

SPORTS

Blazers go down in defeat

By RON CAMERON
Brunswickan Staff

Going into last weekend's fifth annual UNB Invitational Tournament coach Mike Power of the Red Blazers womens hockey team announced that he was looking for the tournament to answer some questions about his team. Some of the answers Power got were not what he expected.

The Blazers started off the three day affair at the Aitken Center with high hopes of repeating their championship of a year ago, however, by the time of the first day of play wrapped up UNB was in trouble, after the second day they were out of the running.

The tournament got off to a good start with UNB Intramural director Shirley Cleave doing the honors in the ceremonial face off. The first game had the second seeded Blazers against the forth seeded Dalhousie Tigers.

The host team came out of the gate flying and were up 1-0 on a Lori Bertin goal the 1:32 mark. UNB kept up the pressure but couldn't add to their lead.

It was the second period that spelled the fall of the Blazers and quite possibly started a tailspin that took them out of their own tourney. The Tigers started scoring at the 2:46 mark and kept it up for just under fourteen minutes as they rang up five unanswered goals. Bertin notched her second goal of the game before the period ended to narrow the margin to three, but the game was over as neither team scored in the third period.

In the only other game on opening night the P.E.I. Spudettes edged Moncton 3-2.

If UNB was to get back into the first place race they would now have to beat the first seeded Spudettes. In a very entertaining game which saw lots of rough up and down hockey, they saw

that possibility go down the drain when held to a 2-2 tie and that only because the Blazers scored twice in the last five minutes to pull out a point. Sandy Ward and Rose Pothier got UNB's goals.

The most emotional game of the day was the last one. To have any hope at all of being in the medals UNB now had to defeat provincial rival Moncton, who were themselves in contention for first place.

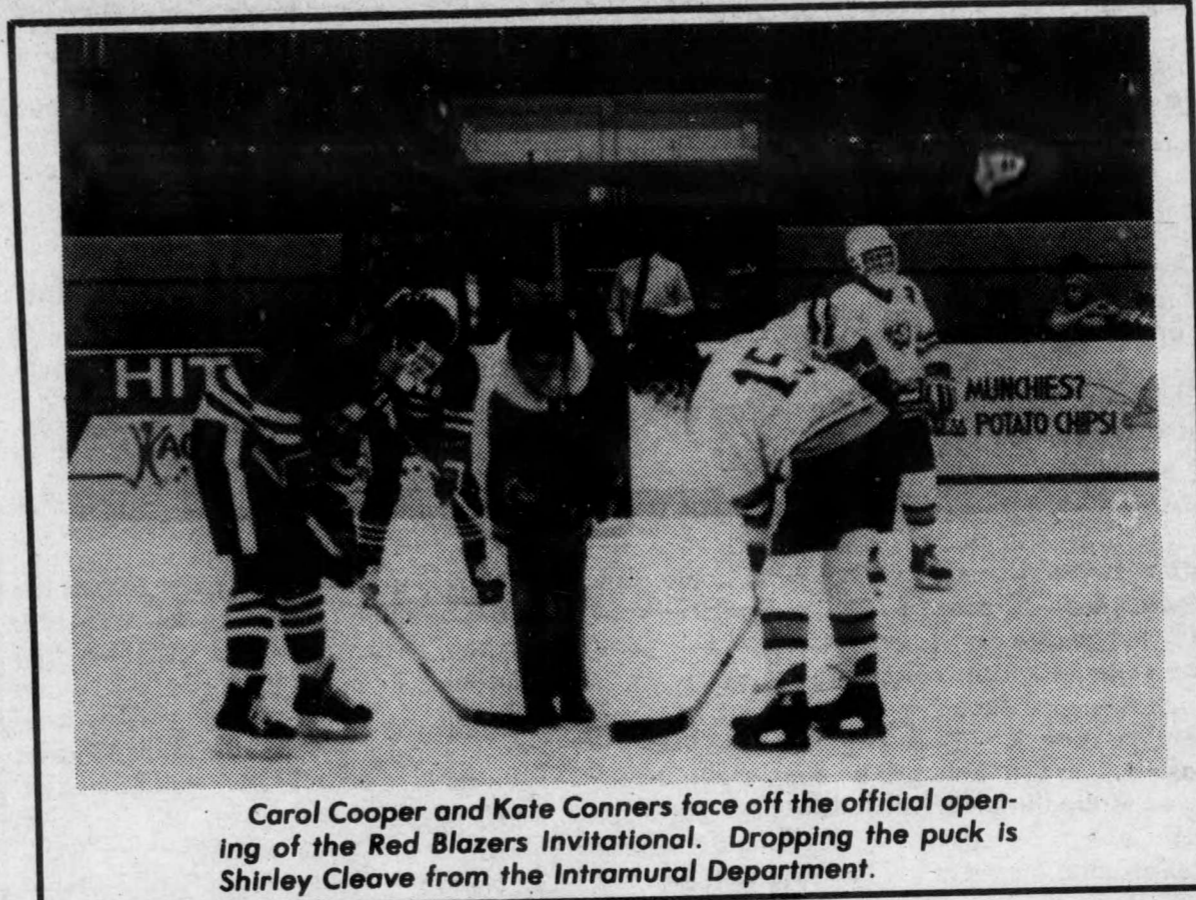
The Jaguars scored with two minutes left in the rough first period, then managed to keep the Blazers bottled up for the rest of the game. Both teams handed out some bone crunching checks and sticks came up at times as time ran down and frustrations built. UNB's Anne Campbell rang a puck off the goalpost with three minutes to go in the game but Jaguars Anne-Marie Levi kept everything else out as the 1-0 score stood as the final.

On the last day of the tournament UNB won a meaningless game with Tignish PEI 6-3. Chantel Gionet and Diane Leblanc scored a pair of goals in the win, while Rose Pothier and Cathy Dickinson had singles.

In other play the Jaguars saw their chances to gain a berth in the final come to an end when the surprising Tigers held them to a 2-2 tie. The Hub City girls did take home third place award however.

The one game final game was a match between the top-seeded Spudettes and the under-rated Tigers. The PEI girls by luck of the draw were put into the position of having the final the second straight they played having just dumped Tignish 7-1.

The game was a well played end to end affair, and surprisingly, when over, it was the Tigers who had run out of gas, as they gave up three goals in the last four minutes of



Carol Cooper and Kate Conners face off the official opening of the Red Blazers Invitational. Dropping the puck is Shirley Cleave from the Intramural Department.

the game to lose 4-1. For PEI it was the second time in three years they walked off with the tournament crown.

Following the game Cathy Collins the first cap-

tain of the Red Blazers returned to UNB to present a most valuable player trophy named in her honor for the very first time. The winner was Spudette captain Audrey Wallace.

The Blazers now return to their schedule of exhibition games in order to

prepare for the Molson Classic tournament in the first week of February.

Letters to the Sports Editor

Dear Sirs:

Before Christmas I was playing intramural hockey for the Civil Engineering team. On our last game before the break, we failed to get the required 10 players to show up. Under the intramural rules, we defaulted the game. I've got no problems with that. What burns my ass is that the head of the league decided that the default was our second, so they kicked us out of the league. Again, if that were true, I wouldn't have any complaints. But we didn't have two defaults.

Back in September, our manager missed one of the first organizational meetings. This was two months before the schedule started. The convenor decided that missing that meeting was an equivalent offense to not showing up for an actual game. When we actually did default a game, as did several teams, that was our second offense

and out we went. I think the reasoning sucks.

Kevin Wilkinson

Dear Paul:

Please make certain to bring your treasurer with you at the Aitken Centre on January 29th at 11:30 a.m. I mean this as a friendly advice as I would hate to see you running back to your office after the second period of the hockey game.

By the way, our supporters will be happy to out-number and out-shout the few that your team will get out that morning.

Truly,

Pierre Grandmaison
Engineering Undergraduate
Society

The Winter Badminton Tournament will begin on Monday, January 30th at 8:30 p.m. for men and women singles and doubles only. Bring a friend and register now at the Recreation Office, L.B. Gym from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Entry deadline is on Friday, January 27th. So hurry up....

The following are the winners from the fall tournament:

Men's Single: Berni Russell

Men's Double: Rutus McKillop and Don McKillop

Women's Single: Sharon Wood

Women's Double: Sharon Wood and Cathy Carpenter

Mixed Double: Michelle and Donat Arsenault

CONGRATULATIONS!!