

# SPORTS

Deadline for stories is Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. Sports Desk 453-4983

## Bloomers second at McGill tourney

by Bruce Denis

While many AUAA women's basketball teams were resting on turkey dinners over the holidays, the Red Bloomers were hard at work in Montreal at the McGill Martlet Invitational Tournament.

A second place finish to the experienced University of Toronto Blues will provide them with confidence for tomorrow's game against St. Mary's and Sunday's game against Acadia. The games should be challenging as St. Mary's and Acadia lie 3rd and fourth in AUAA standings.

Their first game against the Bishops Gaiters provided lots of Christmas presents for all the girls as the Bloomers waxed the Gaiters 98 to 34. However, after 7 minutes of play the Bloomers lead was only 3 points. They went on to score 18 unanswered points and finished the half ahead 51-16.

Kara Palmer led UNB with 24 points and Jennifer Hale followed closely with 20. Both players shot well throughout the game helping the Bloomers rack up the points.

Their second game saw the Bloomers run into some stiffer competition with the Dalhousie Tigers as their opponents. The Tigers played excellent defensive basketball and displayed some dazzling offense inside with guard Jennifer Clark providing most of the show despite her 5' 4" height.

At the 10 minute mark of the first half Dalhousie led UNB 20-16. Jackie Fliieger came to rescue for the Bloomers as she tied the score at 20 two minutes later and then proceeded to hit two consecutive three pointers but that was all the Tigers defense would allow as the half ended with Dalhousie ahead 37-34.

UNB managed to tighten up their own defence and key shots were made by Jill Jackson and veteran Tracy Lordon as the Bloomers went ahead for good at the 8 minute mark leading Dalhousie 50-48. A three pointer by Kara Palmer with two minutes to go opened up the dead lock and UNB finished with a 67-59 victory and a trip to the tournament finals. Excellent games were played by Kara Palmer, Jennifer Hale, Jackie Fliieger and guard Jill Jackson.

The final game, played against Toronto, was centered around one player; The Blues' Denise Scott. At 6'4", she stood four inches above the rest of her opponents. The National team member is one of three players on leave from the team, placing her education ahead of basketball. The

Bloomers wished she had stayed with the National team as she totalled a tournament high 26 points leading the Blues to the championship after beating UNB 74-67. The Bloomers played excellent basketball and capitalized when Scott was not on the court. Palmer and Hale earned

places on the tournament All-Star team as UNB was the only school to have two players selected.

Tomorrow's game against St. Mary's begins at 6:30 pm at the LB Gym and Sunday's Varsity Mania game against Acadia gets underway at 1:00 pm.



The Red Bloomers are hoping to sweep SMU and Acadia this weekend at home

## Red Raiders host Acadia and St. Mary's

by Anand Irrinki

After a relaxing Christmas break the Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium will come to life this weekend when the UNB Red Raiders host both the St. Mary's Huskies and Acadia Axemen. On Saturday the howling Huskies play UNB at 8:00 pm, while on Sunday the Axemen play UNB at 3:00 pm as the second half of a Varsity-Mania double header. The Raiders hope to play with renewed confidence after finishing second at the recently held Irving Golden Ball Classic tournament.

Last weekend the Raiders travelled to Saint John to play in a 4 team tournament. The Raiders opened up against the St. Francis Xavier X-Men who were ranked number one in the country and were also undefeated. UNB proved to be a thorn in the flesh of X-Men as they wound up pulling off a monumental upset by virtue of a 61-60 score. Andy MacKay led the way for UNB with 14 points and was named game MVP. UNB led by a comfortable margin until the final one minute of play. By virtue of good shooting and sloppy ball handling by UNB, St. FX almost stole the game.

Unfortunately for them, Brian Lee's shot with under five seconds remaining did not make it and UNB preserved a victory. While the Raiders victory may seem tainted, because St. FX was missing all Canadian 6'9" Richard Balla, this is not the case. A team is not made of one player and the Raiders upset shows promise of things to come. Steve Konchowski, the coach for the X-Men, showed his class when he yelled things (see Bobby Knight) at the Raiders at the end of the game. UNB hosts St. FX February 1, at 8:00 pm and this in one game you don't want to miss.

UNB faced Husson College Braves of Maine in the final. The game was nip and tuck thru the first half. UNB held a halftime lead of 40-36, but then Husson put it in overdrive outscoring UNB 42-20 in the second half. Thus, Husson won the game and tournament defeating UNB 92-72. Alex Kidney led the way for the Raiders with 30 points and was named to the tournament all-star team. All in all the Golden Ball Classic was just what UNB needed. They gained some needed confidence by defeating St. FX and by playing two games have

gotten back into game condition.

This weekend UNB faces the toughest one-two punch in league action. On Saturday they face 6th ranked St. Mary's. St. Mary's features Fredericton native Richard Sullivan as well as two possible all-stars in William Njoku and Brian Thompson. On Sunday the Raider host 7th ranked Acadia. Joe Walker from Saint John plays for the Axemen who also have a league all-star, Kevin Lee. Sunday's game with Acadia is the first time Varsity-Mania will be on hand to lend support to the Raiders. Both games are free to students and with UNB fresh off its upset of St. FX, these are two great reasons to attend this weekend's games.

After a long vacation two basketball games are a perfect way to rejuvenate your school spirit. So, drop down by the Pit (LBR Gym) on Saturday and Sunday and you're guaranteed to have a great time.

### Basketball weekend schedule

Saturday

6:30pm St. Mary's vs Red Bloomers

8PM St. Mary's vs Red Raiders

Sunday

1 pm Acadia vs Red Bloomers

3pm Acadia vs Red Raiders

All games at the LB Gym

### Athletes of the week

Kara Palmer of the Red Bloomers is the female Athlete of the Week. Kara scored 63 points and had 29 rebounds in the McGill Tournament. She was deservedly named a Tournament All-Star for her part in UNB's victories over Bishop and Dalhousie. UNB narrowly lost to Toronto in their final game. Kara's hard work is starting to pay off as she scored from both the inside post position and perimeter position. This has made her very difficult to defend. Kara is a 4th year Physical Education student from Perth Andover, NB.

Trevor Boland of the Red Devils is the male Athlete of the Week. Trevor was a major part of UNB's victory at the Viking Cup International held at Camrose, Alta. He scored a total of 7 goals in four games; 3 goals against the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, 2 goals against Camrose Lutheran College, and 2 in the final game against the soviet Junior Selects (Community of Independent States). The 1st year Physical Education student from St. John's, Nfld. was also named to the Tournament All-Star Team.