

Nicholson up for a layup vs. the Panthers.

## Raiders get split in Nova Scotia

By JOHN GEARY

Last weekend, the UNB Red Raiders travelled to Nova Scotia, for a pair of games against traditional basketball power houses, the St. Francis Xavier X-Men, and the St. Mary's University Huskies. And, the Raiders came up BIG, in both games, losing by 9, 87-78, to St. F.X. Friday night, and then pulling off one of the biggest upsets in Raider

history Saturday, downing the Huskies 67-63.

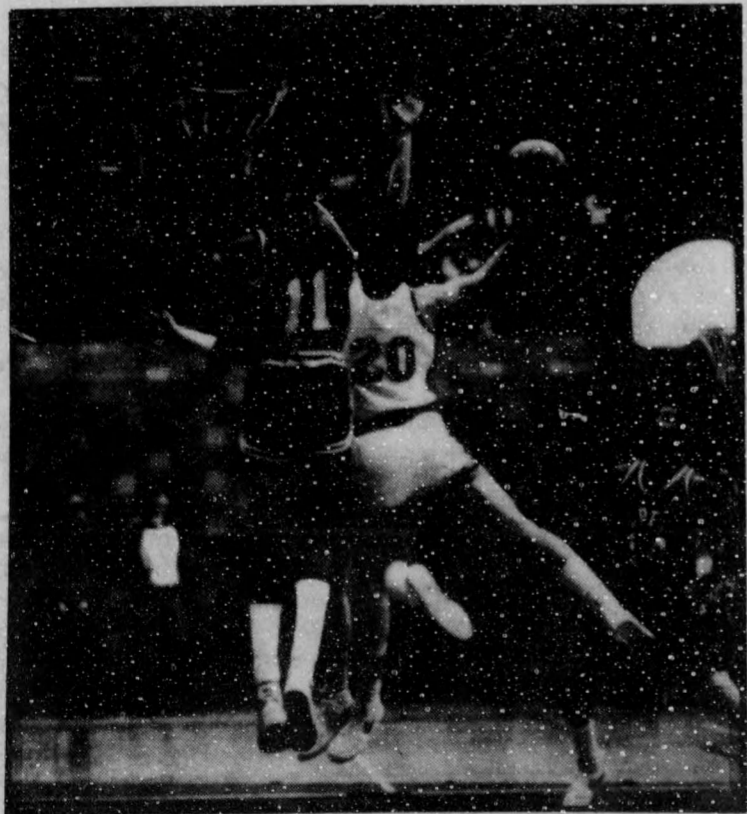
Going into Friday's game against the X-Men, Raiders' coach, Don Nelson felt that if his team was going to get a win on this trip, it would be in that game. However, UNB got off to a slow start against X, but still managed to stay close with a late first-half spurt. So, after a less than satisfactory performance, the Raiders trailed only by 7 at the half. Once

again, they began slow in the second 20 minutes, but pulled to within 3, with just three minutes left in the game. They were then assessed a technical foul, and that seemed to take the wind out of their sails. "It wasn't the deciding factor in the game," commented Coach Nelson, "but it seemed at that point that we lost any momentum we might have had."

One might think that after a disheartening loss like that, in a game which they thought they could win, the team might get so down that they would get blown away by St. Mary's. That was not the case, though. "We know now, we believe we can play with anybody," said team captain Scott Devine. "We're a veteran team, and we pulled ourselves together. We know we have an opportunity to do something this year, and we're not going to let it fall apart now."

The Raiders got off to yet another slow start against the Huskies, but again, they played well enough to keep it close. Devine pumped in a shot with no time left on the clock to pull UNB within 1 point at the half. Then, they started the second half with a bucket to take a 33-32 lead, and were either tied, or led SMU the rest of the game, and went on to record their first win ever at St. Mary's. A bit of glory of that victory dissolved the next day though, when they found out the UPEI Panthers had dumped SMU 78-71. "It did take a little bit of steam out of our win," added Devine, "but it doesn't really matter. Our destiny is in our own hands, and the Panthers still have to beat us twice. If we play the type of basketball we're capable of, we should be there."

With that split, the Raiders now stand at 4-5. They are taking a break from AUAA action until Wednesday February 2, when they travel to Sackville to play the Mt. Allison Mounties. This weekend, they host the University of Maine-Presque Isle at the Beaverbrook Gym, at 3:00 p.m.



Devine driving the lone against the Panthers.

# Expressions

By MARK SAVOIE

The Express are beginning to show that on the road they are just another team. In fact, as of late they have been bad, playing with a record of one win, seven losses, and two ties over their last ten road games; the exact opposite of their first ten road games. This brings them to a record of eight wins, eight losses, and four ties for 20 out of 40 possible points on the road.

For most teams a road record such as this would stand as a success, or at least not a disappointment. But when a team is playing as well at home as the Express are, a mere .500 record on the road becomes a disappointment, if not a failure.

Why then, does the Express play so well at home as compared to on the road? After all, a difference of 29% between the home record and the road record is too large to be considered as being merely the regular home-ice advantage. Is it then the dimensions of the rink? Does the Aitken Centre help the Express the same way Fenway Park helps the Red Sox? No, hockey does not work that way. Only the Boston Bruins are helped by their rink, as the small ice size of the Boston Gardens allows the less than fleet Bruins to force their slow checking style of play.

The reason for the Express success at home is the fans. The Express have been blessed with the greatest outpouring of affection I have ever seen from the normally said Fredericton public. This is what drives the Express players towards giving near super human efforts while out on the ice. Let's face it, the much talked about 3-3 tie against Moncton probably would have ended as a humiliating loss had it been played in Moncton. What I'm basically trying to say is that you Express fans can pat yourselves on the backs.



Richard David: The kid is hot tonight.

## N.B. selects Cross Country Ski Team

The cross country discipline of the New Brunswick Division of the Canadian Ski Association has selected the team that will represent the province at the Canadian Winter Games in Lac St. Jean, Quebec.

Among the men, Albert Leger of Caraquet who is a student at Harvard University in Boston was preselected due to his consistently strong performance in national events over the past five years. He is the

only team member who competed at the previous games in 1979. Joining Leger on the

men's squad are University of New Brunswick students Brian Flood, Bjorn Roth and Eric Oliver. All three have competed in several national championships. Flood was the outstanding performer in team selection races. Roth was a bronze medal winner at the national junior championships in 1979.

The women's squad is younger, but three of the members have had previous national championship experience. They are lead by high school students Tanya Wolstenholme of Fredericton and Marlene Arsenault of

Moncton. Wolstenholme was the 1982 provincial juvenile champion and she had the best provincial results at the national junior championships. In 1982 Arsenault was runner-up to the provincial junior girls champion and she also placed well at the national junior championships. UNB student Jennifer Preston the 1982 provincial junior womens champion and Maia Lushington of Balmora complete the team.

The team is coached by Grant Mitchell of UNB Fredericton and Della Rioux of Grand Falls is the manager.