

UNB Vs. Toronto

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The hockey Red Devils start their season off with a bang tonight when University of Toronto Blues invade the Aitken Centre for the first two weekend games.

The Blues, who eliminated the Red Devils' last March on the way to the national title, are here for an 8 p.m. start tonight and a 2 p.m. encounter Saturday afternoon. Reserved tickets for the game cost students \$3 and adults \$4. It is the first set in a tough pre-season schedule the Devils have, with Concordia Stingers here next Saturday and Three Rivers, P.Z. here on October 19. The top flight competition will give the Devils something they didn't have a year ago, according to Coach Don MacAdam.

"We were having a good season last year within our conference, but we didn't have any games against outside teams that gave us a chance to compare ourselves against the top teams," MacAdam said. "Going into the playoffs against Toronto, we really didn't know how we stacked up against top teams from the other conferences."

Of course, the Devils played Toronto tough in both games at the Aitken Centre, and actually gave the Blues the toughest competition they received on the way to the national title. That fact, plus the A.U.A.A. championship, UNB won, is one of the reasons Toronto is in the city this weekend.

"The top teams only play each other," MacAdam said. "We could not arranged a pre-season game with Toronto a year ago."

One thing MacAdam and the players must keep in mind this weekend is that exhibition games are as much for getting organized for the regular campaign as they are for winning. Of course, Coach MacAdam and the players who were here a year ago would dearly love to settle the score with the Blues, who are being guided again by Tom Watt, who coached Winnipeg Jets before his dismissal by general-manager John Ferguson.

"This weekend is a great motivator for the guys who were here a year ago," MacAdam said. "The returning players have definitely been looking forward to this weekend."

One of those returning players is defenceman Scott

Clements, who is back with the Devils after a tryout with the Toronto Maple Leafs. He and Paul Murphy are the only returning blue-liners from a year ago.

"Scott is the best defenceman in the Atlantic Conference," MacAdam said. "We're going to rely on Scott and Paul a lot this season to steady things for us on the blue-line."

In goal, the Devils have lost all star Kevin Rochford, but appear to be sold with second year man Jamie Frizzell and newcomer David Lutes.

MacAdam foresees a big difference in Frizzell this year now that he is established as the No. 1 man between the pipes.

"Jamie can certainly do the job for us," MacAdam said. "He and David Lutes are both very competent goaltenders. Jamie is not one to the No. 2 goaltender, although in actual fact both he and Kevin shared the job last year. Jamie isn't content just to be on the team; he wants to play a big role in how the team does."

The Devils of a year ago were awfully strangely defensively, with the club capable of closing the door on almost any

team in the league after it got by a couple of goals. In contrast, UNB was in a lot of trouble last year if it got behind by a goal or two, no matter how weak the opposition. That should be all different this season.

"We should have a lot of people this year who will be able to score on a consistent basis, and that means if we fall behind by a goal or two it won't be the end of the world. Last year we found it very difficult to play catch-up hockey. We still don't want to, but I think this year we will be more successful when that situation arises," MacAdam said.

By the same token, however, the Devils may not be able to close the door on other teams as effectively as they did a year ago. "It's important to play sound defensive hockey, because as you advance and play the better teams, the defence is what makes you or breaks you," MacAdam said. "It's going to be awfully important this year for our forwards to do the job defensively, to be good two-way hockey players."

What kind of team will the Devils turn out to be this years?

Come to the Aitken Centre tonight and find out!!!

Redsticks on a roll

The UNB Women's field hockey Red Sticks had a busy week playing 3 games since the last report. On Wednesday they travelled to Moncton where U de Moncton was currently leading the Western Section of the League in points with 3 wins. UNB handed them their first defeat of the season.

Although only a 2-0 score, the Red Sticks were all over the Angels. Goalkeeper Barb Leaman kicked the ball only once. The Angels swarmed all the Red Sticks offense and continually fouled but UNB could not seem to put it in the net any more than 2 times. Shauna Lambert, as part of the penalty corner team, put a hard drive in the left corner of the net after receiving a lay off from Kathryn MacDougall for the first goal. Captain Kathryn MacDougall scored the second goal of the game on a penalty stroke as a U de M player stopped a goal with her body. Kathryn shot high and hard making no mistakes.

UNB's next game was Saturday at home to peennial rivals Dalhousie Tigerettes. UNB started well but had a lapse in the first half of about 10 minutes. As a result Dal put 2 shots past goalkeeper Barb Leaman. Despite outplaying Dal for much of the second half, the Sticks could only muster one goal and that off the stick of Anne Campbell. UNB had 13 penalty corner situations as compared to Dal's 2 but could not capitalize on any.

On Sunday the Red Sticks met cross province rivals Mt. Allison Mounties on their turf. Again the Sticks couldn't get untracked and played a rather



Photo by Pete Thompson

muddled game. A win was still to be had off goals by veteran Anne Campbell and rookie Leona Corey (her first). Myfanwy Woolway was in goal for this game but was never tested.

UNB's record rises to 3 and 2 or possibly 2-2-1 depending upon the outcome of a protest

of an overtime win against St. F.X. (The league wants to throw out all overtimes thus leaving us with a tie). U de M's

record is 4 and 2. Winner of the western section of the league hosts the AUA's so it looks as though UNB will have to put a few wins on the

scoreboard in order to host.

The Red Sticks are in P.E.I. for 2 games Thanksgiving Weekend at 4 p.m. Saturday

and 1 p.m. on Sunday. Wednesday, Oct. 10 Moncton is here for a 4 p.m. game in which the winner just may take all. Come cheer us on.

