

## Bloomers Finish 4th in Concordia Classic

The Red Bloomers returned from the Concordia Classic with a 4th place finish after dropping a 69-61 point decision to Guelph currently ranked fourth in Canada. The Bloomers also gained valuable early season experience by defeating 3rd ranked Bishop's 73-63 and losing 75-60 to the tournament champions; number one ranked Laurentian Vees. The Vees defeated Southern Connecticut 75-63 in the final of the tournament which featured 6 of the ten top ranked teams in Canada. Southern Connecticut finished second in the U.S. Eastern Regionals of the NCAA last year.

The Bloomers looked strong in winning their first round match-up versus Bishop's as they broke open the game early in the second half by scoring 12 straight points. UNB relied on a 3-2 zone defence they have named the 'sting' to handle the short but quick Bishop's squad. Bishops is led by national player Debbie Huband, the most valuable player in last year's national championships. The Bloomers held her to 10 points - which is far below her season average.

The outstanding offensive player of the game was Bloomer Cathy Maxwell who scored 28 points. Although UNB displayed good team effort, Patty Sheppard, Lois Scott, and Moira Pryde all played the complete 40 minutes - indicative of their strong effort against Bishops.

On Friday the Bloomers faced

Laurentian in semi-final play with memories of last year's thrilling double-overtime match-up. Despite some new personnel and loss of players via the transfer route, the Vees are still the team to beat in Canadian Women's Basketball. They showed this by beating the Bloomers on the "boards". After leading 37-29 at the half, the Vees put a string of 10 straight points on the scoreboard early in the second half. Even though the game looked out of reach, the Bloomers made a late run of their own to close the gap to 9 points with 5 minutes left, the Vees won 75-60. Cathy Maxwell and Claire Mitton led the offense scoring 25 and 14 points respectively. Both shot 55 per cent as the Bloomers shot a respectable 47 per cent for the game.

In their attempt for third place against Guelph, the Bloomers recovered from a lethargic 17-6 deficit to trail at the half 35-29. Again, trailing by 11 points in the 2nd half 48-37, UNB rallied to within two points, 57-55 with 4 minutes remaining. However Guelph maintained control of a 65-61 lead, forcing the Bloomers to press without luck and finished the game with a 69-61 advantage. Cathy Maxwell scored 22 points to run her 3 game total to 75 points, breaking the previous tournament record. Her strong performances won her a position on the Tournament All-Star team - a group dominated by National Team players. Patty Sheppard had

a strong game as did Claire Mitton who snared 10 rebounds to lead the Bloomers in that department.

Today the Bloomers are off to Acadia with high hopes of evening up their league record.

The team currently has a 0 and 2 record in the league having lost an overtime game 2 weeks to Dalhousie 79-75 and the other loss coming from St. Mary's 55-53 the same weekend.

The AUAA league should be hotly contested this year consider-

ing the strengths that have already been displayed by some teams.

The Bloomers do have some home games after Christmas including the infamous Holiday Classic Jan 5 and 6th. Hope to see all of you out to support the team.

## Red Raiders home tourney

The UNB Red Raiders will play their next home contests as part of the N.B. Holiday Classic. This year's event will be the 9th Annual Classic and according to Tourney Officials will be one of the best.

Four top Men Intercollegiate Teams will play in the opening round. Thomas College of Waterville, Maine will meet Mt. Allison in the 7:00 p.m. January 5th men's opening game. The feature game at 9:00 p.m. will have Laval University meeting the home favorite Red Raiders.

The Raiders are coming off a great up-set win over highly rated Dalhousie Tigers last Saturday afternoon. After dropping the opening game 87-81 on Friday evening, the "never quit" raiders won at the buzzer on Saturday 85-83. Scott Devine was the hero with his last second shot but Coach Nelson called it a "real team effort". No less than 9 players hit the scoring column with Devine top man at 24 points closely followed by Bob Aucoin with 23

and Captain Andy Cheam with 12.

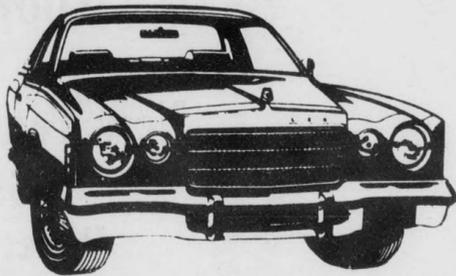
This weekend the Raiders play at Acadia Friday and Saturday. It will be a tough series as Acadia were National Champions in 77 and runner-up last year. Back in the Axemen line-up from the 78 season are high scoring guard Mike Hazard and rebounder Ted Upshaw. Two new imports for Acadia are Tom Cavanaugh 6'9"

5th year man who co-captained the University of New Hampshire the past two seasons. Tom Lyons is a third year transfer from Assumption College in Massachusetts.

The Raiders will go with their usual starting line-up of Andy Cheam and Scott Devine at the Guards, Bob Aucoin and Gary Young at the Wings and Leo Coyle at Center. Although the Raiders will start this 5, Coaches Nelson and Wright have consistently gone to their bench early and received great effort from Luigi Florean and Wayne Veysey at Guard, Marc McGeachy and Steve McGinley at Wings with Don McCormack at the Post. The Raiders finish up their first half season Monday night in Maine with a 7:00 p.m. game with the University of Maine at Machias.



Ski  
Ski  
Ski



# Ask us.

- Sub-Compacts
- Compacts
- Intermediates & Full Size
- Vans
- Trucks

Most Major Credit Cards Honored.  
Free Local Pick-up & Return.  
International Reservations  
SPECIAL INSURANCE RATES

True Hospitality...Plus!



Call Toll Free 1-800-665-8822

# 455-9979

304 KING ST