

# Wind wreaks havoc on V-Reds weekend

UNB draws tie against Acadia, but lose to CBU at home.

JOSH FLECK  
THE BRUNSWICKAN

UNB faced tough competition this past weekend when they hosted the number two ranked CBU Capers, and the Acadia Axewomen, who were previously in the CIS Top 10.

On Saturday, with a very strong wind in their face, UNB had a hard time controlling the play against Acadia. If it weren't for the play of UNB's back line and Keeper Jackie Fitt-Ryan, UNB would have fallen behind very early. But with the help of the wind, Acadia was turning free kicks from just inside the half into quality shots.

As the game grew on, UNB settled down and played with more control and poise. After several minutes of back and forth action, UNB controlled outright until the end of the first half. Despite their efforts, UNB was held scoreless, and went into the half 0-0.

At the half, UNB coach Andy Cameron was pleased with his team's play. "Considering the strong wind in our face, 0-0 is a good result," said Cameron.

UNB took the momentum they had at the end of the first half into the second and ran with it. They controlled the play and for their effort, they were rewarded with several opportunities to open the scoring. If it weren't for that ever pesky post and crossbar combination UNB would have held a 2-0 lead.

UNB maintained all the pressure until the final few minutes when



Sandy Chase / The Brunswickan

UNB fights for ball possession during weekend play at Chapman Field. The Reds now have a week to rest as they prepare for the final stretch of the season.

Acadia came so close to taking the lead - but again Fitt-Ryan was there to thwart all efforts. For all her hard work, Fitt-Ryan was named player of the match.

The game ended in a 0-0 draw. On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, things weren't about to get any easier for UNB, as they played the defending CIS champions the CBU Capers. As was the case in Saturday's match, UNB started out a little flat-footed against the Capers, but were bailed out by their solid defensive play.

CBU controlled the play and applied a lot of pressure whenever UNB would touch the ball, which resulted in a turnover and a CBU goal in the 33<sup>rd</sup> minute. That goal seemed to take the life out UNB as CBU continued to apply pressure and looked as though they wanted it that much more than UNB. Thanks to the solid play of Fitt-Ryan, the game remained 1-0 into the second half.

The story in the second half was no different than the first. CBU looked every bit the champions they were last year. If it wasn't for the

stellar play of the defence, the score could have ballooned. The defence did a good job of limiting CBU to outside shots which were easily handled by Fitt-Ryan. Whenever a CBU player did break loose, it didn't seem to phase the UNB keeper as she turned away every chance on her way to another player of the match. UNB eventually lost the match 1-0 to CBU.

The Reds will now have a few weekends to rest, as their next action will be on Oct. 18 when they travel to PEI to take on the Panthers.

## Why do we bother to watch sports?



VIEW FROM THE  
SIDELINES

Tony  
von Richter

I love sports, and always have. For as long as I can remember, sports have been a big part of my life. First watching and playing, to now writing about and studying them, there has never been a time when sports haven't been important to me.

Up until last week though, I never stopped to think why I consider sports to be so important.

On the surface, it seems absurd. Rather than focusing on things that have a direct effect on our lives, sports fans spend an inordinate amount of time watching people put a puck into a net or hit a ball with a stick.

In fact, many of us will spend hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars for this privilege to watch other people exercise.

Why do we do this though? It can't be solely for the entertainment value, as there are hundreds of other forms of entertainment that are cheaper and easier to access than sports.

Is it because we look up to the athletes and individuals involved in the games? Somehow I doubt that it's more often than not these days were confronted with stories of athletes acting out and not behaving as one would like their public figures to behave.

Often times when watching or reading current sports coverage, I wonder if we're really covering sports at all, and I'm reminded of a quote said from one sports anchor to another on Aaron Sorkin's Sports Night:

"Look, I got into this 'cause I liked getting people to like sports. And I've turned into a P.R. man for punks and thugs. Any atrocity, no matter how ridiculous or hideous or childish, it doesn't matter. I make it sports."

That quote from actor Peter Krause's character was first broadcasted ten years ago this month - and if anything, the state of the sports world has only worsened.

Instead of stories about thrilling come-from-behind victories and tales of late round draft picks overcoming the odds and becoming all-stars, we're presented with stories about DUIs and

athletes being convicted of assault or even worse crimes.

Why do we support these teams and athletes then? If one of the prevailing opinions about sports is that it is filled with nothing but "punks and thugs" as Krause's character says, then by spending time and money on sports aren't we just encouraging this kind of behaviour?

I don't think that we are, and that's because the vast majority of people that are involved with sports are good people that just happen to have their careers play out in the public eye. We usually only hear about the poor behaving athletes because they are the exception to the rule and the nature of the media is to report on the extraordinary, not the everyday routine.

If it's not purely for entertainment value, and it's not because we look up to the athletes, then why do we invest so much time into sports?

I think that it's human nature.

That may seem like an outrageous statement, but as long as there have been people there has been some form of sport or athletic competition. Whether it's in organized events or simple play between children, there are elements of sports that are ingrained into us and sports are how we exercise these elements of our personalities.

Since sports have always played a somewhat important part in human history, especially the development of different societies, it really bothers me when people marginalize sports.

In the grand scheme of things, of course sports aren't as important as things like national defence and healthcare issues. But I think that we are far too quick to dismiss the importance of sports in our society.

This attitude is surprisingly prevalent in the sports media, and I think it comes from a desire to be seen as not taking ourselves too seriously; that we realize there are more important issues than sports in the world.

Like I said above, there are certainly more important things than sports in this world. However I think that sports is a much larger part of our culture that we sometimes believe it to be.

It's time to stop pretending that sports don't matter. They do. As long as we keep them in perspective we should celebrate the good parts of sport, and give them the proper respect and attention they deserve.

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