

Curlers impress at world tourney

By TOM HENDERSON

With the skreeel of pipes and raising of banners the Uniroyal World Junior Curling Championships started rolling on last Sunday, March 14th. Teams arrived from Sweden, Norway, Germany, France, Scotland, United States, Italy, Denmark, Switzerland, and the Manitoba foursome skipped by Mert Thompson.

A crowd of approximately two-thirds capacity viewed the opening ceremonies and initial draw. International Curling Federation President, Sven Eklund, ended the speech making with the statement that "the ice now belongs to the curlers!" And the show got underway.

The first draw, or set of matches, featured the contest between Canada's Thompson, finalists two years ago, and Scotland's Robin Gray led crew, successors to Andrew McQuistin's '81 gold medalists. The game was tight down to the last Canadian stone as Scotland came away with a 5-4

victory in a disappointing, albeit thrilling, opener.

Scotland won the game on the strength of their skip's curling through the first half as they forged a 4-1 lead. Thompson fought back with brilliant draws but Gray wasn't about to give him the game on a silver platter; the best Thompson could do was close to within one as Scotland played a defensive take out style for the final five ends.

At the time the game results gave Scotland a solid share of first place with Sweden as they both went to 2-0 with wins in the night draw. Canada rebounded with a victory and went on to record three more wins before meeting the Americans Tuesday night in the sixth draw.

Monday afternoon Scotland and Sweden tangled to decide who would go away with an unbeaten record and possession of first place. The two teams traded single point ends before the Scots stole one in the fifth for a 3-2 lead. This may have been a major tactical

error as the Swedish skip Soren Grahn took advantage of his team's rage and Scotland's terrible shots to take three in the sixth, steal one in the seventh and coast to an 8-5 triumph. The victory,

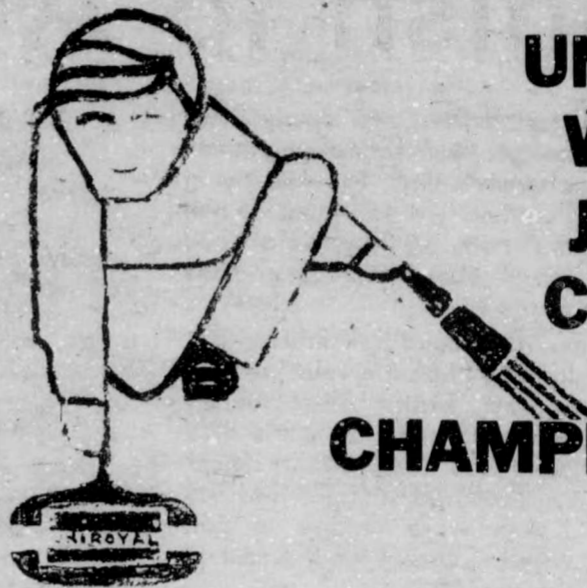
combined with Norway's loss to the States, gave the Swedes the only perfect record and left them atop the standings.

That night was a momentous occasion for Fredericton curling fans as Sweden, en route to a 13-2 romp over France, established, tied or broke a total of four records. The Swedes got all their points in 6 consecutive ends as they maintained their leading standing and showed themselves to be the class team of the tournament thus far. The shot-making Swedes have blown their competition away with consistently high percentages and excellent leadership from their skip, Grahn, and coach Stig Sewik. This team is virtually assured of being in the playoffs, if not the finals, and dependent on the Swedish-Canadian match in the 9th and last draw, could be expected

to take the trophy home.

In the sixth draw catastrophe struck Canada's team as they lost to the U.S.A. 8-7 to slip into a three-way tie for third with Switzerland and the States. After leading 6-2 through five ends the Canadians collapsed and let the USA steal the win from them. This puts Canada in a tenuous position with regards to the playoffs as Thompson's rink must win the rest of their games to ensure a playoff spot.

The top three teams enter the playoffs if Sweden remains unbeaten but if Sweden loses once then the top four make it. The unfortunate aspect of the situation is that USA and Switzerland are not likely to lose the rest of the way, therefore Canada must also remain unbeaten.



L.B. Gym to showcase National Women's Basketball

By DAVID MOMBOURQUETTE

With the debut of the Fredericton Express, and the hosting of the World Junior Curling Championships, the sports fans in Fredericton, and more specifically the UNB campus, have had access to a great year of competition.

On March 24, that great year will get even better, as the Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium becomes the site of the 1982 National Senior Women's Basketball Championships, and the battle for the "City of Edmonton" trophy.

The three day event will include teams from nine provinces, with P.E.I. being the sole absentee. New Brunswick will be represented by Keddy's Senior Team, the 1980 Canadian champions, and last years bronze medalists.

Keddy's is coached by former UNB Red Bloomers coach Joyce Slipp, the originator of the team, and a player-coach on the 1980 championship squad. Coach Slipp expects an exciting tournament, with the main competition coming from Ontario, Nova Scotia, and the defending champion British Columbia team.

The quality of her charges gives Slipp a good reason to be confident, as no fewer than five players return from the championship team of two years ago.

One of these players is third year forward Cathy Maxwell, whose shooting talents enab-

led her to be the high scorer at the Senior tournament two years past, and to lead her team in scoring again this year.

Claire Mitton is seen as another important cog in the team's title hopes, her 5'11" frame providing the N.B. hoop squad with some needed strength on the boards.

Quickness, both offensively and defensively, will be provided by another returnee from the 1980 team, Patty Shephard. After sitting out most of last year with an achilles tendon injury, Patty has come back with a successful year.

UNB Red Bloomers coach, Coleen Dufresne, is playing her first season with the team, and will be looked to for some timely scoring with her great outside shot.

Rounding out the N.B. team are guards Lois Scott, Nancy LeBlanc and Nelda Robbins, and forwards Lesley Nason, Liedy Scholten and Sue McMaster. McMaster is the youngest player on the team, the seventeen year old still being in high school. Dick Slipp, a former assistant coach with both the Red Raiders and Red Bloomers, fills the same role with the Senior team. Judy Astle returns for her second year as team manager.

With action running from Wednesday to Saturday next week some great basketball is ensured, and with admission for students only a dollar a session (tournament passes -\$5.00), it becomes the best bargain in town. The girls will appreciate your support in making their tournament a success.

YEARBOOK

Any U.N.B. student interested in being the Editor or Co-Editors of the Up The Hill Yearbook, please apply to the Applications Committee outlining experience, by April 2, 1982. Applications can be forwarded to the S.R.C. Office, Room 126, S.U.B.

Have you made plans for your

GRADUATION trip?

Special fares are available in limited space only from Fredericton to Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, Tampa, Orlando & West Palm Beach.

Make your reservations today and check details with

Maritime Travel
Student Union Building.