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# UNB SPORTS

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SPORTS DESK 453-4983

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## Red Bloomers Capture AUAA Title

by Mark Savoie

Last weekend a battered and bruised UNB Red Bloomers women's basketball squad won their 25th title as they defeated both the Acadia Axettes and the Dalhousie Lady Tigers to win the AUAA trophy. This gives them the right to travel to Toronto for the CIAU's where they are ranked sixth in an eight team field. Their first game was yesterday against third ranked Regina. Unfortunately, this is after press time and thus the results are not currently known.

The Bloomers met Acadia in the semi-finals, in a game that was supposed to be a blowout for UNB. However, the Acadia Axettes managed to slow the Bloomers full court game down to the half court. This frustrated the more talented Red Bloomer squad into taking low percentage shots and into missing high percentage shots. Meanwhile Acadia fought back from an early deficit and were leading 20-16 late in the first half. The Red Bloomers took a timeout at this point and were able to even the score up to end the half at 22-22.

The second half began much the same as the first, with the Bloomers striking early but then tailing off as the half went on. This left the door wide open for Acadia point guard Patty Hayden to lead a charge that brought the Axettes to within one point. The Bloomers needed someone to take charge and return the momentum to their side of the court. Jennifer Hale answered the challenge by taking the foul on a drive and converting for the three point play. With this final shift in momentum the Acadia threat was over and the Bloomers were heading to the finals with a 51-42 victory.

Their opponent was not de-

ecided until the conclusion of the other semi-final matchup, a clash between second and third place finishers Dalhousie and UPEI. Dalhousie's rookie laden squad had defeated defending champion UPEI's veteran squad in both of their regular season matchups, but UPEI was hoping that their play-off experience would give them the extra edge they might need. But Dalhousie sophomore Angie McLeod put on a show and put an end to UPEI's dreams of a fourth consecutive championship. Youth had triumphed over age, and now the league's two youngest teams were to meet in the final.

Dalhousie's two big threats were first team all-star Angie McLeod and second team all-star Pauline Lordon (also league MVP) and Kara Palmer and second team

play catch up. They were unable to do so in the first half, and entered the locker room trailing by a 31-21 score.

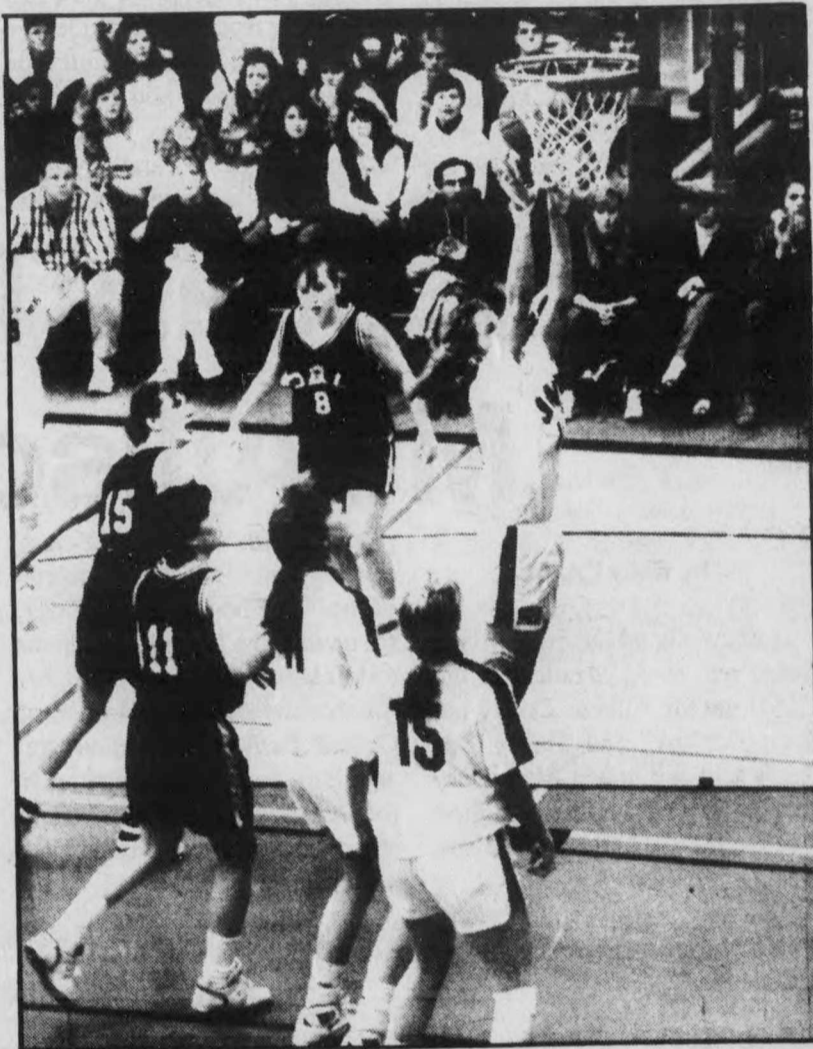
Dalhousie started the second half intent on forcing a physical tempo to the game and using their size advantage to intimidate the Bloomers. Early in the half Bloomer captain Pauline Lordon collided with Dalhousie star Angie McLeod, and came out of the altercation with a nasty gash over her left eye, requiring stitches after the game. Ironically, Lordon got the foul on the play.

The Red Bloomers refused to be intimidated by Dalhousie, and every time the Lady Tigers made a charge, the Bloomers would respond, never allowing Dalhousie to close within four points. The biggest score came when Jill Jackson left the game with her fourth foul and reinjured ankle. Dalhousie was trailing by only five at this point and seemed to be mounting a run at the Bloomer's end. But the Bloomer's depth began to show and they answered the challenge by running away with a big 62-46 win.

The UNB Red Bloomers are a battered and bruised team as they head into the CIAU championships. Pauline Lordon has the aforementioned cut over her left eye, while Kara Palmer

has a myriad number of bruises all over her legs from the pounding she takes under the hoops in at both ends. On top of this she also has a pinched sciatic nerve on her left leg, which won't get a chance to heal until after this weekend.

But the big story of the weekend was Jill Jackson, who played both games last weekend on a severely sprained ankle. Jackson's performance was an inspiration to all those on the sidelines. Jackson plays a style that hinges on speed and quickness, so her injury should have severely limited her effec-



Bloomers on the attack in their 62-46 victory against the Dalhousie Tigers. This victory has made the Bloomers this year's AUAA women's basketball champions. Photo by Glen Vienneau

### CHSR 97.9 FM

### Broadcasts

## The Red Bloomers

## at the CIAU's

all-star Jennifer Hale, with Coach of the Year Claire Mitton leading them from the sidelines.

Dalhousie's big guns got off to a slow start, while Pauline Lordon played like a woman possessed... possessed with the drive for her first AUAA title in this her last year of eligibility. The Bloomers were able to get out to a quick lead and now Dalhousie was forced to

tiveness, but she was able to ignore any pain and play off with her usual tenacity on defense.

The Bloomers earned the right to host the AUAA tournament by virtue of finishing the regular season with a 12-2 record. They clinched this two weekends ago when they battered MUN for a pair of victories. They won the two games by scores of 85-54 and 87-46, with Kara Palmer being named Player-of-the-Game for both contests. Jill Jackson sat out both of the matches because of her ankle.

This weekend the Red Bloomers are in Toronto for the CIAU championship tournament. Their first game was yesterday against the Regina Cougars, with subsequent games to be held today and tomorrow. All these games will be broadcast live on CHSR-FM, times can be found by calling the radio station. The Bloomers hope to finish in the top four or better for the weekend, to do so will mean upsetting the 3rd ranked Cougars in that all important first round matchup.

## Sticks At CIAU's

Five UNB Red Sticks plus coach Joyce Slipp will be in Toronto this weekend competing at the CIAU National Indoor Field Hockey Championships.

The tournament is a 6 team round robin event with the following teams involved: Victoria, B.C.; Vancouver, B.C.; Praries, Ontario North, Ontario South and the Atlantic Team.

The Atlantic Team is made up of a groups of the best indoor players in the Atlantic Provinces. UNB

team mem-bers include Josette Babineau, Nancy Peppler, Joan Robere, Tanya Whaler and goalkeeper Shelia Bell. The remainder of the team is made up of Rachel Schofield of U de M, Danielle Audit, a graduate of U de M (now a teacher/coach at Clement Cormier), Sara Forbes, a goalkeeper from FHS, Heather Andrews and Heather MacLean

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### Athletes of the Week

Pauline Lordon of Chatham, NB has been named as this week's UNB Female Athlete-of-the-Week. Pauline had a fantastic weekend as she helped lead the Red Bloomers to the 1990 AUAA Women's Basketball Championships. She was the leading scorer in the Bloomers' two games in their way to the title. In their 51-42 win over Acadia, she had 17 points and 6 rebounds, and in the final against DAL, 62-46, Pauline had 15 points and 4 rebounds. Winning the AUAA Championships is a terrific way to end Pauline's five year career with the Red Bloomers. According to coach Mitton "Pauline played with so much determination and had an outstanding weekend, enabling us to win the title."

Don Ryan of Chatham, NB has been named as this week's UNB Male Athlete-of-the-Week. Don a physical education student and co-captain of the Black Bears competed at the CIAU Wrestling Championships in Sackville, NB over the weekend. Although performing well Don placed 4th at the meet as he lost a close match to the eventual CIAU gold medalist from Manitoba. According to coach Mutamaki "Don's 4th place finish at the CIAU's and his overall performance this year has shown the entire team that we can be competitive with the rest of the country in wrestling."