Out in left field

by Paul Arsenault
Murray Nystrom

UNB Swimmers prepare for Championships

If you've ever been at the Sir Max Aitken pool at 6 am on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday then you've seen the UNB swim team ready for morning practice. Thirteen females and sixteen males make up the UNB swim team who, in two weeks, will be defending both AUAA titles.

The team is lead by rookie head coach Andrew Cole. Andrew has an extensive swimming background, in 1985 he held two CIAU records, and just missed qualifying for the Olympic team in '84 and '88. Despite losing three top swimmers from last year's team, Cole states "they have been forced to pull together as a team, their success this season has been a result of a total team effort". Andrew believes in producing quality swimmers and admits that both men and women will have their work cut out for them to defeat the large Dalhousie squad.

The men have been in a "dog fight" all season with the men from Dal. They split the two invitational meets this season, losing the last one by a narrow 246-235 point margin (points descend from 1st to 6th place). The UNB male swimmers have finished a constant second all season.

The Dal women is the team to beat; in the last invitational they tripled the score of the second place finisher. Coach Cole feels confident that the UNB women have a good chance of finishing either first or second in most short distance races. On the weekend of AUAA's, the team will focus on specific events. The UNB women have consistently finished 2nd or 3rd all season battling with Acadia.

"In every meet the team has increase their intensity" said Cole "and the quality has also increased". Every team has been gearing up for the AUAA's and the UNB team will be ready for the Challenge UNB does not presently have an athlete that has competed in the CIAU's, but this year four or five have a legitimate shot competing at this year's national Championships in Halifax.

Stresses Education

Coach Cole always stresses to his athletes that education should be priority. Although the team practices 7 to 9 times a week, emphasis is placed on academics. Andrew has two athletes that have attained 4.2 grade point averages, a satisfaction for any coach.

Varsity Mania included one swim meet this year, to which four to five hundred people came to watch UNB, Dalhousie and Sherbrooke. "The Calibre will be far and above that of the Dal-Sherbrooke meet" said Cole referring to the up and coming AUAA Championships. "Eight to ten athletes will have very good chances of qualifying for the CI's."

The AUAA Championships will be held at our Sir Max Aitken pool from February 15-17. Those who have never attended an AUAA swim meet will be pleasantly surprised. They carry high in intensity and generate a lot of excitement, especially the finals held each evening starting at 6 pm and ending between 7 and 8 pm.

We wish the UNB swimmers the best of luck in the AUAA's.

Can you believe that baseball's spring training is just over a month away? Hard to believe, it seems like the baseball season never ends, although for the money that ball players get paid they should put in a few more hours of work.

Former Red Devil hockey standout, now successful Ottawa businessman, Rob Beatty predicts that the Toronto Maple Leafs are going to win the Norris Division this season. . .Ben Johnson's coach quit this week, could it be that he didn't want to be blamed when Ben doesn't win the gold medal in Barcelona?. . .The Quebec Junior Hockey League beat the Ontario League, 11-7 in the annual all-star classic. Too bad the QHL can't win the Memorial Cup in May - since it is the only thing that counts in Canadian junior hockey. . .One of the saddest things in the world of hockey will happen very soon - The Maple Leafs will slip below .500 over the length of their storied history. Thanks Pal Hal.

Trivia

Name these old WHA franchises

1. Ottawa	7 Winnipeg
2. Houston	8 Toronto
3. New England	9 Birmingham
4. Vancouver	10 Cincinnati
5. Calgary	11. Cleveland
6. Minnesota	12 San Jose.

Last weeks trivia answer: Los Angeles Lakers; 1987, 1988

Beavers on the warpath

by Tina Tector & Christine Verhille

In Halifax this weekend, UNB showed the conference that they are ready for the fast approching AUAA Championships. The Beavers outclassed swimmers form Acadia, Mt. Allison and Memorial; with strong performances turned in by both the men's and women's teams. The Dal Tigers proved to be the only team at the meet strong enough to give the powerful UNB squad a run for their money. UNB and Dal dominated the men's events, fighting hard until the end, with Dal emerging visitors by eleven points. On the women's side, UNB gave it their best effort but finished a strong second to Dal, outdistancing the nearest team by twenty-five points.

The men's freestyle relay team of Phil Chaplin, Keith Dwyer, Paul Halmazna and Adam Sparkes, swam their heats and missed first place by four tenths of a second. The medley relay team consisting of Sean Penny, Jeff Roach, Mark Weber and Phil Chaplin also swam with fire in their eyes and again missed first by only a small margin. Individual swims for the men's team were also very intense. Keith Dwyer won the 400m freestyle, placed second in the 1500m free and fourth in the 100m backstroke. Phil Chaplin won both the 100m and 200m freestyle events and placed second in the 50m free. Sean Penny took first place in the 400 I.M., a second place for both the 100m back and 200 I.M. and a third place in the 200m backstroke. Jacques Chamberland won both the 100m and 200m butterfly and placed third in the 400m freestyle. Derek Smith took second place for the 100m and 200m breast stroke. Jeff Each placed third in the 50m freestyle and the 100m butterfly. Derek Desaulniers finished a strong third in the 400 I.M.

Meaghan Seagrave, who is UNB's athlete of the week, led the women's team and put in a superb performance by winning the 100m butterfly, 400 I.M. and the 50m freestyle. Shelley Wyand placed second in the 200 I.M. and fourth in the 100m breast stroke, swimming best times for both events. Angie Pickles came in a very close third place for the 100m backstroke and placed sixth in the 200m butterfly. Krista Daigle placed fourth for the 100m backstroke. Tanya Pitt put in a great performance in the 200m butterfly and the 800m freestyle. New additions to the team: Jo Seaburg, Becky Smith, Heather MacDougall and Jo Wymer contributed to the women's success and show a lot of potential for the AUAA's.

The Beavers dedication and hard work is reflected by the results of the weekend, out of all the races swum, 83% were "personal bests". When asked, coach Andrew Cole said with a big grin on his face, "It will be a very interesting AUAA Championship". The Beavers continue their gruelling workouts for the next two weeks, as they prepare to defend their title and the AUAA countdown continues.

LBR Red Eyes lose big time

Lloyd's debut overshadowed

by Dan Druff

Last Sunday evening was a sad time in the illustrious one year history of the Lady Beaverbrook Residence's co-ed hockey team, the Red Eyes as they suffered their most lopsided loss 13-1 to Maggie Jean residence.

The score however does not totally reflect the performance of the Red Eyes. It must be remembered that a goal scored by a female counts as 3 points compared to one scored by a male which is worth only one point. Maggie Jean as it turns out had 4 females score.

The only goal for the Red Eyes came off the stick of a guy who has played hockey for more years than any of his teammates. Known simply as "Gramps" he has continued to play despite being labeled "too old". Gramps admits it's tough playing "The game has gotten so much faster that I have a hard time keeping up. Playing for the Red Eyes makes me feel young again."

The old man's goal came after a pretty set up by Lisa Khoury who has been a constant workhorse since joining the team in the pre-season.

Maggie Jean was clearly the more talented team on the ice. They used their speed and accurate passing to wear the Red Eyes down. However many LBR players did not leave the rink without blaming themselves for their shoddy performance. Assistant captain Bob Hubbard took some of the Blame, "On Saturday, the night before the game, I got really wired and even managed to put my pants on backwards for the game. It was only in the third period that I realized. Next weekend, no drinking." said a sombre Hubbard.

The team's poor performance overshadowed the fine debut by right winger Janet Lloyd. Lloyd, a third year civil Engineering student from Saint John had a solid game on the wing and drew the praise of her teammates. Of her debut, Lloyd said, "It's nice to get it out of the way.. For the past month I've been preparing for the game both physically and mentally, but I now know the areas I have to improve upon and will do so for our next game."

After scouting their opponents last week, Susan Merryweather believes she knows what the difference was in the game. "Last time out we used a 2-1-2 defensive system effectively. Tonight we decided to go with a 5-0 offensive system which meant nobody playing defense. Our goalie, Matt Petrie today saw more rubber than a skunk on the Trans-Canada".

This Sunday the Red Eyes face a team composed of players from the Dunn and Harrison residences and are looking for a better performance. Game time is 5:45 pm.

Ed note: We welcome any submissions from intramural teams concerning a particular game or an entire season.

Varsity Mania hoping for big crowd

by Boner DaBone

The next Varsity-Mania event at UNB features hockey action at the Aitken Centre, when the UNB Red Devils take on their arch-rivals, the St. Thomas Tommies. This game is going to be the most heated on-ice encounter for both clubs this season. Historically, a long standing rivalry has existed between these teams, each new clash becoming more epic than the previous. This is only natural, because when your neighbour is your opponent, there is bound to be some friction. This can only translate into superb hockey action, not even to mention the tremendous rowdiness of the fans that accompany these events.

Varsity-Mania is billing this game as "The Battle for the Hill", a fitting title for one of such intensity. Be sure not to miss this classic confrontation between the UNB Red Devils and the St. Thomas Tommies. Varsity-Mania is expecting over 2000 to attend this Saturday, Feb. 2, 2:00 at the Aitken Centre. Join the tradition of winning at UNB.