

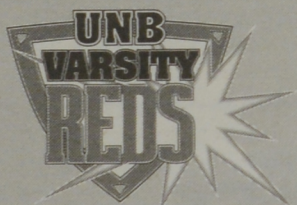
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Reds, Huskies set to meet in AUS finals



File / The Brunswickan

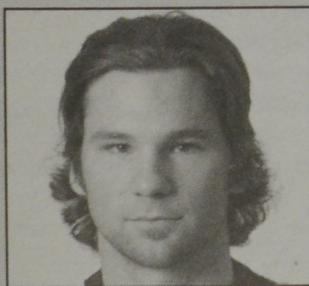
The UNB Varsity Reds are set to defend their AUS championship title this weekend when they face the Saint Mary's Huskies in a best-of-three final, kicking off this Friday. Due to the AUS receiving the wild card this season, both teams will have already advanced to the CIS Championships, hosted in Thunder Bay, ON.



VS

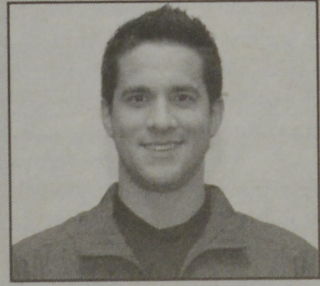


1st	AUS Placing	2nd
24-4-3	Record	20-7-1
3-0	Playoffs	3-1
134	Goals for	135
67	Goals against	90

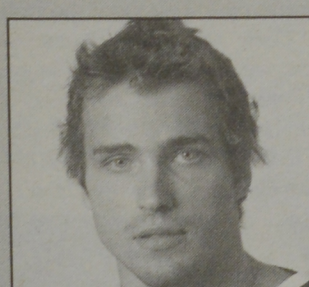


Hunter Tremblay
50

Who's hot?



Marc Rancourt
57



Travis Fullerton
3-0
.940
1.29

Between the Pipes



Brandon Verge
3-1
.914
2.57

Playoff Record	3-1
Save percentage	.914
GAA	2.57

MITCHELL BERNARD
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Reds, Huskies to meet in AUS finals

After sweeping the Acadia Axemen in the AUS semi-finals last week, the UNB Varsity Reds will now advance to take on the Saint Mary's Huskies in a rematch of last year's final.

This past week, UNB claimed 5-2, 1-0, and 3-2 victories over Acadia, who upset St. FX in the quarterfinals to earn their chance to take on the Reds. Saint Mary's took four games to knock off UdeM in their semi-final series. It was a hard-fought battle for the Huskies, with three games finishing within a one goal margin.

Last season, the Reds and the Huskies met in the AUS final. It took two overtime meetings, but the Reds got the job done, winning the best-of-three series 2-0 and advanced to the CIS championships in Moncton, NB.

This year, CIS championship qualifying is now complete as, thanks to the AUS receiving the wildcard slot in this year's tournament, both the UNB Varsity Reds and Saint Mary's Huskies will represent the AUS at the championships, slated to take place March 26-29 at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ont.

It won't be an easy one for the Reds - SMU took the season series 3-1 and have been a tricky opponents for UNB all season. Despite this, UNB head coach Gardiner MacDougall said it's going to be a normal practice week for the Reds. He touched on the importance of the Reds' special teams, including their powerplay and their penalty kill, in order to fend off the pesky Huskies.

UNB will look to goaltender Travis Fullerton to continue his strong playoff performance.

Fullerton, a native of Riverview, N.B., has currently taken over the starting goaltender role for the Reds, posting a 3-0 post-season record with a .940 save percentage.

The series is set to kick off this Friday when the Reds host SMU at the Aitken Centre at 7 p.m. Game two will go on Sunday in Halifax at 7 p.m., and if game three is required, it will be played at the Aitken Centre next Wednesday.

Dickie talks down MAINEiac discussions

It's not a done deal. In fact, it's not even close. According to UNB athletic director Kevin Dickie, there haven't been any noteworthy discussions as of yet between the University of New Brunswick and the Lewiston MAINEiacs.

"We met with them last Monday and it was just a courtesy visit," said Dickie. "The good people from [Lewiston] wanted to discuss things with us, and in the end, it just took on a whole different level the next day when their president decided to express his thoughts on the possibility."

Over the past few weeks, it was reported that discussions between the Lewiston MAINEiacs and the University of New Brunswick have taken place over the possibility of a partnership for the upcoming season. The deal would allow the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League franchise to move to Fredericton next season, sharing the Aitken Centre with the UNB Varsity Reds.

The franchise in Lewiston has been struggling over the past year. Currently, they are in a tight squeeze as team owner Mark Just is searching for an area to relocate the team. After being denied approval to move the franchise to Montreal, Just says that Fredericton is his only choice to move the team.

There are a number people in the Lewiston organization who have a connection to the Reds. Former V-Reds head coach Don MacAdam is now the head coach of the MAINEiacs, president of the V-Reds Prospects program Roger Shannon is the head scout for Lewiston, and their goaltender coaching, Reg Bourcier, is a former UNB goaltender.