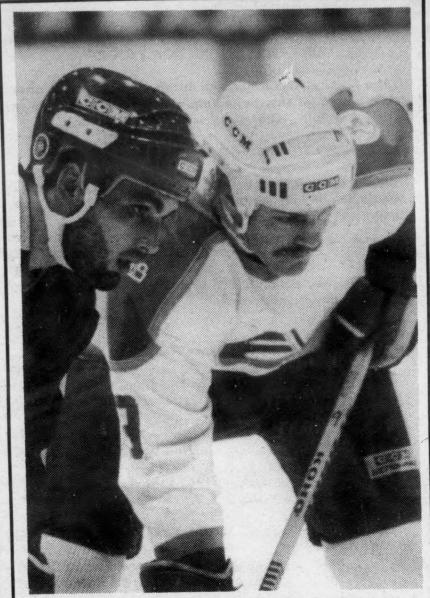
### It's never too late

Christmas is over but it's still not too late for a Christmas present. Before Christmas the Express had worked their way up to a third place standings in the AHL's Northern Division. Now, after Christmas, the Express are in first place, which will come as a pleasant surprise to many fans.

The holiday season brought several new faces to the Express; Wally Wier, John Van Boxmeer and Jean Francois Sauve. Sauve was recently call up by the Parent club Nordiques but during his 15 game stint with the Express he netted 11 goals and 20 assists.

Last Monday's games boasted the return of goaltender Brian Ford to the ranks of the Express. Ford hadn't seen much action with the Nordiques, but New Haven tried to make him feel welcome by sending 31 shots his way. Brian showed that sitting on the bench in Quebec hadn't hurt him and in fact, played a rather enthusiastic game in the Express's 7-3 win.

The next game for the Express is tomorrow night at the Aitken Centre vs. their arch-rivals the Voyageurs.



Jim Dobson of the Express and Kevin Lavalle of New Haven prepare for the faceoff.

# Red Devils

tougher of the two opponents. "They could have the most talented team in the league," he said. "They will play the same kind of game they always play in their small rink; plenty of physical play."

Along with all the talent the Red Devils themselves possess, the club also has a good schedule for the second half. Including this weekend, UNB has seven home and five road games left. Of the "road" games, one involves a trip one involves a trip down to the Lady Beaverbrook rink to face St. Thomas Tommies. It's a far cry from the second half schedule the Devils' found themselves with a year ago, when their first five games after the Christmas break were on the road.

"We are looking to have a very successful season," MacAdam said. "I think we have the best team in the league."



# Free Throws

The strangest things happen when you least expect them. Who would have thought before Christmas when the Red Bloomers were ranked number two in the country that by January 10 they wouldn't even been seen in the CIAU hoop rankings. Well, it's happened! According to the Lords of the CIAU, the UNB Red Bloomers don't merit a national ranking.

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In case you're wondering how all this took place, just a brief update on their progress, or degression it should read, over Christmas. First of all, I guess it all started just before Christmas when they travelled to Orono, Maine, where they found themselves coming home with a defeat by UMO on their minds. Then, it was off to Brandon, Manitoba for an invitational tourney before New Years, where, after defeating UBC in their opener, they fell apart in the next two to finish the tourney in fourth place.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Then it was on to Winnipeg where they repeated their Brandon antics, falling from the rankings in the progress. The only good half of basketball they have even approached their old selves in was Monday's games against Guelph. In the second half of that game the Bloomers finally got together defensively, which is the key to their play, and got their transition game going as they beat Guelph 76-56.

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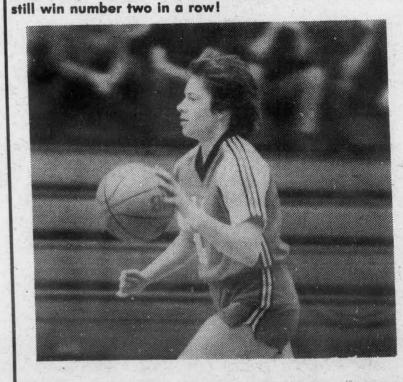
On the men's side of things, one can only be impressed by the play of Don Nelson's Red Raiders. No one, including myself, really expected them to do much in the Holiday Classic, but the gutsy team they are, they doomed Guelph and gave Toronto a run for their money in the final.

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One has to be impressed with the play of Eddie Crowe. The 6'4" St. Bruno, Quebec native has been by the far the most improved and exciting player to watch for the Raiders. Eddie made a number of steals and contributed offensively as well for the Raiders on the weekend.

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My Sixers find themselves floundering lately. Some key inquiries are hampering their performances, the low point coming in the Knicks least Andy "Smooth" Cheam is happy. But the Sixers will



## Intramurals continued

Attention all volleyball enthusiasts! The Winter Co-Ed Volleyball Program is ready and waiting for you. The Winter Recreational Tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday January 21 and 22, 1984. The Competitive League will run on Wednesday evenings beginning on January 25th. Registration deadline for both the Tournament and League is Tuesday, January 17. Further information and registration materials are available from the Recreation Office, Room A121 - L.B. Gym from 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. Get a group of your friends together and join the fun at the gym!

#### CO-ED BROOMBALL

All Co-Ed Broomball teams are reminded that games begin this Sunday evening - January 16, 1984. Consult the Recreation Office for scheduling details.

### MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Team Managers are reminded to pick up a Revised Schedule (printed on bright green paper) if they have not already done so.

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Women's Basketball deadline has been pushed up to today, January 13 at 2:00 p.m. All ladies interested in playing, please sign up individually or as a team...at the L.B. Gym. It's going to be a lot of fun! See you down there!

#### ATTENTION ALL WOMEN

SPECIAL EVENT - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1984