

Bears grasp wins, but Born NOT happy

By TOM BEST
Sports Editor

Jim Born's wrestling Black Bears may be having one of their best seasons the past few years but the veteran coach is not happy. So far this year, the Bears have beaten the University of Maine Presque Isle (for the first time), Acadia, St. Francis, the Universite de Moncton, and last years Atlantic conference champions the Dalhousie Tigers. Still, Born is not happy.

"Unfortunately right now we're giving up a few weight classes because we've had sort of a rash of people leaving the team. We're in a position now where we're giving up anywhere from three to four weight classes because of people who, in fact, have committed themselves to the team and then decided that they wanted to get out for whatever reason," Born said.

Coach Born had high hopes for at least two of those who decided to leave the team, Dave Niles was last year's AUAA champion in the 142 pound category and Bill Peppard a new addition to the team. "I felt that Bill had the abilities to be an AUAA champion. He had the same qualities as a George Pineau (last year's CIAU winner in the 109 pound class). He was strong and could stay at that weight. It was kind of unfortunate because the kids were looking for Bill to be in the 118 weight class and now when we go into the AUAA's we'll have to bring someone down from another class."

"here's people who have committed themselves to our program and all of a sudden decided that they want to go on and do something else for various reason. I don't know if it's a lack of mental toughness or what but in some cases in talking to some of the people who left they admitted that they just didn't want to go through with the work outs and just weren't mentally tough."

Born said that he thought that the loss of these wrestlers has affected the attitudes of the rest of the team. "Our team got down on it and it affected their moral because one day we had a 118

and the next day the guy bolts on us. We had a 142 and he leaves us. We had a heavyweight who left us. It sort of took a hold of our team." He added that the effect was not all negative. "To some degree there has been a positive effect. The people that have stayed are kids who have committed themselves to the program and I don't foresee anybody leaving the team. They have taken the responsibility now that if we don't have the weight classes, we are going to have to work that much harder to win first place in the other categories."

"It gets pretty upsetting" Born said, "for coaches, team members and to a lot of people to expect a person after committing themselves to the program and then decide to leave the team for whatever selfish reasons or whatever reasons. I know in one case one of the guys who quit our team he wanted to go to more hockey games. He wanted to go to Boston for a weekend to watch a hockey game. Our season being as short as it is, I think that anybody can get to a hockey game after our season's over."

The Bears coach realizes that wrestling is one of the more difficult sports to remain dedicated to because of the stringent physical and mental demands that are placed on the serious athlete. He added that he felt that the remaining Bears had these attributes but that some people "just don't have it".

Injuries have also taken their toll on the team this year. He named at least eight team members who are currently on the inactive list because of injuries or who are continuing to wrestle despite injuries. He hopes that they will all have recovered by the time that the AUAA championships come around.

He said that he was still looking for people to fill the weight categories that are vacant especially the 109 and the 118 "we're looking for anyone who is interested and wants to commit themselves to a program."

This year is also one of the first years when several of the weight classes have had more than one candidate. Born said that he would have to hold "wrestle-offs" in order to decide which person

would represent UNB in the AUAA's. "I think that I might attribute some of the people leaving simply because the going got a little tough and consequently didn't want to have to work that hard." People just don't want to dedicate themselves to the sport.

Born said that today's society was "getting soft" because of the innovations in transportation and other aspects of our daily life "Now a days it doesn't seem that many people want to work that hard to achieve anything. Working hard in sports is synonymous to working hard in a job. Some people with their attitudes are probably going to be hurt when they start working."

Financial assistance to players would help attract players to UNB, but Born does not feel that it would keep the players here. "I don't think that the money has anything to do with the individuals dedication. It's a matter of the

more desire, the drive and the mental toughness of whoever it is when he commits himself to the sport." He said that he knew of cases in the USA of people with large scholarships who did not have the dedication to work hard and did not contribute much to the success of a team. He indicated that the wrestlers at UNB did not receive any assistance but they were still a very dedicated group of individuals who had the potential of winning the championship.

"In a nutshell," he said, "the UNB wrestling team is an excellent club. They've got a lot of dedication, they've got a lot of desire and a lot of mental toughness. That's the key word for our team this year. We've got to be able to go out and be physically and mentally prepared. If we can whip the mind and the pain, our kids will do extremely well. Our objective for this year is to bring



Jim Born

home that trophy to the University of New Brunswick." \$ With dedication like that, the championship can't be too far behind.

Swimmers eke out successful weekend

By KAREN STANGROOM

The past weekend's swimming and diving competitions demonstrated that UNB is definitely in the running to be the Atlantic Conference Champions in both the men's and women's divisions. Despite the fact that Acadia's women were national champions last year they do not seem to be quite as powerful this year which gives UNB a good shot at the conference title. Although their men are UNB's stiffest competition Acadia's men still have a few strokes to go to catch up.

On the whole, the team is continuing to look strong. Many of the times swum on the weekend will place our swim-

mers higher in National Intercollegiate rankings. Qualifying for CIAU's this weekend were Karen Stangroom in 800 freestyle and Debbie Whittemore in 200 IM & 200 FR.

As yet no men have qualified, mainly because of the very tough standards set for this year's Nationals.

Top placers in Friday's meet against Acadia and Laval included Kathy Gaul - first in 50 and 100 free, Karen Stangroom - 2nd in 800 free and 500 Breast, Debbie Whittemore - 2nd in 200 free, Julie Johnson - 2nd in 200 Bk, Randi Stangroom - 2nd in 400 free. UNB came second to Acadia in both the 400 medley and free relays.

In men's competition Bill Emery took first place in both 200 and 400 free, Rob Davis - 1st in 1500

free, Bruce Williams - 1st in 200 Back, John MacGillivray - 2nd in 50 and 100 free, and Ian Sinclair - 2nd in 200 Back. The men won both relays.

The diving competitions proved to be interesting as UNB's Betty Middleton placed 2nd in both 1 M and 3 M. Competitions to Acadia's Judy Bailey while on Saturday she placed first in both. As expected UNB's Dale MacLean took top standings on both boards in both competitions while Gary Kelly followed behind.

Saturday's meet again Dal and Laval resulted in a double victory for UNB - both the men and the women came out on top. For UNB Debbie Whittemore placed first in 200 IM and 200 fly; Karen Stangroom swam to a first place finish in 400 free and 2nd place in both 200 fly and 200 breast. Julie Johnson won the 200 back while Kathy Gaul took second in that race; Dierdre Pretlove placed 2nd in 100 free and Darlene MacDonald finished 2nd in 50 free. UNB won both relays.

For the men, Rob Davis touched first in 200 IM and 200 Breast while Bill Emery took the 400 free. However, he had to be content with a second in the 200 free. John MacGillivray showed himself to be one of the fastest by winning both the 50 and 100 freestyles. Yango looked strong in his second place 200 fly and Bruce Williams swam to a 2nd place in 200 back. Both relays went to UNB.

Next weekend brings UNB's first away meets of the new year. Friday they travel to Wolfville to meet Acadia. Saturday they will compete in Halifax against Dal.

The next three weeks comprise three of the most important training weeks. The team must be training hard yet be fairly rested and confident for the week-end meets. Coach Barry Roberts feels that the past weekend accomplished a lot for the team in terms of each swimmer setting personal goals for AUAA's and CIAU's. The team is looking forward to the next two weekends of travelling to meets.

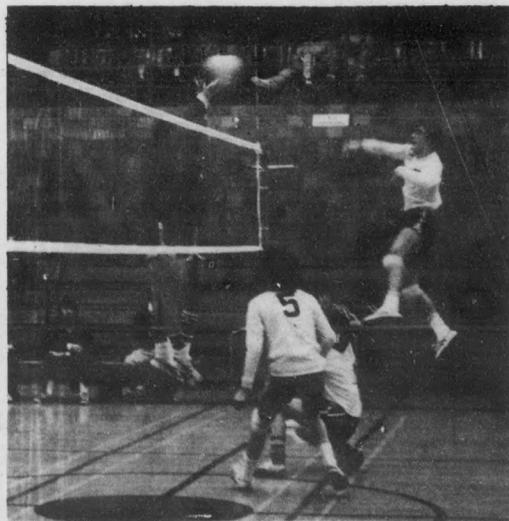


Photo Langersis

Last weekend the Volleyball Rebels lost a close match to the Dalhousie Tigers, three games to two. Here two Rebels block a spike from a flying Tiger.

Bloomers continue wins

By TERRY CURTIS

Through rain, sleet, and snow, the UNB Red Bloomers carried on to another victorious weekend. Last Friday, the Bloomers played a close and frustrating game against the St. Mary's Belles who performed above their usual game level.

After stopping in Moncton to have a scrimmage against Moncton High, the Bloomers found it difficult to settle down to University play once again. At half time the score was 31-24 for the Bloomers. Moira Pryde played an excellent game for the Bloomers scoring 14 points and pulling down several key rebounds. High scorer for UNB was Clair Mitton with 16 points. Final score was 65-58 for UNB.

On Saturday, the UNB squad faced their toughest competition - the Dalhousie Tigerettes. Dal is presently placed 2nd in the League and desperately wanted a win against UNB. Although Dal played a superb offensive game and, at one point, had a 12 point lead on the Bloomers, the UNB squad decided it was time for Dal to play UNB's type of game and clinched the lead in the last five

minutes of the game. At half time Dal was ahead by a score of

32-30. Final score was 62-58 for the Bloomers.

Once again Moira Pryde had a terrific game together with UNB's high scorer, Cathy Maxwell with 16 points. The last two victories for the Red Bloomers give the team an 8 win and no loss record in intercollegiate play. Another key player in the Dalhousie victory was forward Laura Sanders who could not be stopped in her effort to aid the Bloomers in their 8th win of the conference. Sanders hooped a total of 15 points and pulled down numerous offensive and defensive rebounds.

The Bloomers travel to St. F.X. this weekend to face, for the first time this year, the St. F.X. Axettes who have been reported to be playing a tough defensive game.

Their next home game is this Sunday, Jan. 29, at 1:30 p.m. against the University of Moncton Angels.

The Red Bloomers would like to congratulate their "tall" teammate Moira Pryde for being voted this week's Athlete of the Week - "A job well done!!".