

Weekend test vs UPEI

Raiders struggle during break

By JOHN GEARY

The Christmas holidays ended one year for the Red Raiders, in a manner which typified the way 1982 had treated the squad: bad. On the other side of the coin, the holidays began a new year for the Raiders, and saw them off to an optimistic start in 1983.

I'm referring, of course, to the two basketball tournaments UNB played in, in Toronto, over the holidays. And those tournaments seemed to show two very different ball teams. UNB was 0-3 in the York University Excalibur Classic, while they won the Ryerson Basketball Classic with a 2-0 mark.

In the York tourney, the Raiders had a tough opening draw. They had to play the host team Yeomen in their first game. Aside from the fact that York has the home team, they are also one of the top five basketball teams in the country. The Raiders never really had a chance; they flew in the afternoon of the game, and they hadn't played in game conditions in over three weeks. The Yeomen mounted a 10-2 lead in the first five minutes, and never really looked back, as they surged to

a 47-24 half-time lead. The Raiders did play better ball in the second half, outscoring York 48-41, but they dropped the game 88-72, and dropped into the consolation round. Given the Raiders' apparent resurgence in the second half of the York game, there were high hopes for Game No. 2 against the University of Guelph Gryphons.

For the first twenty minutes, UNB looked like they might even their record at 1-1. They came out of the game fast against Guelph; at one point in the first half, they led by 12 points; but the Gryphons came back to close within 5 at the half, and the Raiders took a 37-32 lead into the dressing room. The second half saw a complete turnaround as the Raiders collapsed, and the Gryphons dominated every aspect of the game to post a 76-55 win, and drop UNB to 0-2.

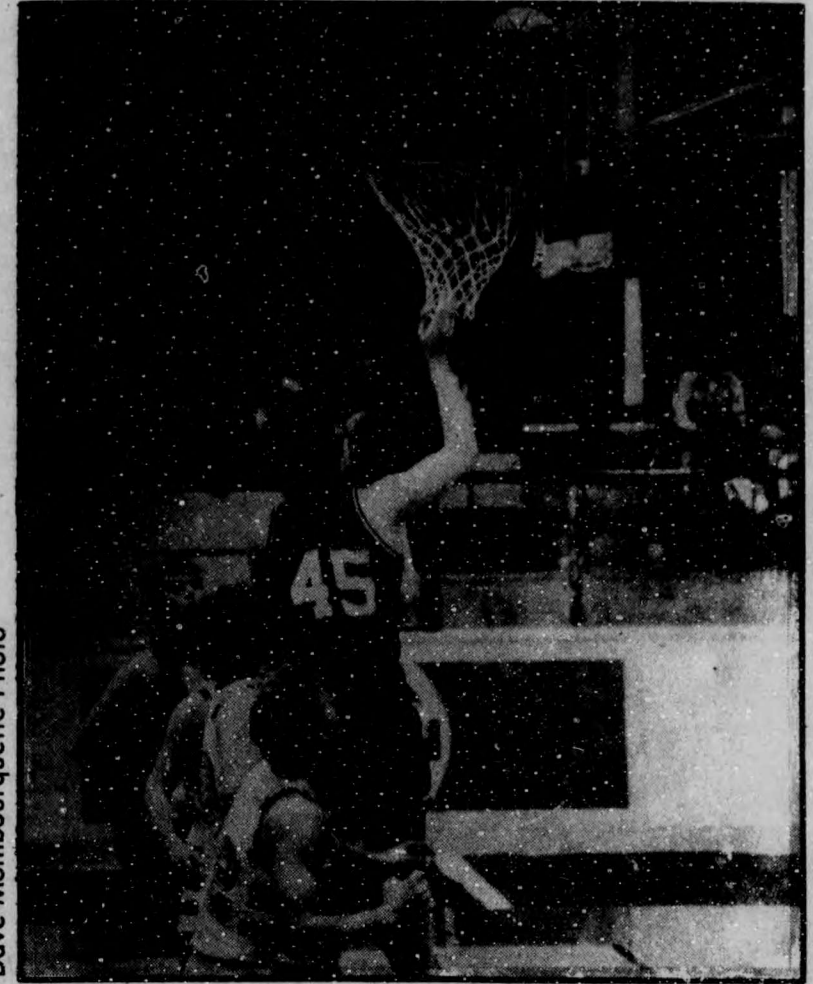
The third game saw the Raiders matched up against the University of Southern Maine Huskies. But, they never really did match up, and the Huskies took advantage of UNB's listlessness to build a 40-27 half-time lead, then coast to a 77-60 victory.

One noticeable aspect of the

Raiders' play in those three games was their lack of running. But according to Coach Don Nelson, that was by design. "I've given it some serious thought, and I've come to the conclusion that we are not a running team," he said after that game. "The best game we've played all year was against the University of Maine-Farmington, when we beat them to win their tournament in early December. And we played a controlled game, so I think you'll be seeing that kind of game stressed in our play in the new year."

Overall in that tournament, the Raiders' play could best be described as listless - the intensity was not there. But on the second day of the new year, the Raiders demonstrated that perhaps that is a thing of the past, as they destroyed the host Ryerson Rams in the opening game of the Ryerson Classic. They led 48-22 at the half, and they maintained the same level of intensity in the second half, outscoring the Rams 46-35 en route to a 94-57 win, and a berth in the final. Every player contributed to the win, which was a big one for the Raiders. But, to quote an old cliché, they weren't out of the woods yet. Coach Nelson was still not convinced that his squad had shaken their lethargy. "It was a big win, no doubt," he commented. "But in all fairness to Ryerson, they've just started their program and the coach is new and not that experienced. While I certainly have a good deal of respect for them, I think any team in the AUAA could have handled them easily; the big test is tomorrow night against McMaster."

Ah, McMaster. A team which had beaten UNB by 30 points back in November.



Dave Mombourquette Photo

Would the Raiders be able to rise up to the challenge? Well, they passed the "test" with flying colours, thumping the Marauders 94-68 to capture the tournament championship, and gain revenge against the team that had embarrassed them so badly at the Guelph tourney. It was a happy UNB team that hit the showers that night. After all, they were undefeated in 1983. They had confidence and momentum - hopefully it would continue for the rest of the season.

The UNB Red Raiders finished a disappointing third in their own Holiday Classic basketball tournament last weekend at the Aitken Centre. The Raiders were defeated

78-75 by the University of Ottawa Gee Gees in the opening round, before winning the consolation game 88-78 over the Maine Farmington Beavers. Ottawa lost out in the championship 82-63 to the York University Yeomen, one of the nation's top rated teams.

For the Raiders the tournament was a continuation of their season long problem with their consistency, blowing a big half time lead against Ottawa, and playing a poor first half against Ottawa.

Following a 97-67 win over Mt. A. on Tuesday night, the Raiders will try to improve on their 2-3 AUAA record, with a pair of games this weekend against the UPEI Panthers, in the Aitken Centre.

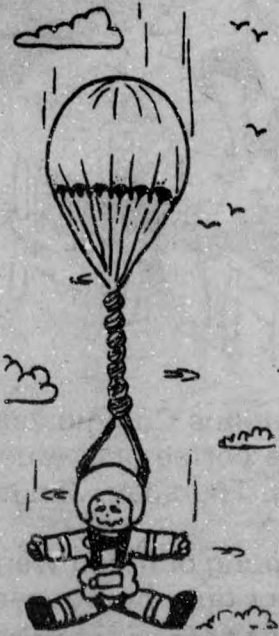
Winter Carnival parachute meet

In conjunction with this year's UNB Winter Carnival, a parachute meet will be held. In previous years, as some of you know, the jumping has been done on the Saint John River. However, it is not expected that the river will be frozen enough to jump on this year. Therefore Neill's Field (located across the river) has been chosen as the landing area for this years meet.

As well as the regular jumping at Neill's Field, there will also be some exhibition jumps made by some highly qualified skydivers. These exhibition jumps will be made into Chapman Field, located here on campus.

This meet will take place on the 15th and 16th of January (starting Saturday morning), weather permitting. The exhibition jumps will be made approximately every half hour between the hours of 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on both days. Skydivers from Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, and possibly Nova Scotia are ex-

pected to attend. All jumpers and spectators are invited to attend. Hope to see you there! (For further information you can contact Carole Daley at 453-4950, or George Rioux at 454-5723).



There will be an indoor track meet on Sunday January 16 at Nashwaaksis Junior High School, beginning at 10 a.m. with the 3000 and 5000, meter races.

In addition to the normal sprints, a 1500M race walk, high jump and shot put events are planned.

Trophies go to the top male and female athletes, and ribbons to the top 4m each event.

Registration fee, regardless of the number of events is \$2.00/\$1.00 for NBTF members.

This is an opportunity to see

what your performance is really like after gorging yourselves at home over Christmas.

For more information, contact Fred Steeves, 472-9349 or Brian Gillis, 357-5607.

Track meet planned

Beavers compete

By CHARMAINE FURGE

On Saturday, January 8th, the UNB swim team travelled to Mount Allison University for a Dual Meet. The UNB men's team came out victorious over the Mt. A. men. The ladies team.

The UNB Beavers will be hosting an AUAA Invitational

swim meet, at the Sir Max Aitken Pool on Saturday, January 15th and Sunday, January 16th. Times for the meet will be Saturday morning. Teams competing will be Memorial, Dalhousie, Acadia, and Mt. A.

Come and support your Beavers.