

UNB SPORTS

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DEADLINE: Tuesday, noon

Ailing Bloomers Net Two Wins

by Mark Savoie

Despite a lack of practice time because of illness, the UNB Red Bloomers still managed to come away with a pair of victories in AUAU women's basketball action. This pushes their record up to 8-2 and gives them a share of first place with the Dalhousie Lady Tigers. Right behind them is perennial and defending champion UPEI at 7-2.

The Bloomers were unable to practice for most of last week because team members Jennifer Hale, Jill Jackson, and Tracey Ross were out with the flu. As a result their first practice of the week was on Thursday, the day before they were to meet St. FX. Since they hadn't been able to practice they started the game rusty.

And their rustiness showed! They immediately fell behind and were playing

catchup after those first few minutes. The Bloomers, this season, have started a number of games slowly, but have usually managed to roar back for a strong finish. A case in point is last term's contest against St. FX, when the Bloomers struggled to open the game but finished off by burying the X-ettes 74-48. This time the Bloomers were unable to get things going and were forced to go to the final minute before cementing a 63-58 victory.

The act came together the next game at St. Mary's. SMU has been struggling this season and this game proved no exception, as they were blown out 75-58. Team captain Pauline Lordon lead the team, as she had against St. FX, with a game high 28 points. This puts her at the top of the scoring race with 16.9 points per game, a slim 0.7 ppg ahead of second place Paula Edwards



Photo by Peter Tracy

Jennifer Hale puts one up against St. FX.

of UPEI. This brings back memories of two seasons ago when she dominated the league scoring and won the league's MVP award.

Jennifer Hale was another Bloomer having an excellent weekend, as she netted a team high 18 points against St. FX and added 12 more against SMU. Joining her and Lordon in double figures was Kara Palmer with 12 and 10 points in the two games.

The Bloomers have been shooting well this season. Tracey Ross and Kara Palmer are running 2/3 in scoring percentage, with only Kim Dray of Memorial ahead of them. Dray has only taken eight shots, so her numbers must be viewed as a statistical anomaly. Rounding out the top ten in shooting percentage are Pauline Lordon and Jennifer Hale, who are seventh and tenth respectively.

This weekend the Red Bloomers take a break from AUAU action. But it's not a free weekend, as they will play host to the Halifax Srs. for a pair of games at the Main Gym. Game times will be 6:30 PM tomorrow evening and 11:00 am Sunday morning. The Bloomers are on their stretch drive now, and these two games, along with their four remaining AUAU league contests, will serve as a tuneup for the playoffs and what the Bloomers hope will be a successful 'Drive for 25'.

Raiders Win In OT

by Kelly Craig

Andy MacKay turned out to be the surprise of the night as the Raiders played host to the University of Maine at Presque Isle Wednesday night at the Main Gym. MacKay shot for 21 points to give UNB a 131-116 win.

The game started out very slow for the Raiders. They played pathetic basketball in the first half. A lot of their shots were wild, and it looked quite hopeless for the Raiders. At the half, Maine was up 49-41.

However, the Raiders exploded in the second half. Just nine

minutes into it, they fought back to take the lead. Shortly after, they fell behind again. It was a tight battle throughout the second half. In the dying seconds, MacKay sot a beautiful basket to tie the game at 93. That shot sent the game into a five-minute overtime period. Once again UNB came out ahead, but Presque Isle fought back. The game was tied at 107 with seconds left on the clock when Raider Jamie Watt was called for a foul. As a result, Maine went ahead 109-107. That set the stage for McKay once again. He made another shot at the buzzer to send the game into yet another overtime period.

The second overtime period was the clincher for UNB. Roy Coccio, Glenn Read, Vinod Nair, and McKay made sure that Presque Isle would return south with a loss. The Raiders ended the game 131-116. Top scorers for UNB were Read with 28, MacKay with 21, and Kirk MacDonald and Coccio with 17 points apiece.

In other important developments the Red Raiders and U of M Presque Isle got into a brawl after the game.

Devils Lose Three Straight

by Frank Denis

Moncton

On Wednesday night, the UNB Red Devils travelled to Moncton to play the Universite de Moncton in a game that was originally scheduled to be played this evening. Despite a good UNB effort, Moncton went on to win by a score of 6-2.

The game began on a very physical note. Both teams came out hitting and before 6 minutes had elapsed, there had already been 22 minutes in penalties as well as 2 ten-minute misconducts.

The only goal of the first period was scored by Moncton forward Mathieu Beliveau on the power

play. UNB should have been credited with a goal in the period, but the referee never saw the puck cross the goal line. The UNB players were celebrating the goal, and the Moncton players reacted as if they had been scored upon. The referee was in a poor position on the play.

UNB finally scored a goal that counted when Dominic Niro scored on the power play early in the second period. Captain Jamie Lehman gave UNB the lead midway through the period after some pinpoint passing by Red Devils' forwards Ken Murchison and Steve Kippen. That lead was short lived, however. The Blue Eagles tied the game 2 minutes

later. Three minutes after that, Beliveau scored his second goal to give Moncton a lead they would never relinquish. The score stood at 3-2 heading into the final frame.

The score remained 3-2 until Moncton blew the game wide open by scoring 3 goals in just over 2 minutes.

The loss overshadowed fine performances by a couple of Red Devils. Goalie Scott MacDonald made both some key and spectacular saves early in the game to keep UNB's hopes alive. As well, defenceman Dan Altherr played a solid brand of defence and cleared the puck out of his zone effectively.

UNB Athletes Of The Week

Chrissy Hashimoto of Mississauga, Ont. has been chosen as this week's UNB Female Athlete-of-the-Week. The 18 year old and 1st year Physical Education student had a tremendous swim meet for the Beavers. She competed in 3 events, and had 3 season best performances in each, leading the Beavers to a 58 to 28 victory over Mt. Allison. She swam the fly on the Medley Relay; 1:06.13, a UNB record and a CIAU qualifying time; also a first in the 400 Free; 4:30.23, another UNB record and CIAU qualifying time. According to coach Fisher "Chrissy has given the Beaver women's team the desire to fight, and the belief that they can win. She has been a real inspiration to our whole team, as she has shared her knowledge of the sport with all team members for the betterment of the whole team."

Sean Dockrill of Bridgewater, NS has been named as this week's UNB Male Athlete-of-the-Week. The 2nd year Arts student and captain of the NB Canada Games Team 1989, had a terrific weekend for the wrestling Black Bears at the St. FX Open. Sean won the 150 lb weight class with 4 wins and no losses while displaying a superb wrestling performance over his opponents. With the AUAU's fast approaching this is a good time for Sean and the rest of the Black Bears to be winning matches and defeating their AUAU opponents. According to coach Multamaki "Sean dominated everyone in his weight class as he had only 3 points scored against him in 4 matches."