

Bloomers come out empty handed

"It just wasn't in the cards"

So said Assistant Coach of the UNB Red Bloomers Andy Cheam after the Bloomers had dropped game number two at the national championships and found themselves out in the cold as far as any hardware was concerned for the second year in a row.

After a rough start in their opening game against the Calgary Dinnies, falling behind 14-4 early in the contest, the Bloomers started on a roll and it looked like they were ready to charge for the lead, but then some phenomenal perimeter shooting by the Dinnies allowed them to pull ahead as they burst the Bloomer's bubble to the tune of 77-62. They key to Calgary win was not necessarily in the offensive and however, but on defensive as they threw a blanket on CIAU All-Canadian Jennifer George as the sophomore guard managed only 8 points, well below her average of 18 per game.

The Bloomers did however get some impressive performances from sophomore Sue McMaster and rookie Janet Nichols in that opening encounter. Nichols led the team with 22 points, and 16 of them in the second frame, as well as playing a strong game on the boards while McMaster added 21 in the cause. Five Dinnies hooped in double figures with Jane Adolphe leading the way with 18, while Debbie Patters and

Tournament all-star Karla Karch added 13 and 12.

That set the stage for Bloomer-Laurentian match-up in the consolation section of the tournament. The Vees, who fell 72-62 to the eventual finalist Winnipeg, came out flying and like the day before, the Bloomers were not saying TGIF as they found themselves looking once again at a ten point deficit a few minutes into the game, as big Lori Kenopic hooped 22 points in the first half alone as the Vees jumped to a 48-39 mid-point lead and cruised to a 90-72 victory in a game in which the Bloomers never threatened to come away as a winner. Sue McMaster continued her creativity in motion as she simply overawed a Vees defense hooping 26 while Jennifer George finally got her game in gear as she hooped 18.

Meanwhile, the Bishops Lady Gaiters were occupied with capturing their second straight title as they made it look easy defeating Manitoba and, Alberta before rolling past Winnipeg 70-62 in the final, never looking like they were in danger of losing the Bronze Baby. Teammates Lyn Poulson and Andrea Blackwell led the Gaiters as they shared tourney MVP honors while teammate Wendy Verrechia captured the all-star spot along with Winnipeg's Beth Cochran and Liz Holtmann and Calgary's Julie Hendrix and Karla Karch, who led Calgary to a 72-65 third

place victory over Alberta.

"All weekend we had trouble at the start, I don't know what it was", commented Cheam after his team had lost to the Vees, and found themselves on the sidelines watching the action, "we didn't get out of the gate very fast and that hurt us although I don't think that was the main problem we had today".

"When you are unable to play a man to man defense in a half a court situation you are going to be in trouble no matter who you play, and the mental breakdowns in that situations hurt us."

Some of the players coming off the bench for the Bloomers did some impressive things for the squad's confidence, especially point guard, Chris Matheson, who drew high praise from Cheam for her play.

"Chris came in in both games and played like she's shown throughout the year coming off the bench and actually took the time away from Debbie (Knowles), playing almost 18 minutes in the second half and did a commendable job along with anyone who came off the bench did alright and we has almost as many points coming off the bench as we did from our starters, and the playing time those kids got throughout the year showed today."

Much of the problems the Bloomers faced at the nationals were due to a lack of competition during the season, as the roll through the AUAA undefeated on a regular basis now, getting



Colleen Dufresne talking strategy.

Photo by Jeff Whipple

very little competition from their league rivals, which leaves them unprepared for the tough competition the rest of the country throws their way come the nationals.

"Most of the things we do all year are geared to win our own league and when we get out of our own league and see some better competition and not having played a tough ball game in two and a half months, we kind of forget what we have to do in the tight ball games."

Back in September the Bloomers set their goal to be in the top four, but except a brief flirt with the number two spot before

Christmas, their dream was not to be.

The last word belongs to Cheam.

"It's disappointing for sure because we didn't reach the goals we set at the first of the year, but it's hard to be disappointed with the kids. I think they tried as hard as they could and played as well as they could, they hustled and they worked, and they have nothing to be ashamed of, it just wasn't in the cards".

And if the old sayings about guts, class and determination are taken into account, the Red Bloomers are every bit as much as a champion as the Bishops Lady Gaiters.

All students considering transferring faculties for September 1982, should apply to do so by completing a 'Transfer Request' form available at the Registrar's Office by, 31 1984.

Submitting the requests by this date is particularly important for transfers to programmes with limited enrolment i.e. Engineering, Computer Science, Forest Engineering and Nursing

Office of the Registrar

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

The Lepracons are waiting for everyone to join in the fun of the St. Patricks Day Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament, being held on Saturday and Sunday March 17 and 18th. Entry deadline is Thursday, March 13th. Registration kits are available at the intramural office.

Everyone is welcome to come and join all the fun.

NON-CREDIT INSTRUCTION

There are still a few openings in the Weight Training

Intramurals

and Squash Classes being held this month. Beginners and Intermediate Weight Training Classes will be held on Monday nights beginning March 12, 1984. Squash classes are being held on Tuesday evenings. Anyone interested in participating may register at the Business Office between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. For further information contact the Recreation Office - Room A121, L.B. Gym between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT WINNERS

Congratulations to the ladies of Vanier Hall who

are the winners of the Residence Participation Challenge held in conjunction with the Girls' Night Out on Feb. 6, 1984. They are the winners of a video week-end including the rental of a VCR and three films, courtesy of the Women's Intramural Committee and the Physical Recreation and Intramural Program. Well done Vanier!

Because of the success of the first Girls' Night Out plays are underway to hold similar activities both terms next year. In addition, special Co-Ed activity nights are being considered.