



SPORTS

For Complete Varsity Reds Coverage

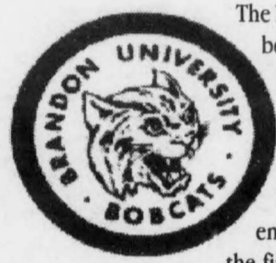


Sports Wire

TOURNAMENT TIME

In the last couple of weeks, the CIAU's winter sports program has drawn to a rapid conclusion. Our review starts with the following three.

Brandon Bobcats, Men's Basketball



The Brandon Bobcats ruined the Alberta Golden Bears' threepeat hopes by a margin of 79-72 at the CIAU Final 8 in the Metro Centre, Halifax last Sunday. Both AUSA teams: champion Dalhousie Tigers and wildcard entrant Acadia Axemen, lost in the first round, setting up an interesting consolation round match-up. Acadia took the game 78-71 and went on to claim third, downing the Concordia Stingers 84-75.

The Varsity Reds finished in 5th place in the AUSA, making their first playoff trip in many years, a trip which ended quickly after they ran into the StFX X-Men in the opening round.

Manitoba Bisons, Women's Basketball



The Manitoba Bisons needed overtime to defeat the Toronto Varsity Blues 81-77 in the CIAU's women's basketball championships. A second overtime game saw McGill claim third, taking down the Western Mustangs 75-72. The Dalhousie Tigers, crowned AUSA champs in Antigonish the week before, struggled, losing to the eventual champions 72-67, beating Laurentian before placed 6th with a 77-51 loss to the University of Victoria.

The Varsity Reds finished 7th in the AUSA, one place outside a trip to the playoffs, despite a six game win streak down the stretch.

Acadia Axemen, Hockey



The Acadia Axemen continued the AUSA's dominance of the hockey championships with a win over the Waterloo Warriors before TSN's cameras at venerable Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto. After scraping by the UPEI Panthers - all three games going to overtime - for the AUSA title, the Axemen found it equally tough in TO. They managed to squeeze past the UQTR Patriots to earn a berth in the final before an equally tight win, 3-2, over the Warriors (who had qualified with a 5-2 shelling of the Western Mustangs).

The Varsity Reds finished 2nd in the MacAdam Division, however tumbled in the first round of the playoffs to UPEI with a 1-0 loss in game three of the series.

NEXT WEEK IN BRUNS SPORTS

- The UNB Athletic Awards
- Review of the Year - Part 1
- Volleyball, Swimming and Wrestling CIAUs

— AHL Hockey

Baby Habs struggle at home



A Bandit goes down to corral a loose puck.

Photo Warren Watson

by Murray Thorpe
Brunswickan Sports

On Sunday afternoon, the Baltimore Bandits were visiting the Aitken University Centre for their third game of a five game road trip. The Canadians were, however at the end of a five game home stay in twelve days. The Bandits came out flat in the first period and the Canadians jumped to a 2-0 lead with goals from Craig Conroy and Serge Roberge. This was the first goal for Serge Roberge as a Canadian since he came from the Rochester Americans seven games ago.

With five minutes to go, Dwayne Norris of the Bandits put one past Patrick Labrecque to make it 2-1. At the 19:48 mark of the first period, Dion Darling received two minor penalties for roughing and slashing while Steven King of the Bandits got a minor penalty for holding the stick. The baby Habs, in the eyes of the referee, was slow in putting the correct number of men on the ice and in the penalty box, so they received a bench minor penalty. The fans were quick to voice their displeasure with this call which would eventually have an affect on the outcome of the game. On the ensuing two-man advantage which carried over into the second period, Baltimore tied the game on a goal by Denny Lambert.

The Canadians regained the lead at the fifteen minute mark on a power play goal from Pierre Sevigny. This was the difference in the game until, with under three minutes to go, Kimbi Daniels took advantage of fresh legs against a tired Canadian line which was at the end of their shift and scored the tying goal. After five minutes of overtime, the game ended in a draw. The three stars of the game were 1. Craig Conroy of Fredericton, 2. Dwayne Norris

of Baltimore and Patrick Labrecque of Fredericton.

The Canadians seemed to hold the edge in puck possession in the offensive end and out shot the Bandits 43 to 35. There were 72 minutes of penalty minutes handed out with 40 of those going to Fredericton and 12 of those 40 to Darcy Tucker who got the only ten minute game misconduct penalty at the end of the third period.

After the game, Canadians head coach Paulin Bordeleau was fuming about his team's squandering of the early 2-0 lead. His explanation to this was, "the guys started thinking it was going to be an easy game and they played soft and they didn't want to pay the price and that's what happens (when) we let them back into the game." When asked about the standings and having only one loss in the last 9 games, Coach Bordeleau was quick to point out, "I still have my eyes on first place." He also added that 5 ties was like two losses and one tie in the standings.

When Dwayne Norris of the Bandits was asked about the Canadians having dominated the puck possession and yet the Bandits still managing a tie, he said, "Puck position in the offensive end obviously is important but they were around our net but they didn't get a lot of quality chances. Our defence and centreman played the one-on-one pretty well down low. They had the puck possession... They had a really good shift down low, they were cycling the puck and they were tired and that's how we scored (the tying goal)."

When Serge Roberge of the Canadians was asked about the refereeing of the game, he said, "the ref was there for both teams (except for) I think tonight maybe the call (of) 5 on 3 (at 19:48 of the first)... you have got to play with those things. You just have to work harder and try to win." The baby Habs are away on a two game road trip and will be back at the Aitken Centre to host PEI on the 27th of March.

Kevin Manderson, Wrestling

UNB's male athlete of the week is Kevin Manderson of the Varsity Reds wrestling team. Kevin is a first year Arts student from Riverview, NB. The former Atlantic High School Champion and AUSA All-Star captured the gold medal at the 1996 National Under 20 Wrestling Championships this past weekend. Kevin was 5-0 in the competition and was named the tournament MVP. Coach Don Ryan stated "Kevin wrestled one of the best matches of his career on the weekend."

Athlete of the Week

*The Fashion
The Service
The Gifts
The Food*

In the heart of Downtown Fredericton, and only steps away from the university campus, Kings Place has everything you need under one roof. Visit the specialty stores, gift boutiques, restaurants and services of Kings Place. From pharmacy to bank, sporting goods to fashion, rediscover shopping in the heart of the Downtown.

With convenient free parking all day Saturday in our covered garage, Kings Place truly is *shopping made simple.*

M-W 9-5:30
Th-F 9-9
SAT 9-5
KINGS PLACE
DOWNTOWN FREDERICTON

The UNB Varsity Reds Sports Awards Banquet Wed. March 27, 1996 SUB Ballroom