

# SPORTS

Deadline for stories is Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. Sports Desk 453-4983  
Co-Editors: Kelly Craig, Frank Denis.

## Red Devils end season in thrilling finale

### Marathon 50 minute overtime decides semi-finalist

by Frank Denis  
and Eric Drummie

Game 1  
UNB 6 UDeM 2  
Game 2  
UNB 4 UDeM 5  
Game 3  
(10 min.) Tie 0-0  
OT #1 (10 min.) No Score  
OT #2 (20 min.) No Score  
OT #3 (8:06) UDeM Scores  
UNB 0 UDeM 1

UDeM wins series 4 Pts. to 2 Pts.

The UNB Red Devils had their season come to a thrilling and heart stopping end last weekend in the first round of playoffs against the Moncton Blue Eagles. In the two game series, UNB won the first match Saturday 6-2 and then dropped a 5-4 decision on Sunday. That set up a "mini-game" which was played immediately after Sunday's contest. That "mini-game" turned out to be almost as long as a 60 minute game as it took close to 50 minutes before Moncton scored in sudden death.

Before the series began, many people were predicting a Blue Eagle cake walk. After all UNB had never beaten Moncton at the Blue Eagles home rink since the early '80s. Moncton is the reigning national champion and began to display that form in the second half of the season. UNB's performance

faster Moncton Blue Eagles to take a 2-0 lead into the second period.

#### Battle Back

The Red Devils returned to the ice in the second period rejuvenated and aggressive. This new found life sparked the Red Devils

Chris Somers.

The raining national champions didn't let up, but great saves by Chris Somers and good defence by Rob Bolden and Brian Wilson allowed UNB to maintain the lead.

UNB increased their lead

in the opening period but Somers again held them at bay as he made 18 saves. No goals were scored in the period and the first goal wasn't registered by either team until midway through the second.

Dany Gauvin broke the ice for

goals in less than 5 minutes. Ken Murchison had a single in that time while Captain Murray Nystrom had a pair.

The Red Devils tried everything they could to get the equalizer in the final few minutes but could not beat Blue Eagle goaltender Patrick Cote as Moncton held on to a 5-4 victory. Their win set up a 10 minute period and still no winner was declared.

#### The Goal

It wasn't until the teams had played close to 5 hours of intense hockey that Dany Gauvin, later to be named AUAA player of the Week, beat Somers and eliminated UNB from further play. Both teams were not only physically drained but mentally drained as well.

Coach Johnston believes his team has nothing to hang their heads for and they don't. "I was pleased with our performances this weekend. Moncton had better scoring opportunities than we did tonight (Sunday) but we overcame a lot of adversity to make it where we did, overall I'm satisfied."

#### Next Year

Johnston now begins planning for next year's team as he embarks on a 2 week recruiting trip. The only player Johnston knows will not return is forward Hugh Hospodar who has played for five seasons with the Devils. The defensive forward specialist has terminated his eligibility.

As this is the last Red Devil's article of the year, I would like to thank coach Johnston and all those associated with the Devils both on and off the ice for making the reporting easier. It's been fun, we'll do it again next year!!



Chris Somers and UNB defenceman stunned in defeat after 50 minute overtime match.

photo by Eric Drummie

for two goals in the second period to tie the game. UNB's first goal was costly though. Troy Binnie was tripped after scoring the goal and pulled a back muscle as a result. This injury would keep Troy out for the remainder of series. UNB's second goal was scored by Joey McTamney with four minutes left

through the prospers of fore-checking. Murray Nystrom picked up the loose puck at the Moncton blue line and let a rocket off, from the high slot, that went over the right shoulder of Moncton goalie, Marc Delorme with nine minutes left.

#### Somers in Net

Moncton pulled their goalie with 1:41 left hoping to get two quick goals and a tie, but were met by Chris Somers. UNB was able to get control and Tom Gemmel scored a open net breakaway goal assisted by Chris Somers giving UNB a 4-2 lead.

Moncton put their goalie back in but it didn't stop Gord Christian from sealed the game with a goal leaving three seconds on the clock.

The player of the game was Red Devil, Chris Somers, who stopped 33 of 35 Moncton shots, 21 in the first period, allowing UNB to win their first play-off game in 6 years.

Although the game ended 6-2 it wasn't as one sided as the score indicates, according to Red Devil coach Mike Johnston. "It was a 2-2 game going into the third period and we added two more to make it 4-2. In the final couple of minutes we got an empty net goal and then a late goal, so really it was a 4-2 game."

The UNB's win put pressure on Moncton to win Sunday's game. A Red Devil win or tie would have given them the right to advance to the second round of the playoffs.

#### Game 2

Moncton came out and had some quality scoring opportunities



Chris Somers, MVP of game one, and UNB's MVP for the series

photo by Eric Drummie

shocked many people and they proved just how good a team they are.

#### Game 1

The Red Devils went into the two game series as the underdogs having a 1-3 record against Moncton in the regular season. UNB's only victory coming at home.

Lack luster play in the beginning of the first period allowed the

in the period.

#### Take the Lead

In the third period UNB broke the dead lock with a goal scored off of the face-off by Joey McTamney with twelve minutes left in the period.

Things got tense for the few, but loud, UNB fans when Jamie Colvin while skating in front of his own net nearly scored on goalie

## Athletes of the Week

### Female

Kara Palmer of the UNB Red Bloomers has been named UNB's Female Athlete of the Week. Kara had 24 pts. and snagged 11 rebounds as the Red Bloomers rolled over the visiting Lady Panthers 74 to 43. Kara's dominant performance earned her the Pepsi Player of the Game Award. Kara's solid play so far this season has put her among the nation's top performers in three areas: Kara is 12th in scoring, 7th in rebounding and is second in free throw shooting an amazing 91.2% from the line.

Coach Claire Milton said "Kara had a great first half with 16 pts., she sparked the team to a good start and set the tone for the whole game."

Kara is a third-year Bachelor of Physical Education student, from Perth Andover, NB.

### Male

The UNB Male Athlete of the Week is Yaw Obeng of the UNB Red Raiders. Yaw led the Raiders to a narrow win over the UCCB Capers, 76-73, in front of a large crowd at the Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium. He led the team in points with 19, 5 assists, and 8 rebounds on his way to being named the Pepsi Player of the Game.

Head coach Phil Wright quoted "Yaw showed his outstanding floor leadership this weekend. We now know how important he is to the continued progress of the program."

Yaw is a third-year, Bachelor of Physical Education student, from Rexdale, Ontario.