

Reds, Rebels host Dalhousie Tigers

by Graham MacDonald

Last weekend brought mixed emotions to UNB volleyball fans, it brought joy when the Lady Reds pulled off a miraculous upset of Mt. A, and sorrow when the Rebels playoff hopes were all but extinguished by a loss to MUN.

Excitement still hangs in the air a week after the Lady Reds victory over the Mounties. Mt. A, a team which had been nationally ranked as little as a year ago, last year's AUAA finalists, home to superstars such as Stephanie Gould, began the match by trouncing the Lady Reds. After two and a half games of blowout it looked like it was going to be a half hour match, but Gina Dickenson landed several serves in a row, hitter Carla Mason landed some quality kills and the team got pumped. Mt. A downplayed the threat, played lacksadastically and practiced their backcourt hitting. The Lady Reds, smelling blood, won the third game handily, and Mt. A was visibly shaken.

Mt. A played tougher in the fourth game, but they lost their aura of invulnerability, and UNB was hungry. The game was still close, but the Lady Reds triumphed. That left a rally-point fifth game in

which the Lady Reds demolished the Mounties. It was a fantastic moment for the Lady Reds, and Carla Mason won the AUAA player of the match.

The Rebels were not so fortunate. Last weekend's loss to the memorial seahawks all but mathematically eliminated UNB from post season play. Their only remaining hope lies in beating Dalhousie this weekend, and the probability of that happening is all but zero.

Both the Rebels and the Lady Reds will face the Dalhousie Tigers this weekend, starting at 5:00 pm Saturday. Although this spells doom for UNB's team, its good news for volleyball fans. Both Dalhousie mens and womens volleyball teams are exceptional to watch in action, they are talented and elegant, polished and powerful, and easily the best teams in the AUAA. So if you want to watch CIAU playoff calibre volleyball, be there and take it all in.

(Editor's note: In last weeks issue it was incorrectly reported that the Lady Reds had split a pair of games against St FX. That was not the case. The Reds won both matches, yet the AUAA stats office thinks they lost both.)

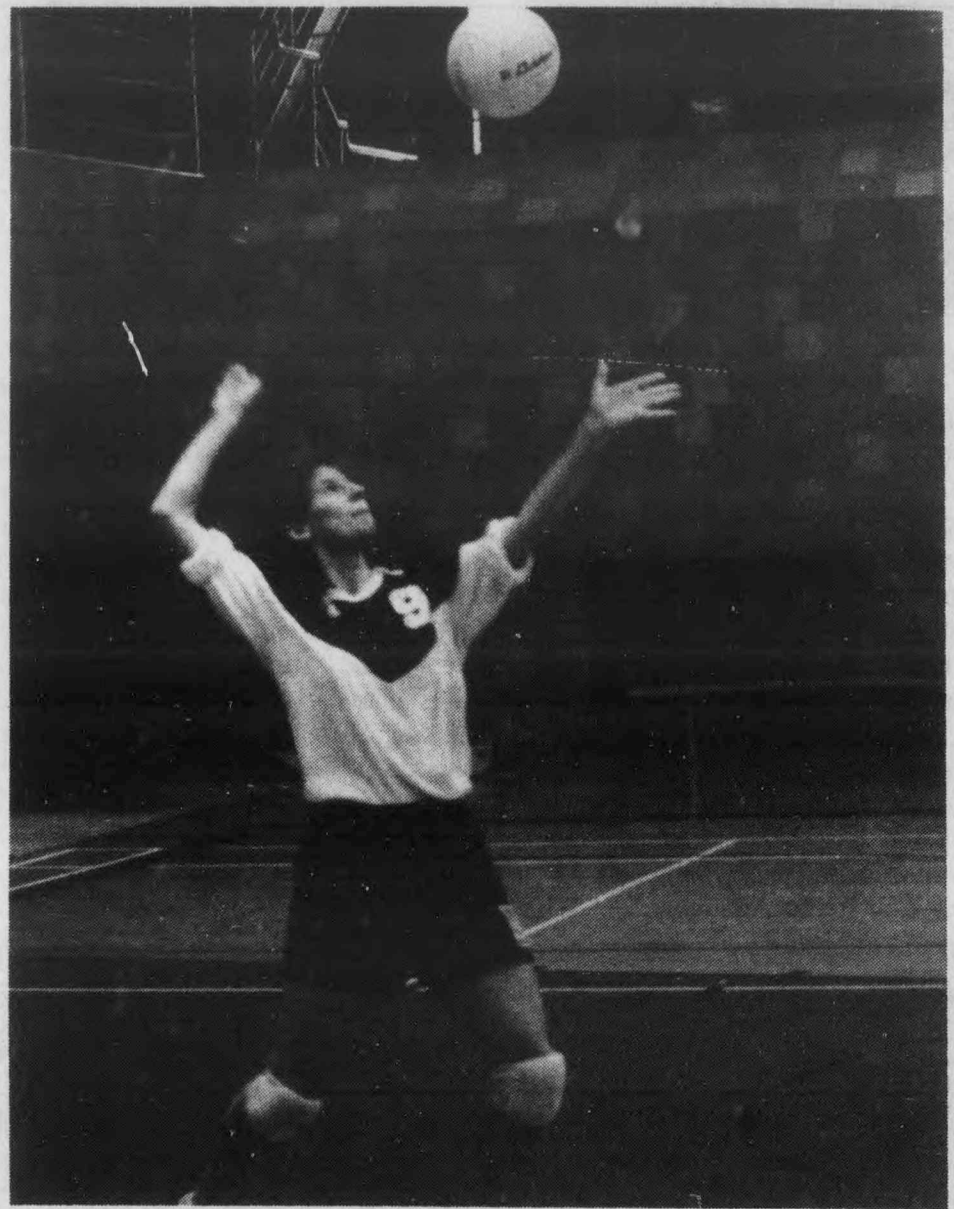


Photo by Kevin G. Porter

Reds Carla Mason had a strong game against Mt. Allison to earn AUAA Female Athlete of the Week honours

CIAU

National Standings Top 10

VolleyBall (M)

1. Calgary
2. Laval
3. Manitoba
4. McMaster
5. Winnipeg
6. Montreal
7. Alberta
8. Toronto
9. Dalhousie
10. Sherbrooke

VolleyBall (W)

1. Manitoba
2. Winnipeg
3. Saskatchewan
4. Laval
5. York
6. British Columbia
7. Calgary
8. Sherbrooke
9. Toronto
10. Montreal

Basketball (M)

1. Manitoba
2. St. Francis Xavier
3. Brandon
4. Brock
5. Guelph
6. Saint Mary's
7. British Columbia
8. Calgary
9. Winnipeg
10. Concordia

Basketball (W)

1. Victoria
2. Laurentian
3. Winnipeg
4. Toronto
5. Manitoba
6. Western Ontario
7. Lakehead
8. Laval
9. British Columbia
10. St. Francis Xavier

Ice Hockey

1. Acadia
2. Regina
3. Alberta
4. U.Q.T.R.
5. **New Brunswick**
6. Waterloo
7. Wilfred Laurier
8. U.P.E.I.
9. McGill
10. Tie- Saskatchewan
Guelph

Varsity-Mania Finale

(UNB - VM) Press Release

Next Thursday marks the last Varsity-Mania event of the year - the grand finale. The event will involve the UNB Red Devils in the opening round of the play-offs. This will be the first play-off game hosted by the Red Devils in six years. It also marks the last chance for all the residences to make a run for first place in the House Challenge.

The original scheduled event was to be the UNB Red Bloomers as they took on Memorial University on Sunday afternoon. The Varsity-Mania executive, along with the Athletic Department, agreed that to have a VM event and a possible third game in a best of three hockey series playing at the

same time could result in poor attendance to the basketball game. Darren Comeau, Varsity-Mania coordinator, said "We're not in a position to play the odds, because if we lost, we feel that it would hurt the event severely (basketball), so we changed it (basketball event)". The VM executive were upset that they would not be able to hold an event involving the basketball team, but hope to make it up to Coach Mitton and the team next year.

This isn't the only twist to the story. The VM executive don't know who the Red Devils will be playing against. Due to the N.B. "AA" high school basketball finals on Saturday 22nd the Aitken Center is not available, thus not

allowing UNB the opportunity to play game 2 at at the regular scheduled date and time. For more on this story see page 25.

None-the-less the event will still be one of the best. There is also a possibility they will be playing against STU. If this were to happen, there are predictions that the attendance could go over 2000.

Varsity-Mania is also in the midst of planning for next year. Meetings are being held soon to find interested persons to join the organization. Darren says that there are many positions available for students interested in joining the organization. He hopes that anyone who feels they can contribute will attend the upcoming general meetings.



Red Devils in action from last years playoffs against UdeM. Costa Papista blocking shot with Hugh Hospodar & Jim Landine on the wing.

Photo by Eric Drummie