

— Basketball —

## Weekend Preview



Photo Peter J. Cullen

**Brunswickan Sports**

Both the Men's and Women's basketball teams will have the same problem this weekend - the Memorial Sea-Hawk whose shirt reads Devereaux.

John Devereaux enters the game averaging 23.1 points, ranked second in the AUA. Meanwhile, Jennifer Devereaux ranks 7th in the AUA (though only 2nd on the Sea-Hawks roster) in points per game with 12.9.

While both pose problems, the teams they play on are in startlingly different situations. The women's team are proud

owners of a league leading 14-2 record, while the men are in the basement with a 6-8 record, tied with SMU and two points behind UNB.

With 6 of the 8 men's teams going to Halifax for the playoffs, the pair of games in the Pit this weekend could prove to be decisive in filling the 6th spot.

After winning a pair against PEI last weekend, the women's team look to continue their recovery, and keep their outside hopes of a playoff chance alive.

When these teams met last month on the rock, the Sea-Hawks took all 4 games

— Skiing —

## UNB sweeps Poley Mountain



UNB racers at Poley Mountain. From left to right- Elliot Little, Andrew Stephenson, Gordon Weary, Victor King and coach Ryan Williams.

**Brunswickan Sports**

On the Sunday of January 20th, the UNB Ski Team entered their first race of the 1996 season, the first Cavendish Cup race of the year held at Poley Mountain, Sussex New Brunswick. Entered in the Senior Men's Slalom division were four of UNB's strongest racers, who swept the Men's Slalom by bringing home all three medals of the division.

Andrew Stephenson, an executive of the UNB Ski Team and an experienced racer, had strong runs in both heats of the Slalom race. He took the bronze for UNB with his times of 1:00.98 and 1:04.07 and placed 12th overall of the 66 racers that made up the various divisions at the Poley Mt. Cavendish Cup. Gordon Weary, Captain of the UNB Ski Team, ran the course in his trademark style of a full-bore run. Gordon placed second with his times of 59.06 and 1:03.21, finished 11th overall and took silver, UNB's second medal of the day. However, Elliot Little, a UNB ski team rookie, dashed the hopes of any competing racer's strive for gold with his explosive runs in both heats of the Slalom race and secured first place and a gold medal for UNB with his times of

57.04 and 59.32 seconds. Little, a seasoned racer, placed 9th overall. Little is finishing his forestry engineering here at UNB and looks forward to many more years of racing with UNB.

Victor King, possibly UNB's most promising young racer, had an excellent run in the first heat of the Slalom race which placed him in second position. However, an unfortunate run-in with an icy patch on the course placed him out of reach of any medals.

The UNB Ski Team has had an excellent turn out this year, recording 25 members. All are avid skiers and many have years of skiing experience to their credit. Brian Crothers, president of the UNB Ski Team, believes the strong enthusiasm of the UNB racers and the superior coaching supplied by Crabbe Mt. will herald an excellent year for the team.

Next week, UNB Ski Club's results in the Super Giant Slalom and Slalom race at Crabbe Mt.

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Hockey

## V-Reds Blown Off the Island



V-Reds captain Wade Simpson helps Frank LeBlanc protect his shutout against the MtA Mounties. Photo Warren Watson

by Yvonne MacKean  
*The X-Press*

by Neil Duxbury  
*Brunswickan Sports*

The AUA quarter finals started off with a bang as UPEI hosted UNB in the first game of a best of three series.

The Panthers did not wait long to get on the board. At 2:25, Wilson fired a shot on the goalie side of the near face off circle. It appeared to be somewhat harmless, but LeBlanc could not stop it. The Panthers added to their lead at 7:39 when, on the power play, White rebounded one of the many shots taken. White got a second five minutes later when he deflected Ertel's pass into the net at 12:43. At 16:52, Ertel got on the scoresheet himself, scoring on a rebound that came into the middle of the zone (no Reds in sight!). Finally, at 18:40, MacPherson added a fifth goal, when he slid the puck around LeBlanc. The shots on goal were 18 to 4 for the Panthers in the first period.

There was no scoring in the second period. The shots on goal were 16 to 12 for the Reds.

Things got pretty nasty in the third period. The Reds scored early on a power play goal at 0:39. The puck went around the box and was shot by MacLean, the shot was slowed down by Johnson in the net, but it trickled in the net before he could clear it. From that point on penalties started to take centre stage. With under ten minutes to play, there were ten penalties given out, including three ten minute misconducts and a number of roughing calls. The Panthers offense continued to build the lead. At 12:59, Harding flipped a rebound over LeBlanc, assisted by MacPherson and Sproul. Harding, at 16:50, scored his second goal, this one on a power play with a two man advantage. At 17:41, the Panthers capped the victory on a goal by Kowan, whose shot from the point went past the goalie. Final score Panthers win 8-1!

The Panthers seemed to dominate most of the game. A stellar goaltending performance by Craig Johnson also helped the cause. Attendance at the game was 1025. The next two games (should a second be necessary), will be played at the Aitken Centre at 2 pm Saturday and 1pm Sunday.

The Varsity Reds hockey team are one loss away from playoff elimination. Wednesday night's 8-1 mauling by the UPEI Panthers leaves the V-Reds no margin for error. They must win Saturday to force a third game, and repeat the feat Sunday to advance to the MacAdam division finals.

Prior to the game UNB coach Shane Easter commented "If you take away [the Panther's] powerplay goals then their goals per game drops from 5 to 2 or 3." He continued "5 on 5: I think we're the better team."

The Panther's reply to these comments were 5 goals on 18 shots in a first period containing only one powerplay.

Easter also commented "The first game is the most important in a three game series as whoever wins it has the momentum. It's imperative that we win the first game."

UNB finished the regular season tied for 2nd with the Panthers at 15-10-1. The V-Reds gained home-ice "advantage" for the playoff series by virtue of their 3-1 (6-4, 5-4, 6-4, 3-5) record against UPEI in the regular season.

Last Thursday's 5-4 loss to STU gave some indication of UNB's defensive frailties. The Tommies scored three quick goals to open the game but their indiscipline let the V-Reds close the gap to one at the first intermission.

The 5-0 shutout of Mount Allison showed little, except for the speed at which hockey can be played when there is so little to play for, and Frank LeBlanc's new found tendency to stray from his crease (rewarded by a mask popping hit from a MtA wingers out by one of the face-off circles).

The V-Reds final regular season match-up gave them a chance to show their character. Down 6-3 with less than seven minutes on the J. Louis Levesque Arena clock, UNB was able to salvage a tie, behind solid goal tending from LeBlanc and a 5 point performance from Jeff Andrews.

These are the kinds of performances the Varsity Reds need if they wish the chance to pursue the MacAdam division crown next weekend.

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