

Raiders Open Season Against MUN

by Anand Irrinki

The group Midnight Oil sings (or screams) "The time has come", and this directly applies to the UNB Red Raiders. After completing 5 exhibition games, the Raiders see their first AUAA regular season action this weekend when they face Memorial University of Newfoundland. Game times for these matchups are Saturday at 8:00 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm.

The Raiders finished the exhibition season with a 2 and 3 record, but the real season is just beginning. UNB is looking to start its season off on a strong note and co-captain Yaw Obeng says "the team expects 2 wins and will be disappointed otherwise." This task is well within reach, but is not a certainty. After playing 5 games, the Raiders are more familiar with one another and this will definitely help their game out. One of the main keys for the Raiders this weekend is rebounding. The Raiders really don't have a huge player who can dominate the glass, thus team rebounding will be the key. Other keys for the Raiders will be good shot selection, keeping the tempo high (fast paced game), and their ability to break down Memorial's defense. Ever since UNB saw

UPEI's press, the Raiders have been working on breaking out of their own end.

The Memorial Seahawks were last years "cellar dwellers" (see Sacramento), but one can not underestimate this team. Memorial has some new recruits including Andrew Zienchuk and Tony Marcotullio. These players have both played in the OUAA (Ontario University Athletic Association) and rumour has it they were both OUAA all-stars. Thus, the Raiders will be facing a new and improved Memorial team.

UNB is looking for strong fan support once again this weekend. The Raiders first two games this year were very entertaining and hopefully this will bring many old and new fans to the game. Undoubtedly, the Raiders (like all teams) feed off of the crowd and your presence may just help the Raiders take two games from Memorial.

One sore spot for the Raiders has been Craig Isley and his tender right ankle, which has kept him out of action. Isley suffered a 2nd degree sprain just before the Fall classic and this has bothered him. Earlier this week Craig said he should be able to practice by Wednesday and he would be play-

ing this weekend. We will just have to wait and see.

I feel that it is necessary to spend this last paragraph talking about Earvin "Magic" Johnson. After reading what seemed like hundreds of articles, I think there is no way to sum up what Magic accomplished in his basketball career. Magic's greatest feats may not even be written in a record book. Magic's irreplaceable smile won the hearts of many fans and turned the game into a big time business. Magic taught people how to enjoy the game of basketball and he also let them forget their problems. In an era of greed (see Bobby Bonilla) and nastiness (see Bill "Where's that mask?" Lambier), Magic was the epitome of sportsmanship. In closing, Magic will never be replaced in the basketball world, but his legendary skills will never be forgotten. Magic will now fight a tougher opponent than he has ever seen, but if anyone can come out victorious, this man can. We wish Magic the best of luck and the only other thing we can say is that we will support him all the way.

So, don't forget the Raiders first two AUAA regular season games this weekend; Saturday at 8:00 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm. To quote Earvin, "It's winning time".

Mark Bray Photo



The Red Raiders begin their regular season tomorrow when they face the Memorial University Seahawks

Tae kwon do

Tae Kwon-Do Club does well at first tournament of the year.

The UNB Tae Kwon-Do club did very well at the 1991 Maritime Invitational Tae Kwon-Do tourna-

ment held at Riverview High School last Saturday.

In the colour belt divisions, Dale Roach won a bronze medal in men's blue belt forms. Milton

Lem came away with a gold medal in men's red belt forms as well as a bronze in the lightweight sparring division.

In the black belt division, John

Thorley, a second degree black belt, earned a bronze medal in both middle weight sparring and forms. He also won a silver medal in the board breaking competition, which

was a favorite with the crowd.

Chris Lessard, a third degree black belt, however had a perfect day. He won the gold medal in both men's lightweight sparring and forms. He missed the board breaking competition because of his warm up for the gold medal final which immediately followed the breaking competition.

The club, which is under the direction of Shane Oates, 3rd degree black belt, is a branch club of the Chung won institute of Tae Kwon-Do in Moncton, started up during the second week of October. Although classes will be ending shortly for exams, they will be starting immediately after the Christmas break. Classes are from 8:00-9:30 am on Saturdays and from 4:30-6:00 pm on Sundays. The cost is \$45 per term. For more information, contact Shane Oates at 457-2060 or John Thorley at 450-6948.



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