

Women's Volleyball week round up

by Sheah Gaston

Last Week:

Last week, the Varsity Reds women's volleyball team hit the road after a weekend at home for a game in Moncton against U de M.

In case you forgot (or found your arms temporarily paralyzed and were thus unable to pick up a copy of the Bruns), UNB's fantastic record expanded when they defeated both Acadia and Moncton last week.

Having pranced all over U de M a week earlier, the women found themselves challenged this weekend with keeping their performance consistent. With the rest of the competition waging war against the Quebec teams in the completion of the AUS Interlock event, UNB focused their attention on just one thing for the weekend: a repeat win against the squad from Moncton.

UNB went into last weekend in first place in the AUS standings, and the drive to stay at the top drove them to two more wins and strengthened their resolve for their second game against Moncton.

Maintaining first place in the AUS, and fending off mediocrity, however, would prove harder than they guessed, and the game turned out like a bad beholding: successful, but not with one clean swing.

The game went in sets of 25-18, 23-25, 19-25, 25-22, and 15-9, proving that Moncton refused to roll over and die. UNB started off trailing 7-12. Coach John Richard opted to call a time out, during which he inspired his team to surpass U de M 18-6 to win the first set.

The second set also proved U de M's determination. It was back and forth, and in the end they went on a late scoreboard adventure and coming out on top of a 19-19 tie and winning set two 25-23.

Set three was all U de M; UNB missed seven serves (12 total in the match) and

had six attack errors (36 total in the match). UNB managed a to pick up the pieces late in game four to force a fifth game, which they took, escaping U de M with a pride-saving win. AUS Player of the Match was second year libero Jessie Yeates, who took over for Jane Pelc after the first two sets. She passed 2.25 on 20 attempts while digging 12 balls. Left-side hitting hero Erica Hay had 21 kills, and right-side powerhouse Christina Ross produced 15 kills and 21 points. Saint John's scoringest rookie, Jill Blanchard, had 11 kills, while third year setter Melanie Doucette played a Strong, supportive match, contributing 51 assists and 16 digs.

Coach Richard was once again pleased with a win, but the cracks in UNB's once concrete game disturbed him. "For the first time in a long time we were well below average offensively, committing 36 attack errors and hitting .140% for the match. Lately, we have been out hitting teams 'percentage wise'...

Tonight Moncton hit better than us, although we had more digs--so things were not exactly what you would have expected. They played so well and had so much energy and emotion in the middle of the match, we feel very fortunate to get out of their with a win."

As far as his players' skill, Richard remains thrilled despite his apprehensions about the team's overall performance.

"Jessie Yeates ... was very solid for us," he says. And Doucette? "Melanie Doucette may have been the best person on the floor once again."

The Varsity Reds will now host one of their biggest home matches of the year. The SMU Huskies, this year's defending AUS Champions, come to the LB Gym on Friday at 7 pm.

The following weekend UNB will go out on the road for their final regular season road trip of the season, playing at DAL on Saturday, February 3rd (3:00pm) and at UPEI on Sunday, February 4th (1:00pm).

by Mallory Tonner

UNB's Rock and Ice Club will be hosting the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour on February 2nd and 3rd. While the festival is the largest annual fundraiser for the club, the festival and the club connect at a much closer level than ticket sales. With its grass roots origins, expanding reputation, and praiseworthy reviews, the growth of the UNB Rock and Ice Climbing Club mimics the evolution of the Banff Mountain Film Festival--or perhaps vice versa.

Launched in 1976 as The Banff Festival of Mountain Films, the event blossomed and began touring in 1986. Today the Banff Mountain Film Festival visits 305 cities in 20 countries world wide and is one of the greatest independent film events of the year. Audiences can expect stunning international films on mountain themes like mountaineering, ice and rock climbing, kayaking, skiing, snowboarding and diff jumping. The festival uses video to highlight these mountain sports typically left unnoticed by mainstream media. By translating the beauty of the spot into an accessible medium, the festival gives millions of people the opportunity to be part of the "mountain world." No audience member leaves uninspired.

The same year the Festival was launched, a small group of people started the UNB Rock and Ice Climbing Club. Since its beginning in '76 the club has struck a balance between the indoor and outdoor components of the sport. Like the film festival, the building of the indoor wall created an accessible medium to introduce people into the sport and its culture. At the same time, the club maintains its outdoor roots with about four outdoor trips a year. Today, with more than one thousand annual users and two hundred permanent members, the club has initiated thousands of people into the climbing world.

In the late 90's climbing was perceived as a testosterone junkie, guy-with-shirt off sort of activity, an image that often made people feel unwelcome to the sport. "When the club was founded it had the radical, dangerous, and extremist stereotypes attached to it," explains club president John Bowles. "But with the development of safety, accessible

"We like that it is a community-based club and not just for students" says president Bowles. Bowles recognizes the benefits of the club's self-sustainability, which allows the executive and members to run the club as they see reasonable. Last year's renovations to the club included new flooring and a couple additions to the wall, while the

the climb-a-thon draws on the similarities between the climber and the falcon species, who can relate to one another through their love for cliffs.

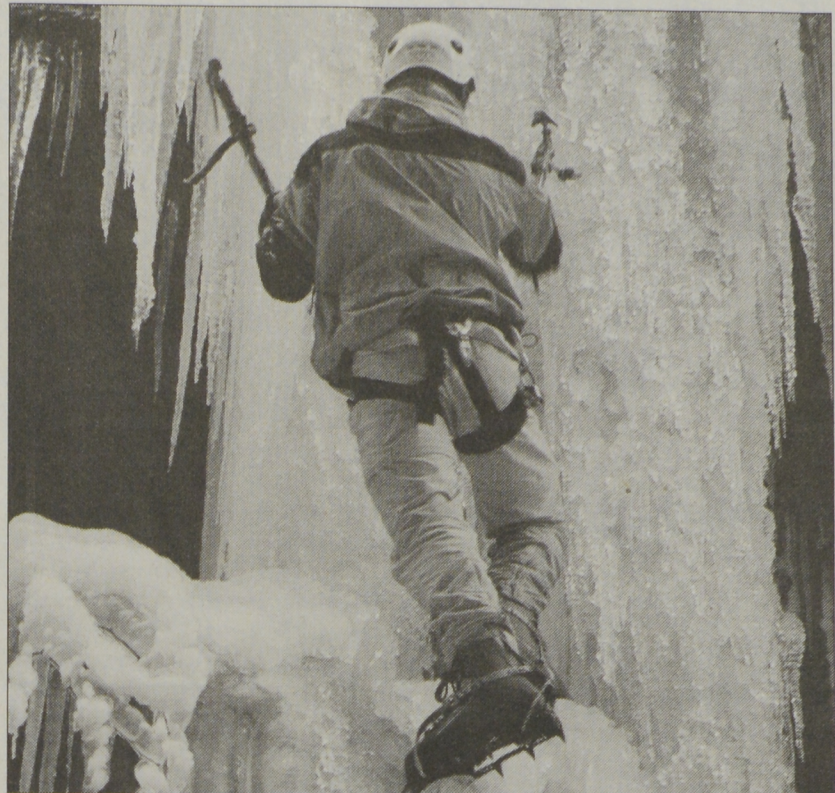
The club also holds four competitions each year, one of which will be the "Banff" competition, held on February 3rd, the last day of the Film Festival. Bowles expects about sixty competitors for the more "beginner-oriented" competition that has several prizes and supplies competitors with equipment. The routes set are kept secret until Saturday's competition, where competitors will be given four hours to count toward their five most difficult routes.

The second competition hosted this year will be the national series Tour de Bloc held February 10th. Competing will be some of the club's more experienced climbers, who, like many of the climbers featured in the Film Festival, are pushing the limits of the sport. Bowles, for instance, has been competing for five years and, as part of the national team, has travelled all over the world to climb. He is the first to point out that the best thing about the club is that it can bring new people into the sport and the best thing about the sport is that it builds self-confidence.

"At a certain level there is not a lot of room for error," says Bowles, "so you need confidence in yourself and you need to understand your surrounding and how to work with your surroundings. Climbing is all in the images. You can tell people over and over with words, but the Banff Film Festival gives you a visual for what you cannot explain."

And the UNB rock and ice climbing club gives audiences a means to get to the "unexplainable."

The Film Festival has two different showings on Campus in McLaggan Hall February 2nd and 3rd at 7pm. Tickets are available at Radical Edge and the Climbing Wall.



Internet

exposure, and a change in image ... a lot has changed." The biggest difference Bowles sees in the sport today is gender. "Today there are just as many women climbing at the club as there are men."

UNB's grassroots club has always been self-sufficient and makes most of its money through private bookings. Run entirely by volunteers, the club allocates the money made back to the club and the community.

programs sponsored by the club included girl guides, youth at risk, junior climbing, a four-week safety series, and an accredited University Kinesiology program.

New this winter will be a climb-a-thon intended to raise money to protect the endangered peregrine falcon. The club will be supplying their time, experience, monitors and equipment to allow the concerned group to raise money for their cause. The idea for

UNB athletes of the week

Week ending January 21st 2007

Vanessa Langille
Swimming
1st Year Arts
Fredericton, N.B.

Gold 200 Backstroke 2:27.99
Bronze 200 Butterfly 2:39.03

The UNB Varsity Reds hosted a double dual swim meet on Sunday against the Dalhousie Tigers and Mount Allison Mounties. Rookie Vanessa Langille swam to a gold medal in the 200m backstroke in a time of 2:27.99, a full 6 seconds faster than 2nd place Dalhousie's Bevan Haley (2:34.42). The Fredericton native also captured a bronze in the 200 butterfly with a time of 2:39.03. Vanessa was also member of the women's 400m medley relay team that finished 2nd behind Dalhousie.

"Vanessa has just come off her first UNB Christmas training camp and showed that she is set to see big results from her hard

work in training. Her focus and ability to pay attention to detail were tools that she used well today and will be great assets for her going in to AUS Championships and CIS Championships," commented Coach Paula Crutcher.

Davin St.Pierre
Men's Volleyball
3rd year Bachelor of Arts
Concurrent Education
Dieppe, N.B.

Greg Black
Men's Volleyball
4th Year Biology
4th Year Biology

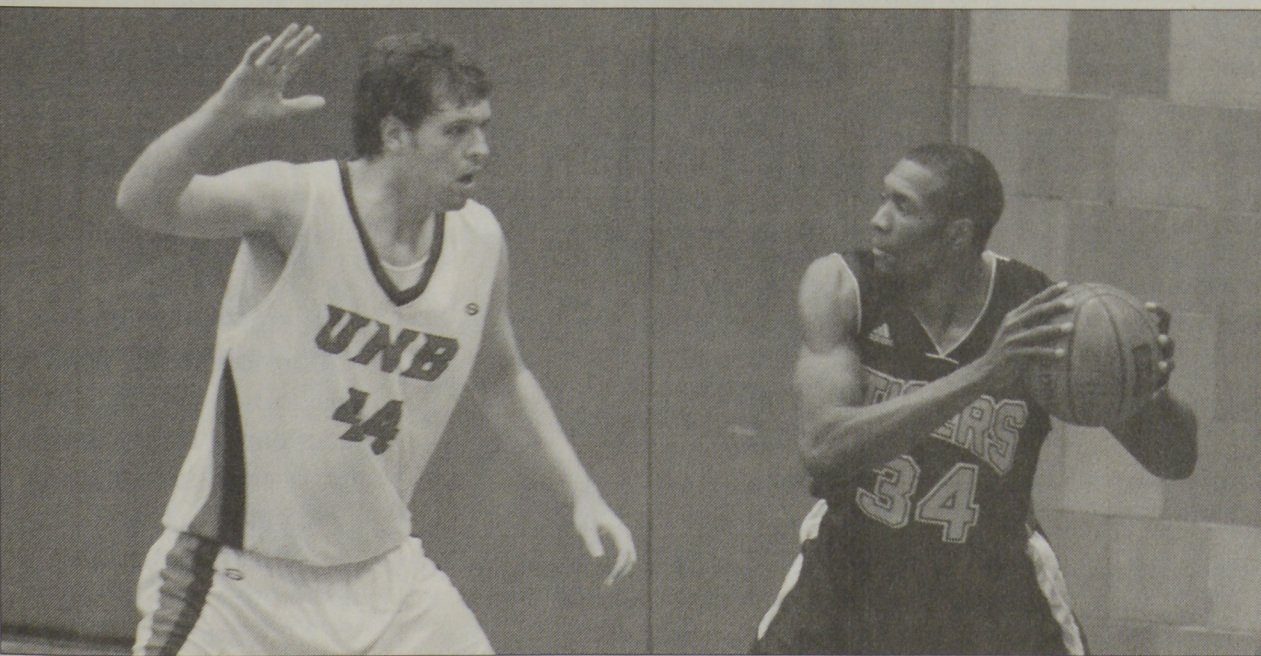
UNB 3 vs Laval 2, UNB 3 vs Montreal 1, UNB 3 vs Sherbrook 0, UNB 3 vs McGill 0.

Co-Captains Greg Black and Davin St.Pierre are this week's co-winners for the male athlete of the week award. Both athletes were outstanding in this weekend's matches at the QSSF-AUS

Interlock tournament in Quebec City. The Varsity Reds went an amazing 4-0 at the tournament, defeating the 7th ranked team in the CIS, Laval, along the way. This marks the first time in the program's history that UNB has defeated Laval, and is the best the Varsity Reds have done at the Interlock since its inception five years ago.

Black had an impressive 135 assists, 22 digs, 11 kills, 7 blocks, and 3 aces during the weekend, while St. Pierre led all seven teams with a crushing 65 kills (.385), 8 blocks, 21 digs, and 7 aces, in the four matches.

"What our team accomplished this weekend was phenomenal. It was great for our players and for the men's volleyball program as a whole. While we had terrific performances from several players, Greg and Davin were equally instrumental to our success in each of the matches, and both played the best of their careers to date," commented Coach Dan McMorran.



Jonathan Hudon /The Brunswickan

This just in... fans need girlfriends

ROLL DOWN THE HILL

Bruns Staff

This week's Roll Down The Hill centers on what has been dubbed the "Rorygate" scandal, which centers on a previously unnoticed NHL player named Rory Fitzpatrick. Fitzpatrick unwittingly became a legend when a couple of computer geeks decided the NHL's equivalent of an average joe should be voted onto this season's NHL all star team. Fitzpatrick's stats with the Vancouver Canucks aren't Gretzky material, but many fans want to see someone normal on the all star team who loves the sport as much as they do. Fitzpatrick had risen in the standings with outstanding rapidity thanks to a computer program developed to overcome the NHL's online voting system. The "Rory Vote-o-Matic" made it possible to bypass the system, voting multiple times in the same hour for the same player, which is how Fitzpatrick's stock rose so quickly. NHL administration decided turnout was fair

play, and dumped 100,000 of Fitzpatrick's votes. Now, the winners of the Roll Down the Hill may be difficult to suss out in all of this wrongdoing; that's because this award goes to all of them. ALL OF THEM. For perverting a grassroots movement into a sad computer geek masturbatory projection, and, on the flipside, for putting down that grass roots movement thanks to snobbish elitism disguised as concern for the league's welfare, we're stuffing them all into a garbage can with a computer and a mouse. The lockout was supposed to get rid of the whining crybabies, but instead inspired a new kind of crybaby on both sides of the argument. Guys, you all need to get a life.



What's on this week

Volleyball (W)
SMU @ UNB
Friday @ 7 pm. LB Gym

Basketball (W)
UNB @ DAL
Friday @ 6 pm. Halifax

UNB @ SMU
Saturday @ 1 pm. Halifax

Basketball (M)
UNB @ DAL
Friday @ 8 pm. Halifax

UNB @ SMU
Saturday @ 8 pm. Halifax

Hockey (W)
UPEI @ UNB
Saturday @ 7 pm. Aitken

Hockey (M)
UNB @ STU
Wednesday @ 7 pm. LB Rink

the
unbelievable
gnome
challenge

UNBelievable Gnome Challenge
...a new unb tradition and winter carnival event

Take the Challenge!!

You Gnome You Want To!!

We want to set free one Special UNB Gnome on the world and let it travel. The Special Gnome will be chosen from 20 gnomes released onto the UNB campus.

The Special Gnome will be chosen through a Contest that will see teams of students adopt a gnome and 'travel' with it in the UNB and Fredericton area. Photos of the travels will be submitted and posted on-line and then voted upon by the student body. Once a winning gnome is selected, it will begin its travels to hundreds of UNB alumni around the world.

A special web site will track the progress of our gnome and provide updates on its adventures.

For more information about the contest and how you and your team can adopt a gnome, go to:

www.alumni.unb.ca/gnome
(begins during UNB SU Winter Carnival - Jan 23-27)

Please direct any questions to:
Annette Wetmore in the UNB Associated Alumni Office
at awetmore@unb.ca or to 447-3218

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