

## Born's Bears hungry to regain title AUAA

If names like "Feej", "Kokaine", the Invisible Man", and "Rico" don't mean anything to you, then you probably have not been following the exploits of the UNB Black Bears. These names are all nicknames of members of the team.

This weekend the UNB Black Bears wrestling team play host to the Atlantic Universities Athletic Association (AUAA) wrestling championships in the West Gym.

Head coach of the Bears, Jim Born, has been cracking the whip at the team for the past few weeks in preparation for the meet, the winners of which go on the national collegiate championships. His regimen has included morning weight training sessions as well as the regular evening workouts.

To add to the hardships that the team has been enduring, several of the members have had to lose weight in order to drop down to

lower categories. Born said that one member, George Pineau had to drop from close to 130 pounds to qualify for the division that he will be fighting in this weekend, the 109.

Pineau's record for the year includes winning the Montreal Open, the St. F.X. Open and the UNB Open. His only two losses of the season occurred when he was fighting in the 118 category. Last year he won the AUAA title at 109 pounds.

Other veterans on the roster include Dave Niles, Phil Knox, Rod Bell, Ric Cuthbertson and Steve Saunders. Saunders incurred an injury during practice last week and will be unable to compete this weekend.

Niles at 142 pounds, finished second in the conference last year, and garnered a 13-4 won lost record on his way to taking three open championships this season. Heavy weight Rod Bell has won

each meet that he has entered so far this season with his main competition coming from George Fieber of Dalhousie. Bell will be defending the AUAA title that he won last year.

Ric Cuthbertson is another defending champion. Cuthbertson left the team midway through the season due to personal problems but since then has rejoined it. Born said that Cuthbertson has shown a very good attitude during practices and is hoping that he will be able to repeat last year's performance. His biggest obstacle will be Wally Kazakowski from Dalhousie University.

Probably the strongest member of the team within his own category is Phil Knox who was a member of Canada's Junior World Championships team for Greco Roman Wrestling in 1976. So far this season he has amassed a 26-2 record and has taken the Montreal, Moncton, St. F.X. UNB

and Acadia Opens.

The remainder of the team is composed of a strong list of rookies who have demonstrated their skills aptly this season. Leading the list is Gabriel El Khoury who weights in at 134 pounds with a 13-4 record with three tournament wins. El Khoury narrowly lost a decision to F. Sanford of Dal when they last met in the final bout of the UNB Open.

Perry Kukkonen has finished second in each tournament this season but this is no indication of his skills as he had an overall record of 17-4. Born feels that Kokaine's main opposition will be in the form of Greg Wilson from Dalhousie.

126 pounder Dan Berman has an 8-7 record in one of the categories that Born feels will be the toughest at the AUAA's this weekend, the 126. Rick Fray and Jim Neville suffer from a lack of experience but Born said that each has improved "one hundred per cent" during the season.

Another rookie on the roster is Peter McTiernan who had never wrestled before this year. He will not be competing in the AUAA meet.

The Bears will be beefed up with the addition of two wrestlers who have been with the team for the last few weeks Kim MacPherson and Brian Gaudette have both wrestled with the Bears before and Born is hopeful that they will be able to take some points in the meet.

Born said that the categories that will provide the most exciting matches will be the 126, the 134, the 142, and the heavyweight. Although some of the categories will be small, he added that the calibre of wrestling should be very high and that the quality of wrestling in the Atlantic region has improved very much over the last few years.

He said that the favorites of the meet would have to be Dalhousie because of their record during the season. The Bears were beaten at the hands of Dalhousie several times this year but handed them a convincing defeat at the UNB Open.

Other universities which will be represented at the AUAA's are Memorial University of Newfoundland, Acadia, St. Francis Xavier and University of Moncton. Holland College from Prince Edward Island will be represented by one competitor.

Although he was undecided as to which weight categories some team members would be wrestling in, Born said that he felt that this year's championship will be one of the closest in recent years. Last year, the Bears were edged out of the team title by Dalhousie when they were unable to field a team with an entrant in each of the categories.

This year, he said that he has someone to fill all of the divisions and has some additional tricks up his sleeves as far as the actual alignment of the team goes. He said that if he looked at the situation optimistically, the Bears could win by four or five points. Looking at it pessimistically, the Bears could lose by seven or eight. "It'll be that close," he said.

He said that although Memorial, Moncton and Acadia will bring some strong individuals to the meet, they will probably not have the depth on their teams to be considered important factors for the championship title.

The meet begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday night and resumes Saturday morning at 10:30. All matches will be held in the West Gym of the Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium. Born said that any fan support, would be greatly appreciated by the Bears and added that in the past, crowds have been an important factor in many wrestling Championships.

## Red Bloomers split last pair

By BRENDA MILLAR

The UNB Red Bloomers won and lost games this weekend as they played at home against the UPEI

Lady Panthers and the St. Mary's Belles.

Last Friday the Lady Panthers went down in defeat at the hands of the Red Bloomers, 58-30. The

Bloomers were lead by Lois Scott and Liedy Scholten who each scored 12 points, while Joyce Pedersen dominated the boards for the Bloomers.

Sandy Drysdale helped the UPEI scoring with 11 points and Sherry Stearns, their 6'2" center, captured the Lady Panthers share of rebounds.

The Red Bloomers played their last home game of the season Saturday against St. Mary's. St. Mary's Belles have a good reputation this season with a no loss record and they left UNB with a 62-50 victory. Donna Hobin was the big gun for the Belles with 22 points most of which were from the 30 ft. range. Hobin received help from teammate Carol Tourney who melted 14 points and out-rebounded all the other Belles.

Nelda Robbins, along with Joyce Pedersen and Cathy Maxwell, combined to be the Bloomer's stronghold. Robbins popped 14 points while Pedersen and Maxwell shared the majority of the Bloomer rebounds.

The Bloomers unfortunately experienced an offensive drought in the second half which contributed greatly to their loss. The Bloomer defense was overwhelming as the team held SMU to a score of 62 points, not to mention an all time low for Tourney who averages over 30 pts. a game. The Bloomers next meeting with SMU will be the weekend of Feb. 25-26 in Truro, Nova Scotia where they will battle it out for the Atlantic Conference Title.

Meanwhile, the Bloomers have two more away games this weekend against Dalhousie on Friday and St. F.X. on Saturday. They hope to reorganize the offense and prepare themselves for the Atlantic Conference Playoffs.

The Bloomers would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who generously sponsored them in the recent Basketball. The venture was a total success and the Bloomers very much appreciated your support.

## Wheatley blazes way to new record

Although Diane Jones was the featured attraction at the recent National Pentathlon meet held in Moncton, it was a UNB competitor who stole the show — at least as far as the running events were concerned.

Nancy Wheatley blazed through 3,000 m. in 10.12.3 which is the fastest time ever run in New Brunswick by a woman, over this distance. It is also one of the fastest times in Canada so far this year, by a junior woman (under 19).

## Fencers stab victory

The UNB Fencing Club scored its second victory of the season as it won the A. Knappe Team Trophy last Saturday at UNB.

The team consisting of Sylvia Wasseem (Ladies Foil), Jeff Goethals (Men's Foil), Basil Burgess (epee) and Cal Lambert (sabre) achieved 8 out of 12 victories to win the trophy, 2 more than the second place team from the Royal Canadian Air Cadets.

After being shown off by the team members, the trophy will be placed on show at the L.B. Gym where it will hopefully stay for many years.

Two members of the club, Wasseem and Burgess will be going to Ottawa this weekend to compete in the Ottawa Shield tournament. This is a large tournament, bringing in fencers from all over Eastern Canada.

Coming up in March will be the UNB Shield here at UNB. The club hopes to attract fencers from Quebec, Maine, and the Maritimes to this competition.

Besides being a personal best and a provincial record, this performance also qualifies Nancy to compete in the Canadian Senior Track Championships in Feb. 26 and 27, which she is eagerly looking forward to. Wheatley is the first UNB runner to qualify for these championships although a few other team members are quite close to the standards.

Two other UNB athletes as well as the coach of the team, Wayne Stewart, competed and turned in god performances. Peter McAuley captured first place in the senior men's 1,500 m. with a 4.11.2 clocking which is a personal best for him. He was closely followed over the line by his brother Sandy McAuley, who captured second place in 4.12.2, a personal best for him. Sandy later ran in the senior men's 3,000 m. and finished third.

The men's 3,000 was won by coach Wayne Stewart in a very fast time of 8.23 which is a new provincial and personal record. This time also qualifies Stewart to compete in the senior championships, which he is looking forward to.

Also competing over the weekend, but not in Moncton, was UNB's Ralph Freeze who ran in the Toronto Star Maple Leaf Indoor Games on Feb. 11.

Freeze ran in the two mile event in the collegiate section of the meet and finished seventh amongst a very strong field with a time of 9.19 which is a personal best over this distance for him.

Freeze was to have competed in Moncton two days later but on his flight home from Toronto his running equipment somehow got misplaced. At last report he was still waiting for it.



Bloomer's Coach Joyce Slipp discusses some strategy with several team members.



Photo/Graphics by J.

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