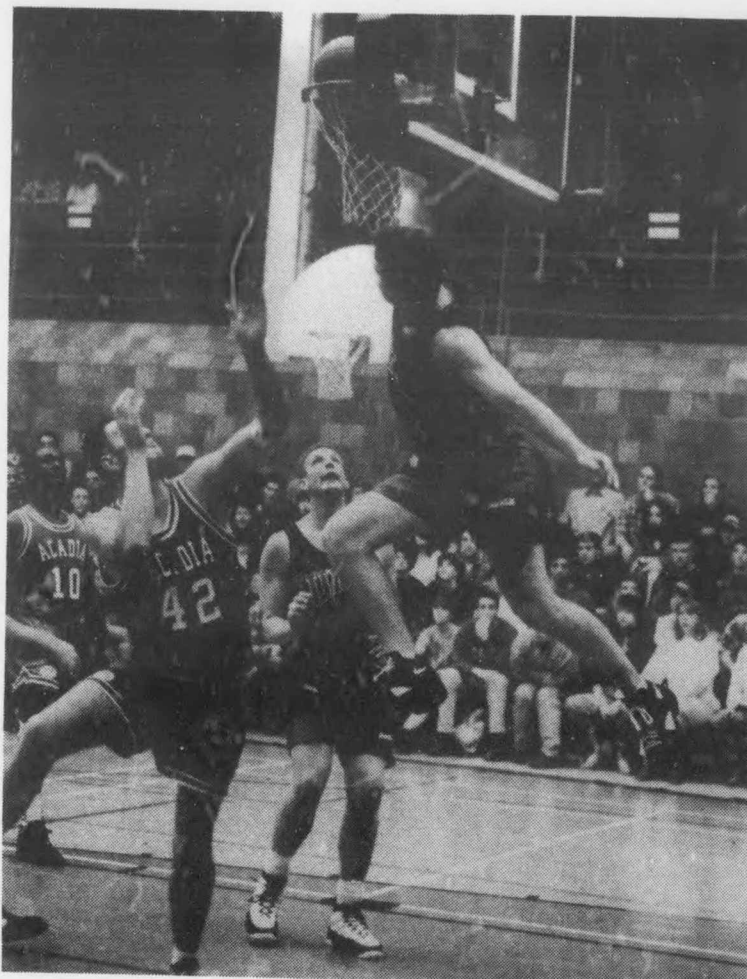
Unfortunately, the Reds were never able to meet the criteria required to be admitted to this highly respected event. But this season was to be different. The Reds went so far as to make a date to the dance with a woman known as 'Lady Beaverbrook'. She had been loyal to the young team throughout the year, and was very supportive whenever her team needed it.

But every other weekend, the Reds had to leave home and take care of business elsewhere. Lady Beaverbrook was forced to stay behind while her young counterpart had to deal with the factors of being alone. Although the team was confident that they could get the job done without her, the Reds discovered that the support of their 'Lady' was invaluable. Without her they were alone, had no one to turn to, and were forced to fend for themselves.

The only outlet for support the Reds had were three men dressed in grey, with whistles hanging around their necks. Commonly called referees, these 'impartial' people were meant to uphold the justice of the court. But they had no compassion for the case of the lonely, red road warriors, and consequently snubbed them everytime they appealed to the supposed law.

So now the Reds have returned home to their 'Lady' for the last time, only having to tell her that they will no longer be receiving an invitation to the big dance. With a convincing 86-67 defeat at the hands of the Dal Tigers, and a 74-70 heartbreaking loss to the St. FX X-Men, all hopes of going to the post season have been destroyed.

You can't really complain about the outcome of the Dal game, for the Tigers worked hard and earned



Another Kevin G. Porter Photo

the victory. But the win by St. FX on Saturday night was the most undeserved victory for a UNB opponent this season. Had the game been decided by the players on the floor, the Reds would have walked away with their most important win of the year. But the outcome of this game was determined by the referees.

After three consecutive field goals by the Reds in the first minute of play, the refs took over. With 7:00 remaining in the opening half, the Reds were nailed with thirteen team fouls while St. FX had only been nabbed once. The X-Men went to the line twice as many times as the visiting Reds. And the two hottest players of late for the Reds were not even allowed to play. Brian Elliot was called for five fouls in only eight minutes of play, while Andy MacKay was punished

by the whistle three times in the first twelve minutes.

Coach Hamilton is having a hard time dealing with the outcome of last weekend. In fact, he says it's the toughest loss he has ever had to deal with as a player or a coach. "I lost a National Championship game by one point at the buzzer but this loss to X is the hardest one for me to stomach."

And the reason it's not sitting well in Hamilton's stomach is because he felt his team deserved to win. "My players played well enough to get a win in a big game. In the face of adversity they fought back. I'm disappointed for my players, they deserved more than what they got." And what the Reds got was a slap in the face by a league that simply does not respect UNB basketball.



## No March Break for Habs

By Luke Peterson  
Assistant Sports Editor

The staff and students of UNB may be taking it easy over the March break, but the Fredericton Canadiens will be hard at work as they fight for their playoff lives. The Baby Habs grueling March 'break' schedule sees them playing six AHL hockey games in eight nights, starting this Saturday in the Port City against the third place St. John Flames.

Canadiens will be back home on Sunday March 6th when they play host to the Atlantic Division leading St. John's Maple Leafs in a 6 pm start at the Aitken University Centre. Fredericton's homestand continues on Tuesday when the Cape Breton Oilers skate into town for a 7:30 pm faceoff. Canadiens are coming off

a big 5-0 shutout of the fourth place Oilers last weekend in Sydney.

Finally, on Thursday the Maple Leafs will be back in town for a return engagement with the Baby Habs. Following their homestand, the Canadiens will be off to face the bottom-dwelling PEI Senators in the front half of a home and home series that will also see PEI visiting the AUC on the following evening, Saturday, March 12.

The Canadiens currently sit in fifth place in the AHL's Atlantic, with a record of 23-31-7, five points behind the fourth place Cape Breton Oilers.

While the '93-94 season has certainly not been the best in franchise history, the Baby Habs have had some bright lights. Big left winger Donald Brashaer's

Sophomore season has seen him blossom into a top prospect. The 22-year-old, Bedford, Indiana Native was signed by the Habs as a free agent in July of 1992. After toiling for 3 seasons in the Quebec major Junior League, Brashaer made the jump to the AHL, notching 11 goals, 3 assists and 261 penalty minutes in 76 games last season with the Canadiens.

In a mere 43 games this season, Brashaer has evolved into much more than just a physical threat, having already scored 30 goals, and 19 assists while also a massing 192 penalty minutes. Tickets for all upcoming Fredericton Canadiens games can be purchased at the Aitken University Centre Box Office or by phoning the Canadiens Business Office at 459-HABS.

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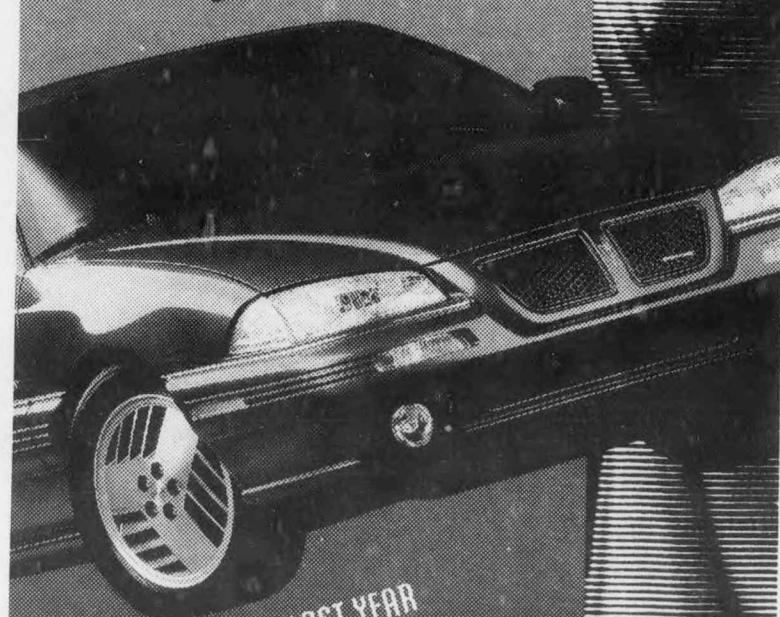


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