

Hoop title goes to Nova Scotia

By DAVID MOMBOURQUETTE

It was getting so bad that people were starting to think B.C. stood for Basketball Country. Referring of course to the stranglehold British Columbia teams have had on national basketball championships over the past few years, the west coast hoop teams having won everything from men's and women's collegiate crowns, to Junior and Senior events.

Well all that came to an end on Saturday, as the Nova Scotia Red Fox upset the B.C. Kirby's Clippers, for the National Senior Women's Championship, here at the L.B. Gymnasium. The road to the victory was anything but easy though, as the N.S. girls had to go to overtime to secure their upset victory, a 57-56 outcome.

And what of our own N.B. Keddy's Senior Women squad? Well although the girls did not come away with the gold, they did manage to finish in the medals for the third year in a row, defeating a game Alberta team for the Bronze medal, a repeat of last years third place match.

The N.B. team, composed mainly of Red Bloomer greats of the past few years, was able to overcome the prairie squad 72-61, after leading the western visitors by only one at the half. N.B. was led by Claire Mitton with 22 points, and Coleen Dufresne with 16. Coleen also happens to be the coach of the Red Bloomers.

The Keddy's team reached the third place game after round robin victories over Quebec and Manitoba, and

losses to both the N.S. and B.C. teams. Clair Mitton, the most consistent N.B. player all week, felt good about winning the medal, "but wish we had a little more". Claire admitted that her team had problems on offence against the stingy B.C. and N.S. defences, saying, "I think we were trying to force it too much".

When the N.B. team had finally left the court, the tournament got down to it's serious business, the championship game.

With two teams so similarly matched as to talent and style, a good final was ensured, but nobody expected it to turn into the classic that it did. Both teams had great shooting guards and aggressive forwards, and it quickly became obvious that neither team would run away with the title.

The first half was dominated by some great outside shooting by both teams, N.S. picking up 14 points from Carol Rosenthal and 8 from Patti Hutchison, with B.C. relying on guards Sargent and Huband who picked up 11 and 6 points respectively. Neither team was able to hold much more than a two point lead during the half, and not surprisingly it ended tied 30-30.

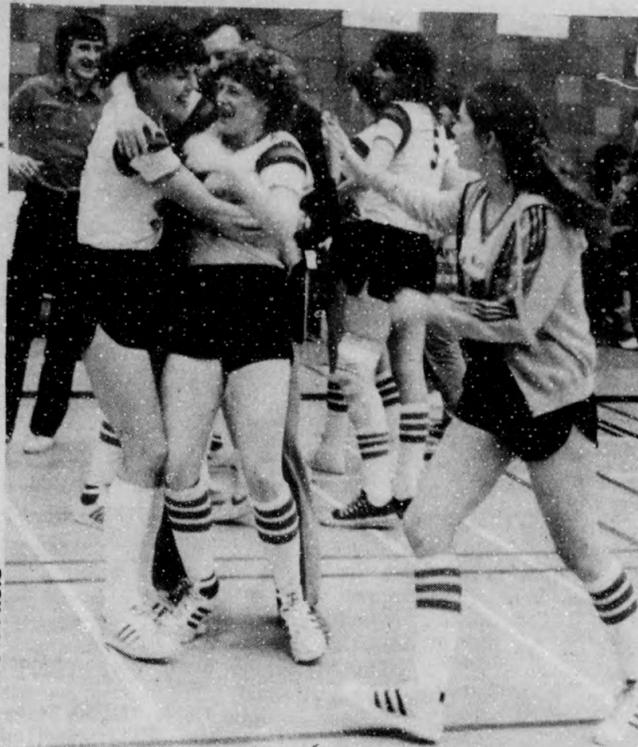
It took only a few minutes for everyone present to figure out who the players were in the classic matchup that took place in the second half. For N.S. Rosenthal scored 10 second half points, most in the early going, and B.C.'s Gail Klaver matched her point for

point, scoring her team's first eight of the half. With both team's playing so well, it was only inevitable that the game would take more than forty minutes to complete. Debbie Huband ensured that when she scored with only a few seconds remaining to tie the score at 52, after N.S. had been leading by two.

The overtime was marked by intense defense, with the scoring amounting to a total of 5 points. With N.S. leading by 3, Huband scored to cut it to one, and had a chance to give B.C. the win when Kathy McPherson stole the ball and the title from the defending champs.

It was an absolutely ecstatic Carol Rosenthal who took honors as the games top scorer, and a tournament all-star, summing up the way everybody felt, "What a game"!

Overall the tournament would have to termed a great success, in no small part due to the organizers and workers involved. With virtually everyone returning to the Keddy's team next year, N.B. might just be able to help keep the title in the Maritimes.



GREIG MORRISON Photo

We're Number One: Members of the N.S. Red Fox celebrate after their victory over B.C., in the National Senior Women's Basketball Championships.

Red Blazers off to Nationals

The UNB Red Blazers Hockey team will be representing New Brunswick at the 1st National Women's Hockey Championship in Brantford, Ontario, April 1-4, 1982. They will be competing in the two division round robin tournament against representatives from each Canadian province. UNB is in a division with Newfoundland, Alberta, Quebec



UNB RED BLAZERS: Front, l to r. Debbie MacLoon, Dorothy MacFarlane, Diane LeBlanc, Anne Marie Levi, Mary Walton, Chris MacLoon, Rose Pothier. Back, l to r. Howie Myatt: Coach, Kathryn MacDougall, Cathy Dickinson, Paul MacDonald, Carmella Levi, Lori Bertin, Carol Cooper, Mary Lu Heckbert, Lynn Gauçette, Carol Allport, Claude Pothier; Assistant Coach. (missing: Sandra Ward).

and Manitoba. Teams in the other division are PEI, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. UNB games scheduled in the round robin are Thursday, April 1; UNB vs. Quebec at 12:00 and UNB vs. Newfoundland at 6:00 p.m. On Friday, April 2, UNB plays Alberta at 12:00 and Manitoba at 4:00 p.m. The top

four teams in each division will compete in the quarter finals on Saturday, April 3. The Consolation Final and the Championship Game will be played on Sunday, April 4.

The Blazers are expecting tough competition at the Nationals, especially from Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia, but UNB has

a strong team and will definitely be competitive.

Coverage of the tournament has been confirmed on Canada A.M. (CTV) and CBC Sports Weekend on Sunday afternoon.

We wish the Blazers success in their competition at the First National Women's Hockey Tournament.

Jr. Red Peppers capture title

The UNS Jr. Red Peppers Women's Volleyball Club became the second Red Peppers team to capture provincial honours at the New Brunswick Junior Provincial Championships held in Moncton this past weekend.

After playing in less than tropical conditions at the Université de Moncton Field house the Red Peppers were able to defeat Saint John Jr. Tridents with scores of 15-2, 11-15, 15-4, 14-16, and 15-13. They continued on in the tournament to defeat Patchack Volleyball Club of Moncton 15-5, 15-6, and 15-9 to clinch the championship and join the Sr. Red Peppers as Provincial Champs.

Paula O'Brien and Cindy MacDougall were standouts in the middle hitting department and played well on defense in both matters. Kathy Skanes turned in some very consistent serving to add to the Peppers attack. Ellen Jarvis was consistent in setting and played vacuum cleaner defense in the backcourt.

The Juniors now advance to the Canadian Junior Championships in Sherbrooke, Quebec, on April 23-25.

This weekend (April 2-4) the UNB Senior Red Peppers are on the road to Charlottetown, P.E.I. for the "AA" Atlantic Senior Championships. Best of luck to both teams.