

## Blazers beat Moncton for fourth straight title

By MARY SCOTT

The UNB Red Blazers women's hockey team wrapped up their fourth straight New Brunswick Senior "A" title the weekend before the ebreak, as they downed the Moncton Jaguars 2 games to 1 in a hard fought, close series.

The playoffs opened on Friday night February 22, at the Dieppe Arena, home of the Jaguars. The teams dueled through two scoreless periods of physical close checking hockey. It appeared neither goalie, Wendy Dickinson for the Blazers or Anne-Marie Levi for Moncton intended to give up their shutout. At the 2:18 mark of the final period the whitewash was broke as Jaguar Centre Joanne Voutour won a face-off deep in the Blazers zone and walked out untouched to slide the puck past Dickinson. At that point the tough Moncton squad settled in front of their all-star goalie to keep on top of UNB and shut down their high powered attack. The Blazers went on to outshoot their opposition 15-5 in the last period but it came down to a goal by France Thibodeau with just 8 seconds showing on the clock to tie it up. Thibodeau with just 8 seconds showing on the clock

to tie it up. Thibodeau slid the puck under Levi after Carol Allport had been stopped close in.

The sudden death overtime which followed was wide open as both teams went for an early decision. The game was won at the 2:38 mark when Blazer captain Carol Copper took a Carol Allport pass at her own blueline and burst through the middle, Cooper's backhand shot caught Levi moving the wrong way and UNB had a one game to none lead.

The series moved back to Fredericton for game two at the Nashwaaksis Arena. An injury in game one to center Joanne Gillies combined with a pre-playoff twisted ankle to wing Paula MacDonald had the Blazers hurtng offensively, as the two players represented 27 of the teams 101 goals, knowing this going into the game concerned Blazer coach Mike Power, and after the game his worries were justified.

Costly miscues in their own end and a general flatness in their play combined with a totally ineffective powerplay to take the game away from UNB. Losing by a 2-1 score was bad enough but how they lost was of more concern. Moncton outthusted and out-

musced the Blazers throughout the contest and even Power admitted after the game that the "best team won, at least the best team for tonight."

In the third and deciding game Sunday morning at the Aitken Center a couple of lineup shuffled changed the complexion of the UNB team. First veteran defender Rose Theriault was taking a regular shift on the blueline, secondly rookie defense Cathy Potts was

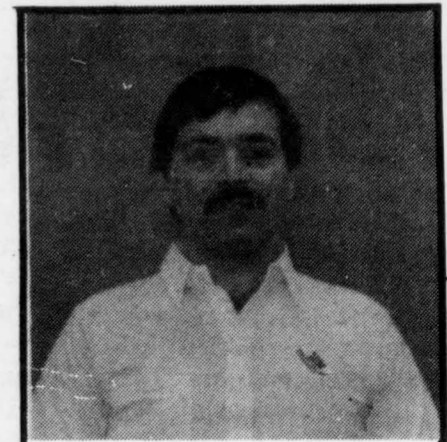
### Wrapped up their fourth straight New Brunswick Senior "A" title.

moved up to rightwing, hoping her toughness would cover for the absense of MacDonald and finally Gillies was back in uniform. The Blazers came out flying, getting on the scoreboard first as Anne Campbell redirected a pass from Potts to notch the team's 14th shorhanded goal of the season. Before the first period was over Cooper slammed home a rebound to make it 2-0 after one. With 33 seconds gone in the second frame Potts made it a 3 goal bulge as she combined with Cooper to turn a Moncton misplay into a goal. Moncton finally got on the scoreboard with 8:25 gone int

he period as Carmel Levil blasted a screen shot home on a 5-on 3 powerplay. UNB played tough closechecking hockey in the third period and appeared to be safe, when a powerplay misfire sent Levi in to score a shorthanded marker and narrow the Blazer lead to one. Moncton would get no closer as goalie Dickinson came up with some big stops to make the 3-2 score stand up as the final. Although hardpressed UNB had held on to take an unprecedented fourth straight Provincial title.

After the game the New Brunswick women's Hockey Association named the provincial all-star team. Dickinson was named in goal, to break Levi's three year domination of the position, Cooper and teammate Debbie MacLoon combined to sweep the defense berths, while Carol Allport was named at leftwing. The Jaguars took two of the positions as Joanne Voutour took centre and Carm Levi rightwing. For the second year in a row Carol Cooper was named the Provincial Most Valuable Player.

The title now sends the Blazers on to the fourth annual Shoppers Drug Mart National Women's Hockey Tournament, scheduled for March 21



Mike Power, coach of the UNB Red Blazers

Photo by Mary Scott

to 25th in Summerside P.E.I. This is the top tournament for women's hockey in North America, featuring the top 10 teams from across Canada. The Blazers will have a tough road to travel as they open play on March 21st with a 9 a.m. game against defending national champs the Alberta Chimos. Later on the first day the always powerful Ontario entry will be on the schedule. Round-robin play for day two will see the girls against Saskatchewan, and the host PEI Spudettes. The final two days of the event will be devoted to a playoff round.

## RIVERVIEW ARMS



ARMÉE THE RIVERVIEW ARMS ARMAILLÉ

**It's Here!!**  
**MIRAMICHI REVIVAL!!**  
**Doors open at 9:00 am , March 9**

*Wed. nite - Ladies nite Happy Hour 7-8*  
*Thurs. nite - Super Happy Hour*  
**ALL NIGHT**

*Remember...your Good Times are at the Bottom of the Hill.*