

Raiders show determination

Only time will reveal the entire story of the 1981-82 season for the University of New Brunswick, Red Raiders basketball team, but you can be assured their performance in the 13th Annual Holiday Classic will be one of the more notable highlights.

Oh, the Raiders didn't win the tournament, that honor going to the University of Maine at Farmington, Beavers, what they did accomplish was to put on the best show of determination and class ever seen on the Aitken Centre hardwood. They managed this by defeating the highly favored, and nationally ranked, McGill University Redmen, 83-77 in the semifinals, and then leading the eventual tournament champions for three-quarters of the final game, before succumbing to an inevitable shortage of manpower, by a score of 90-74.

It was this manpower shortage which told the real story

of the Raider's performance. No fewer than eight team members have been on the bench at one time or another this year, nursing all types of injuries and illnesses. Three of these players have been forced to leave the team for medical reasons, the latest being starting centre, Paul Holder, who found out last Thursday that he was gone for the season. They also had to perform without the services of third year forward, Chris McCabe, who is still recovering from a foot operation.

The easiest thing would have been to just go through the motions, having a ready made alibi, in the event of what everyone considered an inevitable defeat in their opener against McGill. What the Raiders did was to bolt out to a 46-32 halftime lead, with Don McCormack burning the cords for 16 first half points, while Ken Amos hit for 12. But the real factor had to be the tenacious UNB defence, led by Scott Devine, which forced numerous McGill turnovers. The lack of depth took its toll in the second half as the Redmen took a 65-63 lead with only seven minutes left in the contest, due to cool shooting by the Raiders, and some costly turnovers. Four clutch free throws by McCormack in the last twenty seconds sealed the victory for the Raiders.

Coach Don Nelson, while clearly "surprised" by the size of the half time lead, felt "all along that we had a shot. We played McGill last year, and they are pretty well the same team." Team Captain Scott

Devine was clearly excited by the victory, noting that "playing home was a huge advantage." He also felt that a ll of the bad news concerning injuries did not cause a letdown, but "worked to the reverse," noting that the team was, "very relaxed before the game."

The other semi-final resulted in a 75-74 victory by eventual champions, University of Maine Farmington over the Bishop's University Gaiters. The low scoring affair was a result of poor field goal shooting by Bishop's and poor free throw shooting by both teams. Bishop's coach Garth Smith, felt that two important factors worked against his team. One was the fact that the Gaiters hadn't played since early December, something which affected their shooting, and "their timing on the boards" which is one explanation for the fact the smaller Maine team was clearly a better rebounding team. The other factor was that a couple of key injuries that left the squad, "hurting physically."

On Saturday, this same Bishop's team easily defeated conference rival McGill in the consolation final, to the tune of 87-76. With team captain Trevor Bennett on the bench for most of the second half in foul trouble, the Lennoxville based team was led by the playmaking of Simeon Mars, who led an excellent fast break, which allowed Harley Lawrence to collect most of his tournament high 34 points.

For Bishop's coach Garth Smith the victory was especial-

ly sweet, as his team has to meet McGill at least four more times this year in Quebec conference play. Smith felt his squad was "a little tense going into the game," but they quickly took control.

For McGill coach Butch Staples the loss capped what had to be considered a disastrous tournament. Dismissing any suggestions that his players may have been overconfident due to their national ranking, Staples felt the main problem was turnovers, a fact which held true for both losses. In any case it has to put a major dent in his plans to "get to the Nationals."

This left only the championship game between Maine and the Raiders to be decided. The game started well for the Raiders as they held a seven point lead late in the first half, only to see the score cut to 41-38 with centre Ted De Winter on the bench for a rest. Generally the first half belonged to Bill Young, who hooped 10 points to go along with numerous rebounds and some great defensive work in his best performance as a Raider.

In the second half the local squad missed their chance to open a big lead as they could not convert offensively, the edge they were enjoying defensively. The turn around in the game occurred as a result of Ted DeWinter picking up his fourth foul, and being forced to the bench with ten minutes left in the game. Working with a three guard offense the Raiders upped their lead to 67-60 with only six minutes remaining. But in the space of only two minutes the Maine

squad exploited the size advantage they enjoyed, with guard Robert Mayo continually feeding big men William Martin and Eric Weider inside, as the Beavers outscored the Raiders 10-2 to take a 70-69 lead. It was all downhill for the Raiders from there, as the visiting squad outscored them 20-5 to finish out the game.

A victorious Maine coach, Len MacPhee was understandably very pleased with the performance of his charges, especially when you consider they were missing the team leader, John Dean. "We missed his smart play and experience," said MacPhee. MacPhee felt the turn around was due to a tired UNB squad which was exploited by the power inside game of his forwards.

The game wrapped up with the selection of the all star team. Eric Weider of Maine was selected the Most Valuable Player, and he was joined on the squad by team mate Robert Mayo, Scott Devine and Don McCormack of UNB, Alan Chastenet of Bishops and McGill's Rick Rusk.

An obviously disappointed Don Nelson, was nevertheless quite pleased with the performance of his team, and with the high calibre of play in general. He was also very pleased with the fan support, noting that the close to 1000 fans made up the Raiders best crowd this year. His approval would have to be shared by anyone in attendance at the tournament, as they were treated to one of the best shows in recent years, due in no small part to the class act called the Red Raiders.

TOURNAMENT SCORING SUMMARIES

University of Maine at Farmington 90
University of New Brunswick 74

UNB
McCormack 22, Devine 18, Young 16, Amos 9, DeWinter 6, Farrell 2, Mooney 1. Free Throws 5-8. Personal Fouls 19.

U of Maine
Martin 26, Weider 20, Diphillipo 17, Mayo 14, Lee 8, Clifford 2, Burns 2, Trask 1. Free Throws 8-17. Personal Fouls 14.

**Bishop's University 87
McGill University 76**

Bishop's
Lawrence 34, Chastenet 15, VanHerk 15, Bennett 10, Mars 4, Morrison 4, Drew 2. Free Throws 15-24. Personal Fouls 23.

McGill
Carpentieri 19, Hinz 18, Rusk 10, Rosannelli 9, Del Bosco 6, Boggild 4, Briere 4, Penston 4, Soucie 2. Free Throws 15-20. Personal Fouls 22.

University of Maine 75
Bishop's University 74

U of Maine
Mayo 15, Weider 16, Martin 14, Clifford 2, Lee 5, Fogarty 9, Trask 2, Diphillipo 8, Burns 4. Free throws 7-12. Personal Fouls 22.

Bishop's
Mars 11, Henigan 9, VanHerk 15, Lawrence 8, Bennett 15, Chastenet 14, Morrison 2. Free Throws 14-21. Personal Fouls 14.

**University of New Brunswick 83
McGill University 77**

UNB
McCormack 28, Amos 20, Devine 16, Farre 4, DeWinter 7, Young 8. Free Throws 13-18. Personal Fouls 15.

McGill
Hinz 14, Rusk 18, Del Bosco 12, Soucie 11, Boggild 18, Rosannelli 4. Free Throws 7-11. Personal Fouls 19.

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Bloomers defeat U.S. teams

By HILARY EARL

The University of New Brunswick womens basketball team, Red Bloomers, travelled to Montreal this past weekend to the third annual McGill invitational tournament. They came out winners to the surprise of many.

Eight teams participated in

ment, with UNB facing Harvard in first round competition.

The Bloomers played a fast paced game against this Massachusetts based team coming out on top 67 - 60. Leading the Bloomers with 19 points was guard Joanne Maclean, while both Laura

Gillespie and Jill Jeffrey added 15.

Saturday the 10 man roster faced Army from West Point, New York. Coach Coleen Dufresne said that "by dominating both the offensive and defensive boards combined with the spirited bench we defeated army" coach Dufresne added "that it was an

overall team effort that was instrumental in giving us this big win."

The final score in the game was 59 - 56 Joanne Maclean again having the hot hand to leading the way with 24 points making for nine shots from the floor in the 2nd half.

(Continued on p. 18)