

SPORTS

Black Bears score double

By RON HARWOOD

The UNB Black Bears Wrestling team is rolling. On Wednesday Jan. 13, UNB hosted, and soundly defeated, the Mount Allison Mounties and University of Maine Presque Isle. The Bears had wrestled Mount Allison in a pre-Christmas exhibition match and showed themselves to be a much improved club, losing only two matches in the contest.

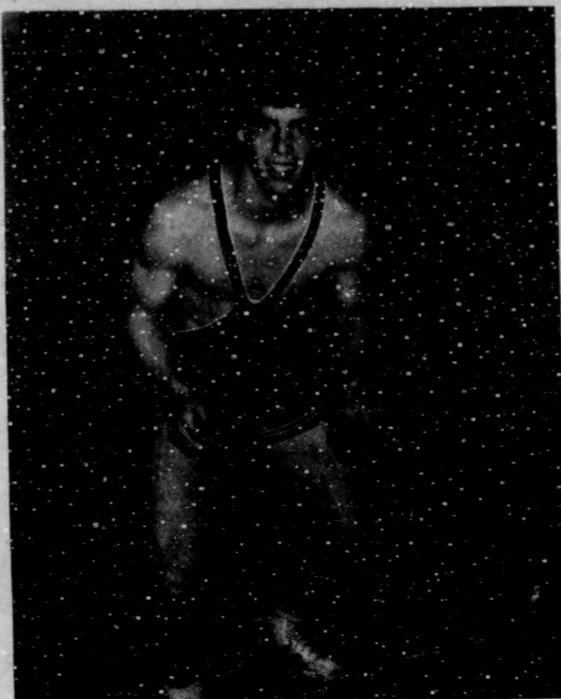
UNB's Kevin Hodgson was first up for the Bears at 118 lbs. He lost a close encounter and the bout could have gone either way until the last thirty seconds. At the end of the first round, Kevin was leading his opponent by two points.

Brian Bessey, one of UNB's standouts for the day and a Fredericton native, topped his opponent at 128 lbs. The Mt. "A" pugilist was obviously not ready for the lean and mean Bessey. Brian, having lost ten pounds in four days in preparation for the match, obviously had it in his mind that if he was going to go hungry, someone was going to suffer because of it. Congratulations Brian!

Tim Murphy put forth his usually solid performance, pinning his rival early in the bout. Dennis Mahoney, Greg Hughes, and Shane Donovan put away their opponents and Gabriel El Khoury was next in the ring. Gubby, new to the Bears squad this year, but by no means a rookie to Black Bears wrestling, fought to a decision win. A tired El Khoury increased UNB's lead to 27-3 over Mt. "A."

Next up, Leo McGee put on an impressive performance, defeating his wide eyed and bewildered Mountie 12-0 early in the first round. McGee demonstrated his superiority on the mat, rolling his man for six two-point exposures in a row. Wayne Wiggins wrestled his way to victory in an outstanding performance at 220 lbs.

Rick Parker, Harrison House's favorite wrestler, gamely sought victory against Mt. A's John Macherin in the heavyweight division but victory slipped through his fingers as Rick ended up on the lower end of a decision win. Rick's heart is as big as his 245 lb. frame and he will be back. At the end of the



BRIAN BESSEY



LEO MCGEE

match the score was UNB 44, Mt. A 6.

Against Presque Isle, UNB dominated with a ferocity characteristic of our Black Bears as the visitors failed to pick up a point.

On Sunday afternoon Jan. 17, there was action once more in the west gym as our Bruins soundly defeated the visiting Dalhousie Tigers. UNB came out on top 48-6 and

did not lose a bout all afternoon. Dal's points came on a forfeit at 177 lbs., as UNB's Leo McGee did not wrestle due to an injury sustained against University of Maine. Winners for the Black Bears were Brian Bessey, Tim Murphy, Dennis Mahoney, Greg Hughes, Shane (cobra) Donovan, Gabriel El Khoury, Ron Harwood, Wayne (torch) Wiggins, and Rick Parker.

Standouts for the Bears were Mahoney and the Torch.

This weekend, the Bears travel to a tournament at Mt. Allison. Their next home match is on Friday, January 29 when we will host the St. Francis Xavier X-Men. "X" defeated UNB 31-30 in their last encounter and it promises to be an exciting grudge match.

Raiders topple hapless Mounties

By DAVE MOMBOURQUETTE

The Mount Allison Mounties are quickly learning just how far behind the rest of the conference they really are, the latest clue coming on Tuesday night, as the Red Raiders overcame an extremely sluggish first half to trample the visitors 89-61, in an AUSA league game at the L.B. Gym. Scoring sensation Don McCormack, was red hot once again as he tickled the twines for 24 second half points, enroute to a game high 32.

The Raiders led 31-26 at the half, the score indicative of some very sloppy play on the part of both teams. The Mounties held an early 12-4 lead, as the Raiders failed to capitalize on some excellent inside work by Chris McCabe, and could simply not find the range from outside. The lack of a threat from the perimeter enabled the visitors to use a tenacious zone defense, which often took the form of a half-court zone press. The Raiders were able to take over late in the

half, as their continued rebounding dominance enabled them to gear up their fast break. The Mounties Randy Field led all scorers at the half with 10, while Don McCormack paced UNB with 8.

With McCormack coming out gunning in the second half, the Mt. A zone quickly dissolved, giving Scott Devine the opportunity to set up the Raiders fast break. Both Devine and McCormack admitted the Mounties' half-court press was responsible for the slow start, with Devine noting, "they were trying to keep me and Ken away from the basket, but when Don hit a couple of shots early in the second half, things opened up."

Scott Devine contributed 17 points to the effort, in addition to his usual brilliant ball handling and playmaking. Chris McCabe also found the range, scoring 14 points in a starting effort, while controlling the defensive boards.

On the weekend, the Raiders split a pair of road

games, defeating the University of Maine Machias 77-68 on Saturday, before falling to Husson College of Bangor, Maine, by a score of 99-83, the following day.

The Machias game was highlighted by the return of Chris McCabe to the active roster, ironically against the same team the Raiders had been playing when Chris was injured back in November. The leading scorer for UNB was Don McCormack, with 24, while Scott Devine, Ken Amos, Bill Young and McCabe, all reached double figures.

Associate Coach Phil Wright was quick to praise McCabe for his efforts, saying, "he really rebounded well against Machias. He was the one who turned it around, by enabling us to get our fast-break clicking." Mains had led 40-39 at the half.

Against Husson, the Raiders ran into a powerful frontcourt unit, which enabled the host team to take a 53-39 halftime lead. The major contributor to

the Husson victory was guard Ernie Burchill, who hooped 32 points for his team, mostly off the fast break. Coach Wright summed it up saying, "It was just a matter of us not being able to get the boards. They were too big for us." With guards Devine and Amos combining for only 7 points, as he continued to prove himself as

one of the best shooters in the region. A rapidly improving Bill Young, helped out to the tune of 20 points, the only other Raider in double figures.

The next home game for the Raiders takes place on Tuesday night, against the University of Maine Presque Isle. Tip-off is slated for 7:30 at the L.B. Gym.

Beavers win

In a dual competition against Mount Allison University, on January 9, UNB swimming Beavers sank the male Mounties by a score of 36-16. The Mermaids were nipped by Mt. A in a close decision, 48-43. Mt. Allison's womens teams is ranked one of the top ten university swim squads in Canada.

Leslie Eginton was the best performer for UNB, as she won three events. Leslie is now eligible to make the trip to Vancouver in March, on the basis of her CIAU standard breaking effort, in the 100

Metre Freestyle.

Three Beavers, Roger Patterson, Greg Pheeny, and Warren Saville, each had three wins, while Peter Barton and Linda Potts had two victories apiece.

Your last chance to see the UNB swim teams compete at home this season, comes this weekend. Friday night at 6:00 P.M., the Beavers and Mermaids will host Acadia University, while Saturday afternoon, you can catch them in action against the Dalhousie University Tigers. Both meets are being held at the Sir Max Aitken Pool, and admission is free.