



SPORTS

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Women finished 6th at Tournament Huskies come to town

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The Reds are looking to improve 3-3 record in the second half of their season. The UNB Varsity Reds women's basketball team finished the first half of their season on a losing note. UNB dropped two games to UPEI on the Island 98-90, in double overtime, and in a close battle 66-62.

UNB's Bonny Munn lead the team with 23 points in the first game against UPEI. The Panthers led 40-38 at the half and ended the game with a 98-90 win.

In the second game UPEI led 34-24 at the half and continued to win the game 66-62. The Reds competed in the Saint Mary's University Invitational Basketball Tournament during the Christmas break, January 2-4th in Halifax. UNB placed 6th overall in the tournament.

UNB lost their first game of the tournament to St. FX 79-67. The X-Women led 40-30 at the half and the Reds battled in the second half but couldn't close the gap. St. FX X-Women are currently tied with the Dalhousie Tigers for top spot with 12 points each. The X-Women have a 4-0

record, while the Tigers have a 4-1 record.

The Reds rebounded in their next game to beat the Acadia Axewomen. UNB held a narrow 29-23 lead heading into the dressing room at the end of the first half. The V-Reds kept the Axewomen at bay to win the game 54-51.

UNB lost their final game of the tournament to UPEI despite only being down 28-31 at the end of the first half. The Reds fought back in the second half and outshot the Panthers 38-36. But to no avail as they lost the game 66-67.

Fifth year veteran Donna Retson was UNB's top scorer against both St. FX and Acadia with 22 points and 28 points respectively. Retson averaged 14 points per game over the tournament. UNB head coach Joyce Slipp stated, "Donna had her most consistent games of the year as she stepped up her play, showing both offensive and defensive performance."

The Reds are currently tied with Memorial and Saint Mary's for fourth spot with 8 points each. The Reds will be hosting the 2-2 Saint Mary's Huskies on Saturday, January 11th at 6:30pm at the LB Gym.

Reds end second half at 4-2 and...

Men's basketball in 4th spot in AUSA

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The UNB Varsity Reds men's basketball team ended the first half of their season with back-to-back wins over UPEI.

UNB took the first game 86-78, being down 47-41 at the end of the first half. The Reds fought back in the second half of the game tossing in 45 points to UPEI's 31. Gordon McNeilly led UNB with 23 points, while Player of the Game Jon Kreiner tossed in 21 points.

The Reds returned to sweep the two game series with a 78-67 win. The Panthers led the Reds 41-31 at the half. UNB responded in the second half with 47 points to down UPEI. Veteran Dave Low led the Reds with 23 points and Jon Kreiner added 20 points in a losing cause. Low was named Player of the game for his efforts.

Reds team captain Gordon McNeilly was second in AUSA scoring at the Christmas break, averaging 22.0 points per game, 8th in league rebounding with 6.2 rebounds per game and 8th in free throw percentage by virtue of shooting 75.9% from the charity stripe, and is shooting a solid 40% in 3-pointers. Head coach Clint Hamilton is pleased with McNeilly's effort saying "Gordon has

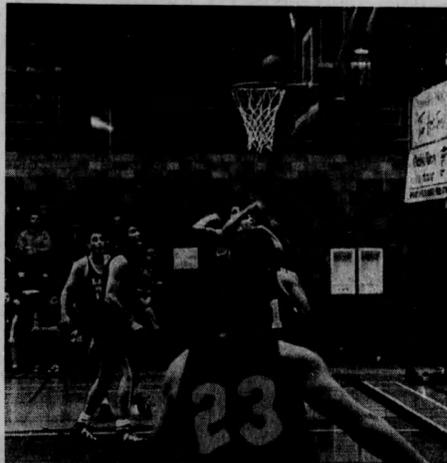
really stepped up his game to lead our team, especially on the road."

UNB ended the first half of their season with a 4-2 record. The Reds currently sit in fourth spot in the AUSA with 10 points.

The Reds hosted the Bishop's Gaitors and the Laval Rouge et Or during the Christmas break. The Reds met both of these teams in UNB's National Tournament. At the tournament UNB downed Laval by 26 points but was narrowly defeated by Bishop's in the consolation final.

UNB was narrowly defeated 70-67 in a tough game by Bishop's in the first of the two exhibition games on Friday night. The Gaitors led the Reds 35-25 at the end of the first half. Rookie Danny Gomez led the Reds with 23 points. Coach Hamilton was pleased with Gomez's performance stating, "it was a solid offensive weekend for Danny as he continues to develop into a consistent contributor for the V-Reds."

The Reds rebounded in the next game on Saturday to down Laval 88-58. UNB led 46-32 at the half and continued to dominate the game in the second half. The Reds were led by team captain Gordon McNeilly with 19 points, Low added 16 points and rookie Ryan



Reds go to the hoop against Laval in a 88-58 win. PAT FITZPATRICK PHOTO
Johnston tossed in 15 points. UNB returns to regular season action hosting the 1-3 Saint Mary's Huskies on Saturday, January 11th at 8:30pm.

Ballem wins bronze at International competition Reds in Canadian Open Championship

PAULA CRUTCHER
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Six members of the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds swim team traveled to the University of Laval in Quebec in late November to compete at the highly competitive Canadian Open Championships.

The six swimmers had a fantastic weekend putting in some of the best racing of their lives.

The meet consisted of swimmers from six different countries including the entire Canadian female Olympic team who were in attendance. The competition boasted such names as Penny Hanes, double Olympic gold medalist and Marianne Limpert. The swimmers also had the pleasure of witnessing a world record performance in the 100m butterfly by US Olympic team member, Misty Hymen.

In the midst of all these great swimmers the Reds shone brightly. Josh Ballem's bronze medal performance was the highlight of the meet," commented, fellow team member, Michelle MacWhirter.

Ballem had a very fast race to finish the 50m butterfly in a time of 25.7 seconds capturing a bronze medal. He also qualified for the consolation finals

in the remaining events he swam. He won the consolation final of the 100m butterfly and qualified for the CIAU in a time of 57.2 seconds. Ballem competed in the 100m freestyle, the 200m and 400m individual medleys and performed best times in all these events.

Marty Laycock, another competitor for the Varsity Reds over the weekend, swam some very impressive breaststroke races. Laycock made the consolation finals in both the 100m breaststroke and 200m breaststroke events.

In addition he shaved seconds off his best time in the 200m breaststroke to qualify for CIAU's with a time of 2:22.75 just missing nationals by a fraction of a second. He swam a best time of 1:05.88 in the 100m breaststroke which is also a CIAU qualifying time.

Michelle MacWhirter made the consolation finals in the 100m freestyle where she did a lifetime best time of 58.4, nearly a second better than her previous best performance. She also made the consolation finals in the 100m backstroke, the 200m individual medley and the 50m butterfly. MacWhirter was named female athlete of the week for her performances over the weekend.

Reds head coach Andrew Cole commented that MacWhirter "is

building now for a great year in university swimming with an eye on competing internationally within the next year or so."

Krista Morrison also traveled to Quebec for the weekend and performed very well for the Reds. Morrison took an eighth place finish and a best time in her 400m individual medley race with a time of 5:03.9. She also made the consolation finals in both the 100m and 200m breaststroke events.

Chris Jones and Carla Geurts also competed as UNB club team members over the weekend and had some great races.

Jones made the consolation finals in both the 100m and 50m backstroke races.

Geurts had a phenomenal weekend winning two gold medals in the 400m and 800m freestyle events. Her time of 4:08 for the 400m freestyle was the fastest time by a female swimmer in the world so far this year.

The athletes returned from the competition late Sunday night and are now preparing to join the rest of their teammates for a heavy preparation phase of training. The swimmers are gearing up for their upcoming training camp in Florida over the Christmas holidays.

McNeilly and Ryan November's Athletes of the Month



L to R: Ross Antworth (Valley Graphics), Gordon McNeilly (Male Athlete), Scott Lewis (Moosehead) and Shelley Ryan (Female Athlete). PAT FITZPATRICK PHOTO

Gordon McNeilly, Basketball

The male athlete of the month is Gordon McNeilly, a fourth year forward on the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds men's basketball team. McNeilly has been the V-Reds "lethal weapon" so far this season. At the Christmas break, he stands second in AUSA scoring, averaging 22.0 points per game. He also stands 8th in AUSA rebounding with 6.2 rpg., and 8th in AUSA free throw percentage by virtue of shooting 75.9% from the charity stripe. Behind the 3-point arc, he is shooting a solid 40%. All of these statistics have translated into first half success for not only McNeilly, but the entire Varsity Reds basketball team. The V-Reds are off to a 4-2 start (3-1 on the road), and sit 4th within the tough

AUSA Conference. UNB head coach Clint Hamilton has been very pleased with his team captain's effort and stated that "Gordon has really stepped up his game to lead our team, especially on the road." McNeilly is a native of Fredericton, NB, and is studying in the Faculty of Kinesiology. The UNB men's basketball team attended the "University of Toronto Invitational Tournament" from Dec. 27-29, 1996.

Shelley Ryan, Basketball

The female athlete of the month is Shelley Ryan from the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds women's basketball team. Ryan, a third year forward, has been UNB's top scorer so far this season, averaging 15.0 points

per game. This puts her 10th in AUSA scoring. She also sits 10th in AUSA rebounding with 6.8 rpg., and stands 3rd in AUSA free throw percentage with 93.3%. In UNB's 62-53 win over Acadia on Nov. 23/96, Ryan netted 24 points and was named "player of the game." UNB head coach Joyce Slipp stated "Shelley is a phenomenal athlete. In the Acadia game especially, she was unstoppable." Ryan, a native of Fredericton, NB, is studying in the Faculty of Kinesiology. The UNB women's basketball team sits with a record of 3-3 at the break, and attended the "Huskies Sparkling Springs Women's Basketball Tournament" over the Christmas break. The Tournament is held at Saint Mary's University, and runs from January 2-4, 1997.

Swimmers return from training as... Rival Tigers come to the LB Pool

MARIA PAISLEY
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The V-Reds are hoping to sink the Tiger. The UNB Varsity Reds swim team will be meeting their rivals the Dal Tigers on Saturday. This is the third meeting between the two teams.

The Reds traveled to Halifax in October and November to take on Dal. In both October and November the UNB men's team came up with a big victory.

In the first meeting of the teams UNB collected 328.5 points over Dal's 148.5 points. The Reds had a convincing victory of 68 points over the Tigers 38 points.

UNB's women's team finished second with 224 points to Dal's 353. The Reds came very close to beating Dal and was only 2 points behind them in the second meeting.

At the first Dal meet they did not have their top female swimmer, Michelle MacWhirter, as she was at the cross country AUSA's. Reds head coach Andrew Cole believes that MacWhirter is an important part of the women's team having just achieved her personal best in all of her events at the Canadian Open.

MacWhirter also holds a number of AUSA records. This will be the first meeting of the

two rivals since the Reds came back from their training camp. The Reds will be using the meet to prepare for the AUSA's in early February at Dal.

The V-Reds have only three meets left before the AUSA's were they are expecting to get their biggest battle from the Tigers.

UNB will compete in two meets this weekend, one against the Dal Tigers and the other one versus the Mount A Mounties.

UNB will travel to Sackville on Sunday to meet the Mounties. The Reds will be hosting Dal at 3pm on Saturday, January 11th in the Sir Max Aitken Pool, in the LB Gym.

**Don't be a bench warmer!! Join Bruns Sports.
SUB Rm. 35 Fridays 12:30PM**

Upcoming UNB Games

Saturday, January 11
Swimming vs. Dal @ 3pm (Sir Max Aitken Pool)
Basketball (W) vs. SMU @ 6:30pm (LB Gym)
Basketball (M) vs. SMU @ 8:30pm (LB Gym)
Volleyball (W) @ UCCB
Wrestling @ Queen's Invitational

Sunday, January 12
Hockey @ Mt. A
Swimming @ Mt. A
Volleyball (W) @ UCCB

Athletes of the Week

December 2, 1996

January 6, 1997

Dan Graf, Men's Basketball

Dan Graf, UNB Varsity Reds men's basketball team captain has been named UNB's male athlete of the week. UNB defeated UPEI 86-78 and completed the road sweep, with a 78-67 win. In the 2 games, Graf averaged 10 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists and 4 steals. After the weekend, the V-Reds improved to 4-2 on the season as they head into the Christmas break. UNB head coach Clint Hamilton stated that "Danny's tremendous leadership, competitive fire and commitment to doing all the little things, led our team to two come from behind victories on the road." For the season, Graf is averaging 8 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists, and 3 steals. A native of Timmins, Ont. he is in his 3rd year with the V-Reds, studying in the BA program.

Michelle MacWhirter, Swimming

Michelle MacWhirter, a member of the UNB Varsity Reds swimming team has been named UNB's female athlete of the week. At the weekend's highly competitive Canadian Open, held at the University of Laval, MacWhirter achieved a personal best in all of her events. In the 100m free, she finished in a time of 58.4 seconds, to take almost a second off of her previous best. She made the consolation finals in 4 of her events, the 200m, the 100 free, the 50 fly, and 100 backstroke. UNB head coach Andrew Cole said that "she is building now for a great year in university swimming with an eye on competing internationally within the next year or so." MacWhirter is a fourth year Kinesiology student from Stephenville Nfld.

Danny Gomez, Basketball

Danny Gomez, a rookie member of the UNB Varsity Reds men's basketball team has been named UNB's male athlete of the week. The V-Reds split a pair of exhibition games over the weekend. On Friday, UNB lost a tough game to Bishop's by a 70-67 score, but rebounded on Saturday to defeat Laval 88-58. Gomez scored 23 points against Bishop's, and followed that up with 13 more against Laval. For the season, Gomez is averaging 5 pts, and 3 rebounds per game. UNB head coach Clint Hamilton was very pleased with the increased productivity, and stated that "it was a solid offensive weekend for Danny as he continues to develop into a consistent contributor for the V-Reds." Gomez is a native of Fredericton, NB and is studying in the Faculty of Kinesiology.

Donna Retson, Basketball

Donna Retson, of the UNB Varsity Reds women's basketball team has been named UNB's female athlete of the week. The V-Reds competed in the Saint Mary's Invitational dropping their first game 79-67 to St. FX, and rebounded to defeat Acadia 54-51. In their final game the Reds lost 67-66 to UPEI/Retson averaged 14.0 points per game over the course of the tournament, including a 22 point effort against top ranked St. FX. UNB head coach Joyce Slipp stated that "Donna had her most consistent games of the year as she stepped up her play, showing both offensive and defensive performance." A native of Truro, NS, Retson is in her fifth year with UNB and is studying within the Faculty of Education.

