

# SPORTS

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## Comeback team of the year

U.N.B. Reds capped off a successful AUSA volleyball season this past weekend in Halifax by winning the Atlantic Crown. The Reds claimed top honors by defeating defending champion Dalhousie Tigers 3-1.

In less than twenty-four hours, U.N.B. had advanced to the final with a hard fought 3-2 win over U de Moncton Blue Angels. After losing the first game 15-13, the Reds fought back to take the next two games by a 15-12 and 15-13 count. U de M took the fourth game 15-10 before the Reds took control of the fifth and final game 15-6. Cheri Moore and Helen Bridgeo had 24 kills each while setter Carolyn Campbell chipped in with 9 kills, mostly 2nd hit dumps.

In the final, with about 400 partisan Dal fans looking on, the Reds started the match out with six stuff blocks on their way to a 15-6 win. After leading early in the second,



MICHELLE MOCKLER  
AUSA ALL STAR



SUNNY PHILLIPS  
REDS COACH



HELEN BRIDGEO  
TOURNEY MVP

Dal fought back and pushed the Reds to their limit before U.N.B. prevailed 17-15. The Tigers won the third game 15-12 and it appeared that the momentum had shifted over to the defending champions. The last game was bitterly fought and tied at 10-10 when the Reds put together 5 straight

points. Good defense and strong blocking won their first AUSA title in five years. Denise Vautour lead the offence with 23 kills, her top kill match of the year. Michelle Mockler and Helen Bridgeo added 16 kills while Mockler, Moore and Campbell contributed six stuff blocks each.

An obviously delighted coach Sunny Phillips was extremely pleased with his team. "I'm just so proud of this team. We played with so much poise and confidence and every player believed in themselves and their team mates. They played the two matches very aggressively and followed our

game plan beautifully."

Another reason why the Reds dominated the two matches was the effective outside hitting. "We've relied on our middle players so much this season and I think we surprised both U de M and Dal with our power hitting of Helen Bridgeo and Denise Vautour," added assistant coach Alice Kammermans.

The Reds travel to the CIAU championships March 11-14 in Winnipeg and coach Phillips will be trying to prepare the Reds to play as well as possible. "We have to be realistic about our chances. We're seeded 8th and play number one University of Winnipeg, a very tall order. I think its important that we play as well or better than this past weekend. Our goal would be to finish higher than 8th which would mean defeating a ranked team."

Michelle Mockler capped off a great season by being selected an AUSA All Star while Helen Bridgeo was named Tournament Most Valuable Player.

### Athletes of the Week

A volleyball player was chosen as the female athlete of the week and two players were selected as joint winners of the male athlete of the week. Bob Aucoin, captain of the Red Raiders and Ed Trail captain of the Red Devils both excelled in their final games for UNB.

Bob Aucoin, 28, a native of Campbellton scored 21 points and 28 points over the weekend against Mt Allison and chipped in with 21 rebounds. Aucoin currently heads the A.U.A.A. scoring charts with an average of 22.1 points/game. Coach Don Nelson stated that "Bob finished his playing career with an outstanding effort this weekend. His scoring, rebounding and leadership were primarily responsible for the two victories."

Ed Trail, 23, from Tignish, PEI, scored three points this weekend against two of the nation's top university teams. Ed has led the Red Devils throughout the season finishing with 24 points. Coach Rick Nickelchok stated that "Ed's performance in his last Red Devil career game was a reflection of his leadership throughout the season"

Helen Bridgeo, a 21 year native of Saint John was named as this week's female athlete of the week. Helen was outstanding in this weekend's A.U.A.A. series in Halifax. Playing as outside hitter she scored 40 kills during a 3-2 win (13-15; 15-13; 15-12; 10-15; 15-6) over Moncton and a 3-1 win (15-8; 17-15; 12-15; 15-10) over Dalhousie University. Coach Sunny Phillips described her performance as "outstanding both offensively and defensively. She was one of the key factors in both our wins" he added. Her strong all round game earned her the tournament's Most Valuable Player award. It also helped the Lady Reds to bring home to New Brunswick the A.U.A.A. championship. Helen is a fourth year student in sport science.

## Arsenault rink finishes first

by Rebecca Egoff

Last weekend the AUSA Invitational Curling Bonspiel was hosted by the UNB/STU Curling Club. Men's and women's teams from Memorial, Saint Mary's, Mount Allison, and Concordia universities joined teams from UNB and STU at the Capitol Winter Club for three days of competitive curling. Mayor Woodside threw the opening rock and brought greetings from the city. Shirley Cleave, Recreation Coordinator, welcomed the curlers on behalf of the University.

The teams participated in round robin tournaments on Friday and Saturday with the top ranked teams proceeding to play-offs. Many of the games were closely contested and any of the teams could have earned berths in the finals. In the Women's final, UNB, skipped by Mary-Anne Arsenault, defeated the Saint Mary's team by a score of 13-4 after nine ends. The men's final game

proved to be exciting right to the finish as the team from Newfoundland fought to defend the title they had won at last year's spiel. Alex Smith, skip for the Memorial team, had to make a very tricky final shot to defeat the powerful Saint Mary's team, skipped by Ken Myers.

There has been a tremendous improvement in the caliber of curling over the last few years which augers well for the future of university curling. At the skips' and coaches' meeting the UNB/STU club was commended for the excellent job they had done from both the competitive and the social perspective. The participants unanimously approved UNB/STU as the host club for next year's bonspiel. In order to increase the number of competitors it was suggested that curlers from across Canada and the northern United States be invited to next year's event.

While the bonspiel as a whole was a great success, it began on an unfortunate note.

While travelling to Fredericton, the curling teams from Acadia University were involved in a car accident. Joanne Strum, lead for the women's team was killed in the crash. The UNB/STU Curling Club and all participants in the tournament extend their deepest sympathies to the Acadia teams and her friends and family. A donation will be sent to the Acadia University Memorial fund in her name. Contributions may be made at the Recreation Office.

*The Brunswickan Staff would like to extend sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Joanne Strum who was a tragic victim of a car accident while driving to UNB to participate in a curling event.*