

UNB SPORTS

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BLOOMERS TOP SMU + ACADIA

By MARK SAVOIE

The UNB Red Bloomers despite their youth, certainly had a tremendous start to this year's season. After destroying a supposedly competitive Acadia team 69-45 last Friday night, they totally dominated the St. Marys squad en route to a 71-39 victory. The easy win over St. Marys did not come as a surprise, but the Acadia game had been expected to be a lot tougher than it eventually proved to be.

In the home opener against Acadia, the Bloomers were led by Pauline Lordon with 16 points. Joining Pauline in double figures were Lynn Christiansen, Kara Plmer, and Jill Jackson. The last of these, Jill Jackson, despite being the shortest player on the team, made an impression with her aggressive play both defensively and driving to the basket.

The second game, against St. Mary's, saw Jennifer Hale and Kara Palmer lead the team with 17 and 16 pints respec-

tively. Both of these freshmen had been expected to perform well immediately, and after their performances this weekend both seem ready to live up to these expectations.

In both games the Bloomers held their opposition to under 20 points in the second half. Coach Claire Mitton credits this to the team's defensive philosophy and the team's superior conditioning. Acadia and St. Mary's were simply unable to successfully penetrate against UNB's press-

ing defence. St. Marys was only able to generate 13 points in their second half. It was this defence that turned the Acadia gam into a rout. At the half the Bloomers led by only nine, but in the second half they continued their offensive output while effectively stopping Acadia's.

Two key players were slowed by injuries last weekend. Pauline Lordon sufered a knee injury in practice the day before last Friday's match, and as a result was held to totals

which would be disappointing for a healthy Pauline Lordon. Lynn Christiansen is currently suffering from a nagging back injury which particularly limited her effectiveness in the St. Marys game. It is hoped that the rest over the Christmas break will bring her back up to 100%.

This weekend the Bloomers play St. FX in Antigonish, and then travel to Dalhousie for what will be their toughest test of the pre-Christmas season.

RAIDERS REBUILDING

By PATRICK MCCARTHY

Optimism is a very scarce commodity around the UNB Raiders see better days ahead.

"Building a Foundatin" during this the latest in an endless string of "rebuilding seasons": the Raiders may finally have found a nucleus to take them back to the pinnacle of the AUA. Is this a realistic expectation?

Judging from their 2-7 start, the Raiders are not likely to even make the playoffs this season. After a 30 point loss to Acadia Friday night and a 20 point dejection from St. Mary's on Saturday, the team will probably finish the first half

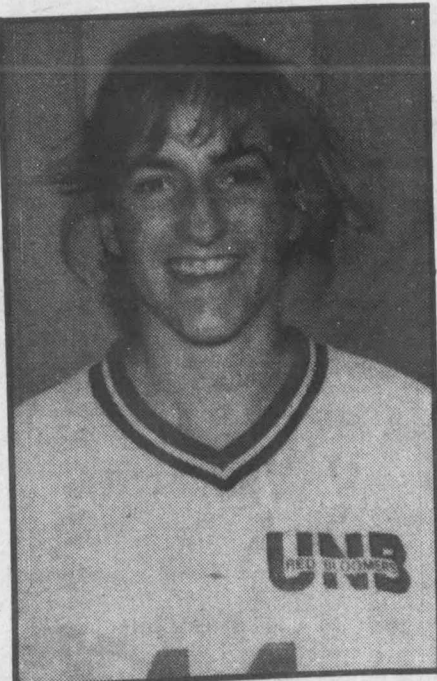
2-9 overall with an 0-6 record in conference play.

This team will begin to show its great potential at UNB over the next two to three years, and in that time may become the premier team in the conference: If they can stay

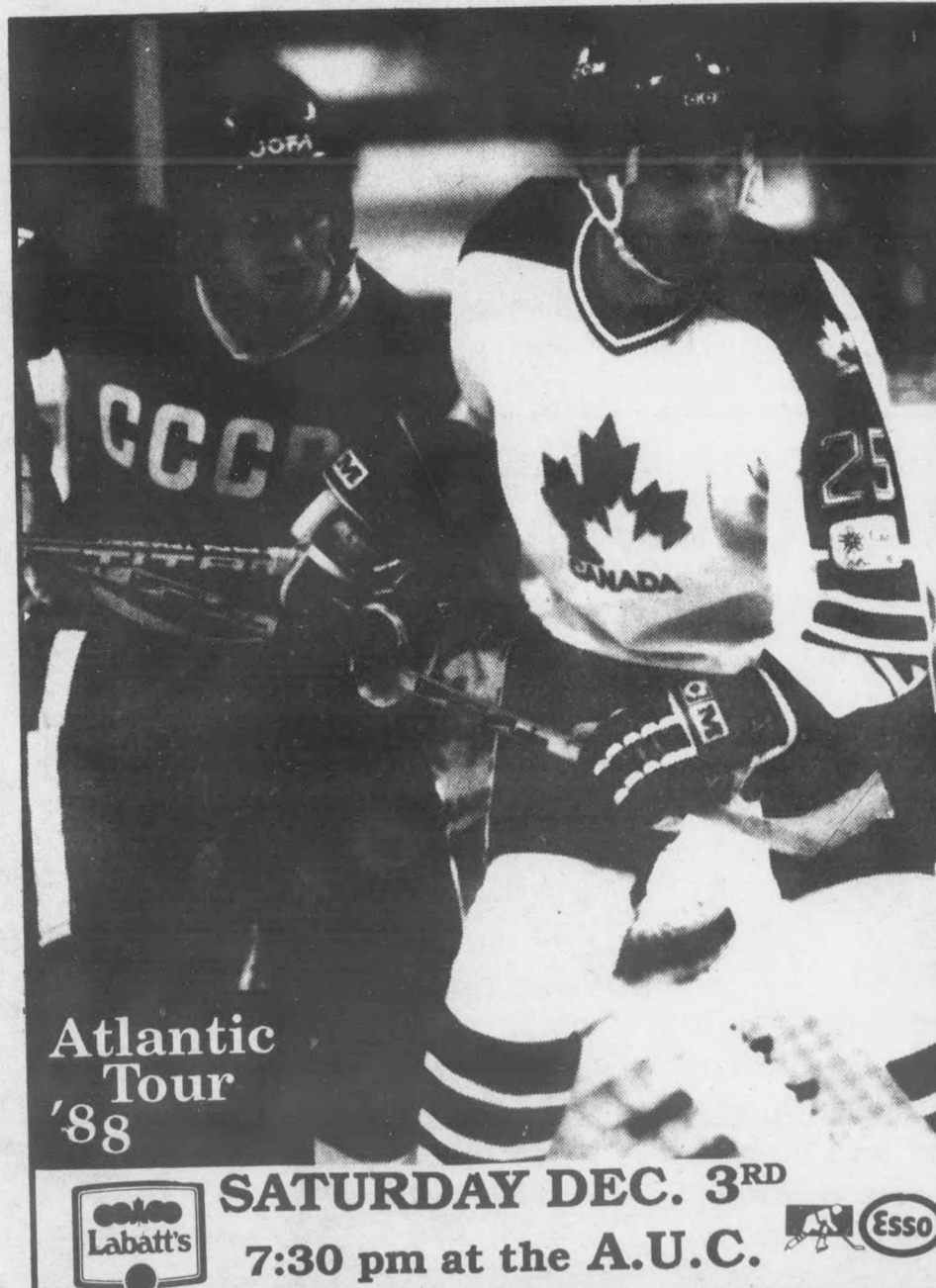
together! Over the last four years UNB has failed to keep several fine recruits in school. If new coach Phil Wright can succeed in mending this Achilles heel, the Raiders will finally be "rebuilt" and basketball will come back to the hill!

Athletes-of-the-Week

Kara Palmer, a first year Red Bloomer is UNB's Female-Athlete-of-the-Week. In the Bloomers first two AUA league Games this past weekend, Kara played solidly at both ends of the court. In Friday nights 69-45 win over Acadia, the PertheAndover native had 12 pts. and 15 rebounds. Saturday against SMU, the first year BPE student hopped 16 pts and grabbed 11 rebounds. Coach Claire Mitton was enthusiastic with Kara's start to the 88-89 season. "She rebounded well and made some great offensive post moves to score," commented Coach Mitton.



First year Rebel, Bryan Gauthier, has been honored as UNB's Male-Athlete-of-the-Week. The Rebels moved into a first place tie with Dal following three victories this past week. On Wednesday, the second year Business student had 21 kills in UNB's 3-2 win over UdeM. This weekend in Newfoundland, Bryan was named player of the game in Saturday's 3-0 win over MUN. Coach Paul Belanger was impressed with Bryan's play and "looks for a great contribution from him after the Christmas break."



Atlantic Tour '88

SATURDAY DEC. 3RD 7:30 pm at the A.U.C.



Sports Dept. Ticket Give-away

FREE TICKET DRAW