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Tough weekend at Helen Campbell tournament

MITCHELL BERNARD
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Despite a strong effort in front of a home town crowd, the Reds weren't able to keep up with their opponents in their first three games of the season. UNB went 0-3 in weekend play at the Accreon Helen Campbell Women's Basketball tournament this past weekend. A tournament designed to give teams a look at their potential roster for the upcoming season, UNB used the games to work out the rust formed over the summer months.

In Friday night's action, UNB faced Cape Breton, a powerhouse in the Atlantic conference. Despite leading the match 20-18 after the first quarter, the Reds weren't able to keep up with CBU. Cape Breton notched 37 points in the second half en route to the 73-60 win over the Reds. Amanda Sharpe, a third-year Fredericton native led the way for UNB. Sharpe scored 25 points in the loss. Kari Everett was the top scorer for Cape Breton with her game-high 20 points.

On Saturday, the Reds came out stronger than their previous game. Facing the University of British Columbia, defending national champions, UNB put forth a strong effort. Leading 31-29 going into fourth quarter play, the Reds fell once again as UBC took advantage of UNB errors trimming the Reds in a 42-41 victory. Once again it was Amanda Sharpe who was the Reds top scorer. She notched nine points against the UBC. For the defending champs it was Candace Morisset who led the way with 14 points.

Fredericton native Devan Lisson was in action for the Thunderbirds. Despite an off-season knee surgery,



UNB will be looking to improve their play as they get set to host the University of Winnipeg in a three-game exhibition series this weekend. Action kicks off at the L.B. Gym tonight at 6 p.m.

Lisson saw 17 minutes of floor time against UNB.

In the final game of the tournament, UNB once again fell flat against their opponents. Lakehead controlled most of the play in front of the estimated 250 fans at the L.B. Gym on Sunday afternoon as they defeated the Reds 74-71. The Thunderwolves are coached by former Reds player Jon Kreiner. Shannon Vellinga led the way for the Lakehead Thunderwolves. She scored a game-high 15 points. For the Reds, it was Emma Russell who stepped up the play with 14 points. Russell is in her first season of eligibility with the Reds since being transferred

to UNB from Cape Breton last season.

Despite going winless in the tournament, UNB head coach Jeff Speedy still found some positives to take out it.

"It was our first three games of the season and we had six news faces - seven if you count our starting point guard, who was injured for most of last season. It was a good chance to gauge where we are and to see what we need to do in order to improve," said Speedy. "The girls are playing with a lot of passion and drive. I'm happy to see the effort put forward. There were compliments from fans about how hard the girls worked."

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of meshing everyone together and getting on to the same page. We've sort of changed our program to be about passion and hard work. They are just a great group this year and I'm really looking forward to working with them."

Next action for the Reds will be this coming weekend when they host the University of Winnipeg in three exhibition games across the province. The exhibition series begins tonight at the L.B. Gym at 7pm. The series will then switch to Carleton North High School for Friday night's game, and then again to the UdeM campus for

Saturday night.

Winnipeg is one of the powerhouses of the west and will be a great challenge for the Reds. It will be a chance for the Reds to step it up once again as they prepare for the upcoming season.

"One of the things we want is to continue to get better as a team. This weekend will be a great opportunity to play one of the better teams in Canada west. As well, it gives us the opportunity to play in some other communities where people don't normally get to see us. I guess it's almost sort of a goodwill thing, but it will definitely benefit us as well to play in other venues," said Speedy.

V-REDS RESULTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
UNB - 1
MONCTON - 3

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
LAKEHEAD - 49
UBC - 66

UNB - 60
CBU - 73

HOCKEY
UNB - 4
U OF MAINE - 5

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
CBU - 67
LAKEHEAD - 73

UNB - 41
UBC - 42

HOCKEY
UNB - 7
U OF MAINE - 6

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
CBU - 62
UBC - 72

UNB - 61
LAKEHEAD - 74

UPCOMING V-REDS EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
U OF WINNIPEG @ UNB
7:00 P.M. @ LB GYM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

MEN'S BASKETBALL
UNB @ ST. FX
6:00 P.M.

SWIMMING
TBD @ UNB
6:30 P.M.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
U OF WINNIPEG @ UNB
7:00 P.M. @ C.N.H.S

HOCKEY
UNB @ UPEI
7:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

SWIMMING
TBD @ UNB
10:00 A.M.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
TBD @ UNB
12:00 P.M.

WOMEN'S SOCCER
UNB @ UPEI
1:00 P.M.

MEN'S SOCCER
UNB @ UPEI
3:15 P.M.

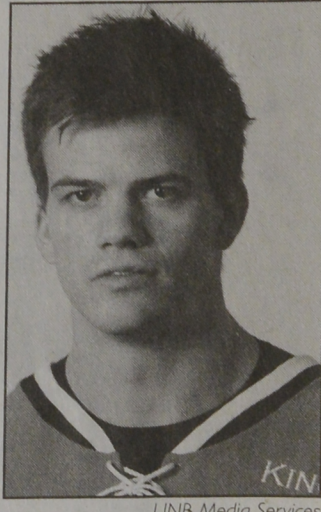
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
U OF WINNIPEG @ UNB
6:00 P.M. @ UDEM CAMPUS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

SWIMMING
TBD @ UNB
10:00 A.M.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
TBD @ UNB
12:00 P.M.

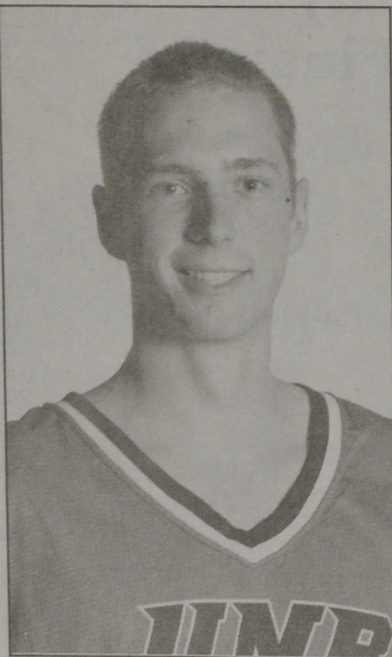
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Kyle Bailey
Hockey
Forward
2nd Year
Ponoka, Alberta

One-on-one with...

Matt Durdin



Sport: Men's Basketball
Yr: 1

Why did you choose UNB?

I chose UNB because I like the small feel of the campus. Coach Brent Baker was also a huge factor for me coming here. I also wanted to be a part of the big turnaround in the Varsity Reds men's basketball program.

What is your desired profession?

Athletic therapy, a medical doctor, a strength trainer, or a coach.

What are your pre-game rituals?

I listen to my iPod - a great pump up song is Flashing Lights by Kanye West. I'll go over our game plan, run over the sets in my head, and remember to have fun, because that's why I play the game. I enjoy it, its fun!

Emma Russell



Sport: Womens Basketball
Yr: 1

What is your personal goal this year?

To be an academic All-Canadian, and be in the top three in the league for foul shooting percentage.

What is your pet peeve?

When people snap/crack bones in their body.

Why did you choose UNB?

I love the campus and facilities, the community of Fredericton, and the girls on my team, coach, etc.

What are your pre-game rituals?

I always listen to an Alexisonfire song.

Who was your childhood idol?

Lisa Leslie

Defending Champs look to repeat

BRANDON MACNEIL
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The UNB Cougars baseball team is heading back to the national Championships. After an emotional Atlantic Division final over the weekend, UNB has earned its third consecutive visit to the national tournament.

"It feels great every time," said Phil Brown, a third year veteran. "We set a goal at the beginning of the year to defend our title. We didn't want to sneak in as a wildcard. We wanted to win the Atlantic division. We achieved our goal and it feels amazing."

After sweeping the Dalhousie Tigers in the Atlantic semi-finals, the UNB Cougars awaited the winner of the other semi-final. ABU and St. Mary's battled it out, exchanging wins in the first two contests. In the last game, Saint Mary's narrowly defeated ABU, earning a spot in the finals.

Despite losing game one of the finals to Saint Mary's, UNB stormed back with two dominating victories, to take home the best-of-three series.

In game two, Pete Shaw pitched a complete game, allowing only one run on five hits, while striking out three hitters. Riverview, N.B.

native Kyle Keeping had a strong game offensively, batting in two of the team's four runs.

In the third and final game, Jake Waugh pitched a three-hitter while striking out six to lead the Cougars to a 6-0 win. Saint Mary's ace was pulled from the game in the fourth inning, with what Norris Philpotts considered "a flat fastball." Nick Cameron led UNB at the plate with two singles and a double. Philpotts continued his strong season and had a very strong weekend offensively. When asked about the run support he received in the final game, Waugh couldn't be more thankful of his teammates.

"It's fantastic. The boys came through with small ball," he said. "They played basic fundamental baseball and all I needed to do was go out and throw it across the plate."

The scene now shifts to McGill University in Montreal, the host of this weekend's Nationals. The tournament is compiled of six teams, including the three division champs, the host, and two wildcard positions. The Lafleche Dragons reined victorious out of the Northern Division, while the Durham Lords were crowned champions of the Ontario Division. Rounding out the competition is the host McGill Redbirds, along with the two wildcards from

ABU and the St. Claire Saints.

UNB's coach Mark Clark said before the season that his team will be a national contender come October, and he's sticking to his word. "I knew this team would do some damage this year," he said, after winning Atlantic.

"We have a solid core back from last year, and that will definitely help this weekend."

Although they have lost some key leadership roles from last year, certain Cougars have stepped up when they had to. Being a returning veteran, and having been to Nationals twice already, Phil Brown knows how important leadership is.

"We lost some key leaders from last year, but some of us have stepped up into that role. Last year's experience will definitely help us because we know what it takes. Last year everyone was on the same page and focused, and that's how you win championships."

UNB begins play in Montreal on Friday afternoon when they square off against McGill. On Saturday they are set to play division rivals ABU, before finishing the round robin versus the St. Claire Saints. Semi-finals and finals will be played on Sunday. To track the Cougars' progress this weekend, be sure to visit the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association website.

the brunswickan.

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