

SPORTS

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

Red Devils split on weekend

by Frank Denis

Friday:
UNB 9 St. FX 4
Saturday:
UCCB 3 UNB 2 (OT)

UNB Red Devil coach Mike Johnston stood in his team's dressing room in stunned silence. His players were quiet as they showered and changed. It was an eerie kind of feeling not often experienced after a game. The Devils had just lost their fourth game of the season on a last second goal in overtime to the Cape Breton Capers by a score of 3-2.

On Saturday the Red Devils easily defeated the visiting St. FX X-men by a score of 9-4. Despite the freezing cold temperatures outside, close to 1200 fans were in attendance at the Varsity Mania sponsored event. The noise and excitement level remained constant all evening and seemed to spur the Red Devils to their most lopsided win of the season.

Sunday's game against the Capers ended in controversy as UCCB scored the winner with no time left on the clock. With only a few seconds remaining in the overtime, Capers defenseman Brad Balmas broke out of his zone

and fired the puck on net from centre ice. Red Devil goalie Scott MacDonald played the shot but somehow the puck found an opening between his legs and crossed the goal line. Before the goal judge could turn on the red goal light, the green light signalling the end of the game appeared. Referee John O'Toole immediately signaled a goal saying the puck definitely crossed the line before time expired. Johnston and his players argued but to no avail. "It's unfortunate for Scott MacDonald because he played a pretty good game and then to see something like that go in . . . I don't know, it was a fluky goal," said a sombre Johnston.

What made matters worse was that the Red Devils were clearly the more dominant team on the ice. They had several quality scoring opportunities but just couldn't put the puck past UCCB goalie Darren Nixon. "We missed a few good scoring chances and in the second period especially, we poured it on but Nixon played tough. He's the type of goalie that can make the difference in a hockey game," Johnston said.

"I thought all around we played a decent game and there's no reason why we

should have lost to them." And Johnston is right.

Scoring UNB's pair of goals on Sunday were Dominic Niro and Clyde Simmons while Cam Sylven and Ron Gaudet scored UCCB goals to go along with Balmas' game winner.

On Friday, in a Varsity Mania sponsored game, forwards Tom Gemmell and Hugh Hospodar led the Red Devils offensively with 3 points a piece. Gemmell had 2 goals including the game winner and one assist while Hospodar had a goal and two assists. Other

UNB goal scorers were Joey McTamney, Hollis Chamberlain, Ken Murchison, Gord Christian, Clyde Simmons and Jamie Colvin. Replying for the X-Men were Mike Boyd with two, Ben MacIntosh and Duane Saulnier. Goalie Chris Somers made 24 stops to record the win.

For the first game back after the holiday break coach Johnston and Gemmell were pleased with the performance. "It was tough adjusting after 4 weeks off but we did well in our first game back and definitely the coaching staff is pleased with

that," said Gemmell.

The Red Devils now enter their toughest stretch of the season when they play 4 games in seven nights. On Sunday they are in Sackville to play the surprising Mount Allison Mounties and on Wednesday play their cross campus rivals the STU Tommies down at the LBR. Next weekend the opposition consists of last year's National Champions, the Moncton Blue Eagles and the Saint Mary's Huskies on Friday and Saturday respectively.

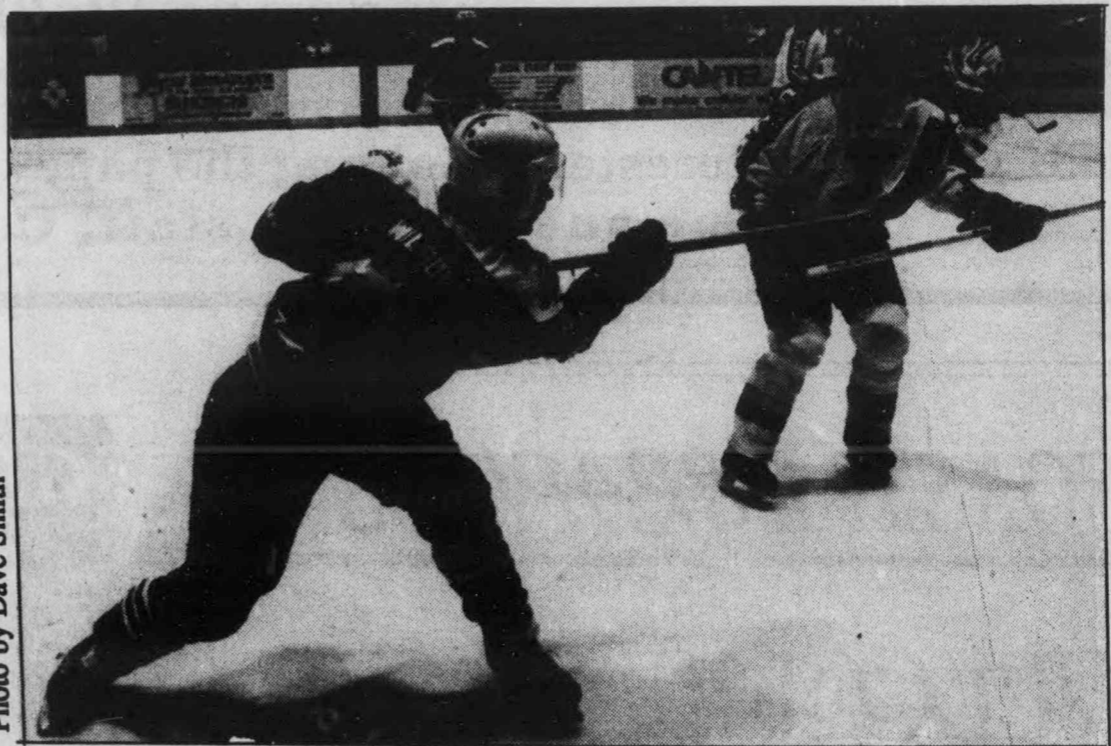


Photo by Dave Smith

Brian Wilson dumps puck into X-men's zone

UNB Beavers train in Florida

Christmas in the sun

by Kelly Craig

While most of the campus was enjoying a nice quiet Christmas vacation, the UNB swim team was hard at work in the water. But of course, they were also in Florida.

Every year the Beavers swim team travels to Florida for a training camp. This camp combines a few friendly meets with hard swim training. The Beavers team has already proven that they have a dedicated squad of swimmers. Octobers semi-crisis with the pool shut down saw a united Beavers team overcome adversity and still manage to train.

The team this year has brought many of the unknown swimmers to the front. Last year the headlines were mostly about Chris Hashimoto and Brian Woods. It seemed almost as they were the only members on the team. This season however has brought many other talented swimmers out in the open to show the AUAA just what they are made of.

The swim team is quite a large team, so mentioning everyone would take a long time. However, it is important to note the quickness with which Head Coach Andrew Cole has brought the team to the top of the AUAA. The team still has a lot

of work to do to get back in top form if they hope to win the AUAA title this season.

As usual, the Dalhousie Tigers have been UNB's toughest competition. They will be the team to beat this year as in the past.

The training camp in Florida has prepared the team for the second half of the season. Contrary to popular opinion it is not all fun in the sun for the Beavers when they are in Florida.

This weekend the Beavers will be at Mount Allison for a meet. Last weekends meet at Colby College was cancelled as the snow storm proved too much for any one to handle.

Athletes of the Week Female Male

Jill Jackson, of the UNB Red Bloomers, has been named the UNB female athlete of the week. Jill sparked two key Red Bloomer wins with 16 points vs Acadia and was the Red Bloomer's top scorer as she had 21 points vs St. Mary's. The Bloomers won the first contest on Saturday as they downed Acadia 69-60 and then defeated the St. Mary's Huskies 73-59.

Coach Claire Mitton felt that, "Jill had a solid week-end and played a crucial role as she was the catalyst the Bloomers needed to lift them to victory."

Jill is a third year Education student from East River, New Brunswick.

Hugh Hospodar of the UNB Red Devils has been named the UNB male athlete of the week. Hugh had his best offensive game of the year with a goal and two assists as the Red Devils beat the visiting St. FX X-Men 9-4.

Coach Mike Johnston added that, "that while Hugh who is usually slotted in a defensive role showed some offensive talent as he led the team to their largest victory margin of the year."

Hugh is a fifth year player from Dalhousie, New Brunswick.

by Mark

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