

Rowing to the top

By NATALIE FOLSTER

Despite its lack of official varsity status, the record of the UNB-STU rowing team places it well within the ranks of the best Canada has to offer. In fact, the list of accomplishments compiled by this small band of highly dedicated individuals over the summer is astonishing.

At the Canadian National Championships in Montreal this August, UNB-STU athletes took medals in almost every event they entered. They walked away with gold in the lightweight womens' eight and straight four, men's quad, lightweight double and pairs, and a silver in the womens' heavy pairs. The novice womens' crew placed fourth in the heavy eights.

At the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta in St. Catharines, Ontario, the team swept gold in the senior womens' straight four, intermediate straight and coxed fours, senior and intermediate men's lightweight doubles and intermediate men's pairs. In the coxed four event, the senior womens' crew finished second to the Canadian National team.

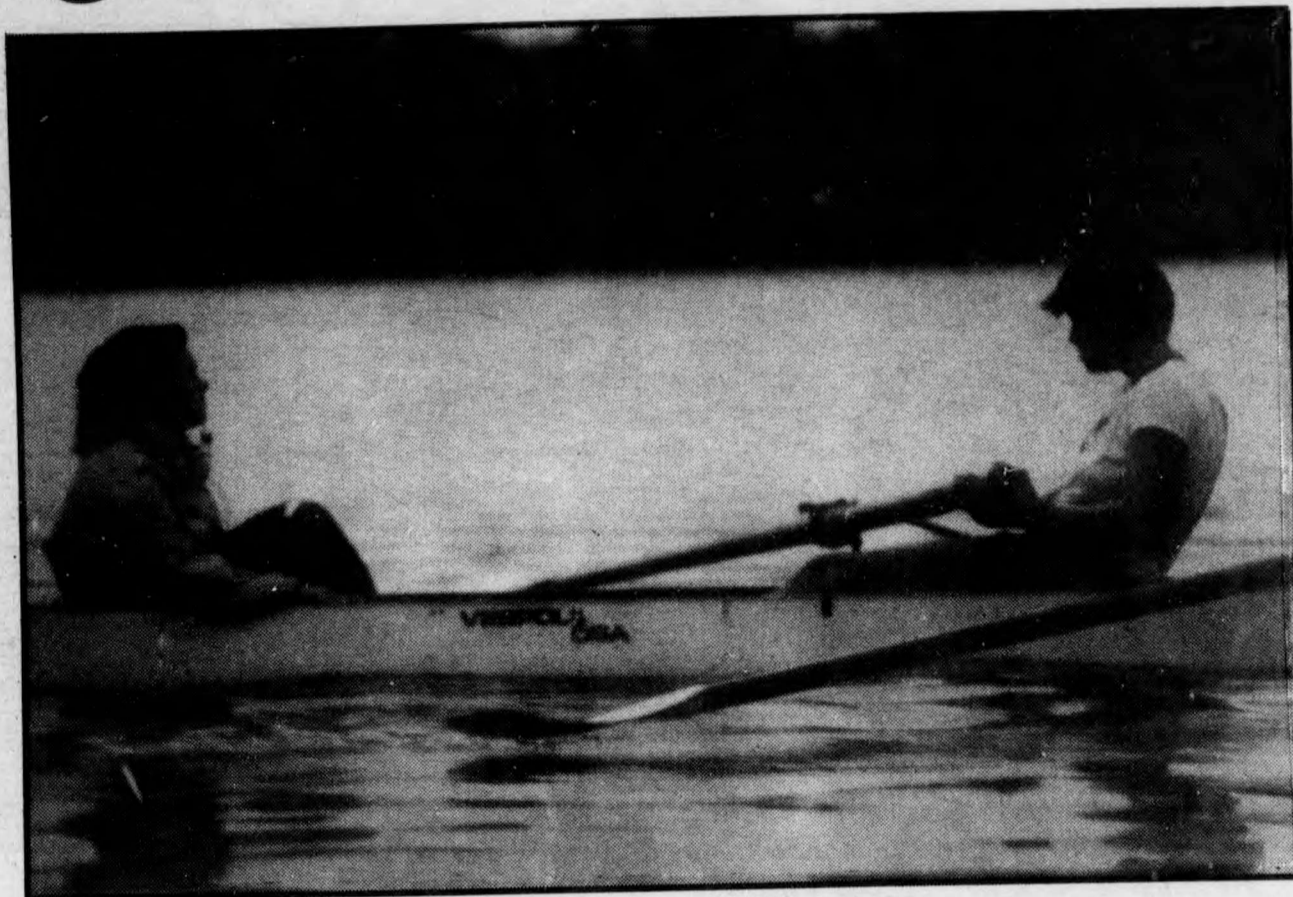
In addition, three UNB athletes have been invited to the national training camp in November and one to the Olympic training camp in October.

What makes these feats even more outstanding is the fact that they were achieved with only a small amount of reliable equipment, scanty financial resources, and a lot of hard work.

Rowing is still a young sport in eastern Canada, and it remains relatively little known to the general public. It is not a CIAU sport in the maritimes, and in this era of tight university budgets, UNB crews are not eligible for the funding available to varsity teams. They share equipment with the Fredericton Rowing Club and scramble to cover costs through sponsorship from the business community and from their own pockets.

Rowing is an expensive sport, with a quality racing shell priced upwards of \$18,000. Given these costs, equipment damages like those caused by last week's oil slick on the Saint John River are difficult for a small club to absorb.

Still, even under adverse cir-



Tanya Gillis performs the duties of coxswain while Sheri Moore bears down.

Photo: John Stillwell

cumstances and with limited numbers, the UNB-STU squad manages to triumph, thanks in a large part to the services of two devoted and highly qualified coaches. Head-coach Kim Norris (who moonlights as SUB Director) coached the Canadian Squad at the World Student Games in Yugoslavia, and at the Pan-American Games in Indianapolis this summer, copping a silver and two bronze medals. Coach Matthias Uhlenbruck is a former member of the West German Senior-B team.

The onus to produce, of course, falls on the athletes. For the UNB-STU team, train-

ing is a demanding routine of dryland conditioning, and on-water practices at dawn and dusk.

Hours and hours of sweating and straining must find meaning in a short, intense 2000 metre race. This is a sport that requires skill, endurance, power, and, above all, discipline. As Norris says when he looks at his crews: "(They're) a lot of young people with a lot of commitment."

As possessor of all these qualities, the rower is a rare breed: as a result, suitable recruits are always in demand. For those who think they fit the bill, the rowing club

welcomes you, no experience necessary.

For those who prefer dryland, the upcoming Atlantic University Championships to be hosted by UNB on Saturday, Oct. 24th, (raindate, 25th) offers the opportunity for sports fans to view some high calibre competition. Teams from Dalhousie, Kings College, UNBSJ, UPEI, and Memorial will be competing against our 32 oarsmen.

So on October 24th, be on the riverbank to give the UNB-STU rowing club the support it deserves. You won't be disappointed.



Carla Reeves



Dave Foley

UNB ATHLETES -OF-THE-WEEK

Carla Reeves, 22, from O'Leary PEI was chosen as the female Athlete-of-the-Week at UNB for the second consecutive week. She scored her 5th, 6th, and 7th goals of the season this past weekend and is now leading the AUAA field hockey scoring race. Ms. Reeves scored one goal in a 2-0 win over St. Mary's and two goals in a 4-0 victory over St. F.X. Coach Joyce Slipp commented that "Carla has assumed a new defensive role, yet is still able to excel. She does not seem to have lost her ability to score."

Dave Foley, 22, from Hampton, NB was selected as the male Athlete-of-the-Week. He led the Red Shirts soccer team to two wins during the three game week. Foley, who is captain of the team, created goals for his teammates in a 4-0 win over U de M and scored two himself to lead the team to a 4-2 win and a split against league-leading Memorial. Coach Gary Brown said that "Dave's performances were significant because they inspired the rest of the team members to play up to their potential also."



L. to R: Tanya Gillis, Sheri Moore, Sue McMaster, Jackie Blois, Lois Q. Lane, John Oxley, Pam Hartley, Joanne Blois, Pam Pickles.

Photo: John Stillwell