



BY  
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All eyes will be on Albertville next Saturday as the Olympic Games open up to a world wide audience. The games this year have a definite, distinct look. The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe will allow a unified Germany to compete for the first time since 1936. The Soviet Union is no more, so who knows who will show up from that part of the world. When you consider what is going on politically around the globe the Olympic Games' 100th anniversary in 1996 has the potential to be the most exciting and politician free since Pierre de Coubertin established the modern games in 1896. The winter and summer games will also go under a scheduling change after this year. The next winter games will be in 1994 and then alternate every two years with the summer games. Why is this, you ask? Can you say-television revenue?!

#### 10 Gold Medal Predictions for the Winter Olympics

1. At least 5 events will be cancelled due to poor weather.
2. If you watch Olympic highlight on U.S. television you will think that the U.S. was the only country competing.
3. Eric Lindros' name will be mentioned daily.
4. Athletes will constantly be quoted as saying how they always wanted to compete in the Olympics.
5. Athletes will constantly be thinking of how much money they can make if they win the gold medal.
6. American hockey telecasts will mention the 1980 Lake Placid gold medal win too many times to keep track.
7. Canada will do really well in the demonstration sports.
8. Drug testing will be extremely popular.
9. Everyone will wonder what happened to Eddie the Eagle and the Jamaican bobsled team.
10. The Olympics will end just in time for spring training!

Wayne Gretzky is only eleven points out of the top spot in the NHL scoring race, with 28 games remaining, and yet he has publicly stated that he is contemplating retirement because of his play. If that is the case, what is everyone else's excuse? It sure proves the standards to which Gretzky sets for himself in the game which he has dominated like no other. Certainly over his career he has played with the consistency which is hard to match - even by himself. Now 31, he is on the long downside of a great career but nowhere near the retirement level. A mediocre Wayne Gretzky is worth much more than a healthy Mario Lemieux, who has still been unable to take over the label of the leagues most dominant player. . . Have you noticed that over the past few years in the NHL, particularly since expansion became eminent, that there are more and more 30 year old plus players staying in the game. Could it be that they are waiting for the money and sun of Tampa? . . . Mike Gartner of the Rangers had to have been the quietest 500 goal scorer in League history . . . Some UBC students went down to Washington University and stole the Rose Bowl trophy to bring back to Vancouver - it was eventually returned.

Now to the really serious part . . .

When professional sports teams are having financial troubles one of the immediate resolution is to change the team uniform. This solution only touches the tip of the iceberg. How much extra revenue will this generate? There are two things a professional sports team needs to be financially successful: (a) a winning team and (b) audience demand for that sport. The Montreal Canadiens will never find themselves in financial trouble because they're a winning team, Quebec city is only 2 hours away. The same hold true for the Washington Red Skins who have been sold out since 1492. The Toronto Maple Leafs are a good example of a team who has audience demand, they haven't won a Stanley Cup since 1967 but the people of Toronto want to see NHL hockey and have proven that they'll pay for it.

How can a professional sports team create any atmosphere or team pride, if every season they change colors. The Vancouver Canucks changed their logo three times in the last ten years, from fair, to horrible, to just fair, and they are still having trouble.

The L.A. Kings changed colors, that's not what made them more popular in L.A., its number 99 don't kid yourself. What brought up this subject you may ask? It was the announcement that the New Jersey Devils are changing their colors to red, black and white, and do not know why? . . . because in the eyes of the team's executives the colors are more attractive and more marketable.

One other thing has bothered me since Christmas and this is NHL teams wear the dark at home and lights on the road. Why you may ask? I really believe that my parents finally understand that the game is being played at the home of the light colored team! Yea-ha.

**Trivia:** Which is the only country to hold both the winter and summer Olympics yet not win a gold medal at their own games?

# Bloomers confident heading to Maine

By Peter West  
Bruce Denis

The Red Bloomers lady basketball team seem to be pulling out of the rut which knocked them out of first place 2 weeks ago. They won their second game in a row last Saturday beating St. FX 96-66. Today the Bloomers are off to Husson College in Maine to play an exhibition game which will prepare them for the remaining 4 regular season games.

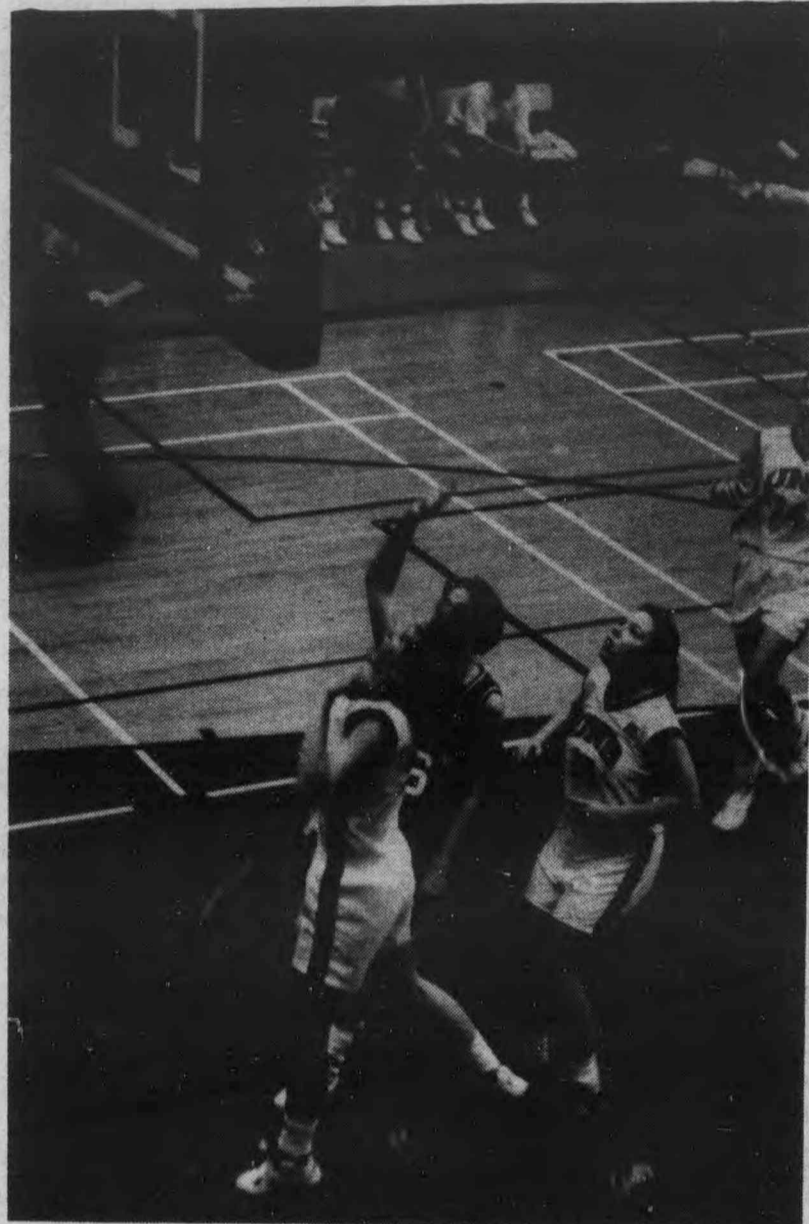
Sunday's game against Dalhousie was cancelled due to the weather and has been rescheduled for Monday, February 17 at 5:00 pm in the Main Gym.

The Bloomers stood as tall as the recent snowfall against St. FX, shutting down their offense and capitalizing on their own offensive opportunities.

Jill Jackson netted 2 free throws to put UNB ahead 26-13. St. FX's Donna Barton used her height to provide the necessary offense to stay within reach of UNB. However, the Bloomers out hustled St. FX and finished the half ahead 48-26.

St. FX opened the second half with a quick 4 points. Good work between Jackson and Jen Hale, put UNB up 64-38 after only 5 minutes. St. FX could not organize their offense even after a time out 41 seconds later. Two 3-pointers by Jackie Flieger and one by Jennifer Hale helped UNB secure a 30 point lead midway through the second half.

St. FX held UNB to only 5 points in the last 5 minutes, denying them the elusive 100 point mark. Two free throws by Shannon Hickey with 16



The Red Bloomers have rebounded from a late season slide to get right back in the playoff picture

Photo Kevin Porter

seconds to go, rounded out the scoring for UNB as the Bloomers went on to win 96-66.

The Pepsi player of the game was Jill Jackson who netted 14 points and captained the Bloomers offense throughout the game. Jackson also earned UNB female athlete of the

week.

The Bloomers are now tied for second with St. FX in the AUAA standings. Their schedule includes a must game against first place UPEI, their final home game against Dalhousie, and two final games in St. John's against Memorial.

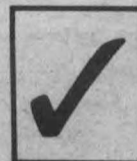
The Red Bloomers game against Dalhousie that was supposed to be played last Sunday has been rescheduled for Monday February 10 at 5 pm in the Main Gym. The men's makeup game against Dal will be played following the Bloomers.

## THINKING OF CHANGING FACULTIES???

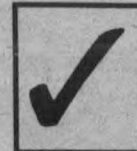
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