

Out in left field

by Paul Arsenault
Murray Nystrom

Not since Mario Lemieux was playing for Laval Titan, has there been such an interest in a young hockey player as there has been in Eric Lindros. In fact, both Lindros and Lemieux resemble each other. Both are big, smooth skaters with cannons for shots. Both can do it all - both have been labelled as lazy at times. (On Monday night Lindros "lazily" scored three goals in a win against Niagara Falls). There seems to be one big (ger) difference between these two. Lemieux at 26, or so, and his team (either Pittsburgh or even Laval) has never won a championship. Lindros, on the other hand, who is still a month short of his eighteenth birthday is already a proven winner. He had just turned seventeen when he joined the Oshawa Generals and helped them win a Memorial cup. When Lemieux and his junior teammates went to the Memorial Cup tournament in 1983 at Kitchener he disappeared. Laval finished last. This year, Lindros helped Canada's junior team win the world championship in Saskatchewan. Lemieux refused to play for Canada as a junior. If you were an NHL General Manager, who would you rather have to build your team around? It is a good bet that Eric Lindros will drink champagne from Lord Stanley's bucket long before "what's-his-name" will.

Grant Fuhr is without a doubt one of the best masked men in the game. Fuhr, who admitted to using drugs, was suspended for one year by NHL president John Ziegler. He was scheduled for reinstatement after six months. Last Monday it was announced, Fuhr would be able to return to hockey on February 18, 1991, six months later. Was it any surprise that Fuhr's appeal would be granted. After all Ziegler made his mold by reducing Bob Probert's sentence of being banned from hockey for drug trafficking.

Ziegler has made it clear that he will not impose severe penalties regarding the use of drugs in the NHL. How can Johnny Ziegler continue his fight against drugs if he doesn't have the guts to stick to the hard line punishment needed to eliminate the drug problem in the National Hockey League.

The five probable team names for the UNB Athletic Program (JB keep this for future reference)

- UNB Sparrows
- UNB Squirrels
- UNB Flying Seagulls
- UNB Mad Hatters
- UNB Status quo (*most probable)

Trivia: What team did current Portland Trail Blazer, Danny Ainge, play for before breaking into the NBA with the Boston Celtics?

Last week's answer: WHA FRANCHISES

- Ottawa Nationals
- Houston Aeros
- New England Whalers
- Vancouver Blazers
- Calgary Cowboys
- Minnesota Fighting Saints
- Winnipeg Jets
- Toronto Toros
- Birmingham Bulls
- Cincinnati Stingers
- Cleveland Crusaders
- San Jose - Did not have a team

Athletes of the month Female

Third year guard Jill Jackson, of the Red Bloomers, has been named the UNB Female Athlete of the Month. Jill played a key role in propelling the Red Bloomers back into contention during the second half of the season.

Jill's offensive stats have been impressive since the break as she has averaged 16 pts. per game and leads the Red Bloomers in assists. Jill also leads the AUAA in free throws made with 30. Along with her fine offensive performance, Jill has maintained a "solid defensive effort," says head coach Claire Mitton.

Coach Mitton feels that "Jill has come of age, as she has been one of the main reasons for our steady improvement; as guard her offensive selection has been outstanding."

Jill is a third-year Education student from East Riverside, New Brunswick.

Male

Goaltender Chris Somers, of the UNB Red Devils, has been named UNB's Male Athlete of the Month. Chris has anchored the Devils on top of the MacAdam division with four solid goaltending performances. Chris's first start of the month stopped the visiting St. Fx X-men, allowing four goals as the Devils won the shoot-out 9 to 4. His second win of the month came at a crucial time as the team had been struggling, but the Devils rebounded behind his solid goaltending to

nip the STU Tommies 4 to 3. His final win of the month came against the SMU Huskies as he allowed just one goal to lead the Devils to a 4 to 1 victory.

Head Coach Mike Johnston feels that "Chris has had an outstanding second half, winning three of four starts and allowing us to remain in first place. For our team, goaltending is a key in a league and division as tight as ours."

Chris is a fourth year BBA student, from Summerside, PEI.

Both the male and female Athletes of the Month will receive sweatshirts donated by Moosehead Breweries.



From left-right: Carl Burgess, Moosehead representative; Jill Jackson; and Chris Somers.

Blazers pleased with results

Although they only had a tie to show for two home games against the Colby College Mules, the UNB Red Blazers came away satisfied with the weekend's action.

Game one was at the Aitken Center Friday night. The Blazers carried the play to the Waterville, Maine squad in the first period, the result was a 1-0 lead after one. Josette Babineau scored on a setup by Cheryl Campbell.

In the second frame, Babineau put UNB up by 2 before penalties opened the door for the Americans. Back to back minors resulted in a pair of powerplay goals by Heather Hamilton. The teams exchanged goals late in the period, Hamilton scored for Colby, April Jost for the Blazers.

The goalies took over in the third period, Dina Cloutier of Colby in particular as UNB roundly outshot the visitors. Rookie Traci Miller was equal to the task at the other end as both kept the door closed and the game ended 3-3.

The second contest went Sunday afternoon and started much the same as UNB came out of the gate fast to get the only goal of the first period as Jost scored on passes from Karen Whalen and Karla Gillis. The Colby team finally took the momentum in the second period as they took the lead for the first time on the weekend with goals by Julie Collard and

Scottie King two and a half minutes apart. With UNB seemingly on the ropes Whalen scored a big goal in the periods waning moments to pull the Blazers into a tie.

The see-saw weekend came down to the final frame. The Red Blazers got the jump when Babineau stuck in the early going, but fundamental errors late in the game cost UNB the game. Collard tied the score when she was left unattended on goalie Nicole Breaux's doorstep. Then a blown faceoff assignment with 35 seconds left gave Collard a free pass to the goal which she converted for a 4-3 final in Colby's favor.

Despite the unfortunate final score Blazer Coach Mike Power was happy with his charge's effort "We easily could have won either game, and to be honest we were playing as good a team as we will see this season. Colby practices five days a week, they arrived on a big Trailways bus, hell we share a hallway closet with a Hostess Munchie costume and that's it. With our recreational league we practice once every two weeks. The Americans treat Women's hockey with a lot more respect than Maritime universities, so really we aren't competing on a level playing field so to speak, kind of ironic what with hockey being our game." Power went on to say that the weekend was a successful test for some of the Blazers' rookies, "Traci Miller, Alison

Dicaire, Lisa Khoury, and Karla Gillis, really stepped forward and played well, we knew about experienced first year people like Josette Babineau and Heather Kyle, but after this weekend, we have a real bright future."

The Red Blazers get this weekend off before hosting the University of Maine at Orono, next week.

MOOSEHEAD Varsity Schedule

Friday, February 8

Volleyball(W) Mt.A at UNB
AUC 8:00pm

Saturday, February 9

Hockey UNB at DAL
Basketball(W) UNB at MUN
Basketball(M) UNB at MUN
Wrestling Orono Open

Sunday, February 10

Hockey UNB at Acadia
Basketball(W) UNB at MUN
Basketball(M) UNB at MUN
Volleyball(W) UNB at UDeM

Wednesday, February 13

Basketball(M) UNB at UMPI