

BY PAUL ARSENAULT MURRAY NYSTROM

For the first time since the 1983-84 AUAA hockey season the UNB Red Devils are in good position to win an AUAA championship. The Devils have been the most consistent Mac Adam division team this season. The Red Devils will stage their first home playoff game in two years, Thursday, February 20 at 7:30. The opponent has yet to be decided.

The UNB Red Devils are anticipating large crowds for their playoff games. Students should be advised that there will be a \$3 admission fee with ID. The action will be fast and furious and will no doubt by the hottest ticket in town.

Rumor has it that a group of UNB students are going down to Mt. A to catch some of the Red Devils action this Saturday. A "word to the wise", keep your head up! Two years ago the Devils had clinched a play-off spot and the Mounties were out. They played in the last game of the season. Needless to say it was a blood-fest. Mt. A ran at and stuck every UNB sweater as they say. Saturday's game has been referred to as Royal Rumble IV.

The Red Devils haven't been the only team red hot on the hill. The Fredericton Canadiens are in first place in the Atlantic Division. In an impressive 3-1 win Tuesday night over Moncton, goaltender Frederic Chabot's defensive core stood tall against Moncton's potent offence. Missing some key players, Fredericton's coach Paulin Bordeleau has to be happy with the way his bench has risen to the occasion. The Canadiens see action next on Saturday. Game time is 6:00 p.m.

Does Canada have a men's downhill ski team? Where have all the "Crazy Canucks" gone and why has there been no one to replace the ones that have retired? It doesn't seem very long ago that Ken Read became the first non–European to win a World Cup Downhill race and it seems just like yesterday that Steve Podborski became World Cup champion after dominating the ski runs on both sides of the ocean—the only Non-European to win the title. Through the late 1970's and 1980's the athletes were easily spotted by their trademark yellow streamlined suits and their aggressive, daring attacks of the world's greatest mountains. So intense, were these Canadians that many people—even other skiers on the circuit felt that the "Crazy Canucks" earned their names honestly by pushing themselves to the edge—literally. The edge turned out to be the small difference between winning and losing because this generation of skiers stepped to the top position on the winner's podium frequently.

It's strange, that with this great success over the years that younger, junior skiers never developed in a similar mode. It will suffice to say that it will be quite a while before Canada becomes dominant in men's downhill again. There is rumor though, that after being exposed to the slopes in Banff during the Holiday Season, Gord Christain and Derek Scanlon may be considering a sporting career change and are considering the 1996 Olympics!

Canada's best hope for a gold medal is Kurt Browning. He begins his drive for an Olympic Championship today as the men's figure skating competition starts. His principal opponents are Victor Pertrinko of the old Soviet Union and American Christopher Bowman. Browning, who has won the last the World Championships, certainly is favoured to win. Hopefully his sore back, which kept him out of the Canadian nationals, will hold up enough so he can win the gold... Montreal Canadiens made a great decision when they claimed Chris Nilan from Boston-he could add a dimension which will carry the Habs to the cup... The Domi was lucky to beat Bob Probert last week-Domi will hold the title only until the next Ranger-Red Wing game.... Why is Bill Walters the Maple Leafs assistant G.M.?

Trivia: Last week's Answer - Canada is the only country to have lost both the summer and winter Olympics and not win a gold at either event.

This week's trivia - What number did player/coach Reggie Dunlop (Paul Newman) wear for the Charlestown Chiefs in the classic movie "SLAPSHOT."

Red Raiders Continued

Andy McKay (B-)

Andy is the most talented player the Raiders have, but he also has suffered from consistency problems. When this guy is on, he can shoot the lights out. Unfortunately, there are days when the rim is MacKay's best friend. MacKay's decision making ability must improve if he wishes to be a factor in every game.

Glen Read/Phil Wright (B-)

Phil has tried to mold a young team into a contender, and the question is how good a job has he done. There are always times when coaches decisions are questioned and this makes the coach scapegoat or hero. "Doc" has certainly added a new attitude to the Raiders and he deserves credit for this. Unfortunately, Phil can be blamed for UNB's offensive woes as well as players lack of discipline. I believe that Phil could bring home some more wins if the players were worked harder during practice and made to believe they could win.

Glen was supposed to be a valuable addition to the Raider coaching staff, but one must wonder what he has added. Unfortunately, I don't see Glen during practice so I can't comment on what he does

there, but I have seen him during games. No offense Glen, but all I've seen you do is berate referees.

Because I have not seen enough of the rest of the players, I really can't comment on how well they are playing. Hopefully, I have not alienated any players/fans with these comments, but if you have any complaints please drop me a line.

Don't forget that the Raiders make-up game against Dalhousie in Monday, February 17 at 9:00 (after the Bloomers game).

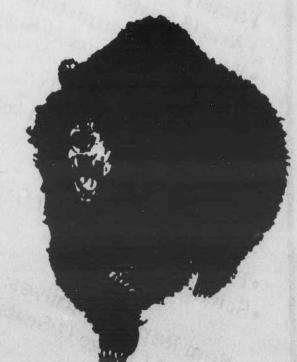
See you there!

Basketball action at the LB Gym

Monday Febuary 17th 5:00 pm Red Bloomers vs Dalhousie 7:00 pm Red Raiders vs Dalhousie

Admission is free to all UNB students

Good
Luck to
the UNB
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and Black
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