

Panthermanettes

By Phil Stanyer and Gus Hillstrom
(With spiritual guidance from Bill Harwood)

"Boom-Chug-a-lug-a-lug-a Boom, "chants the group-of-five as they march out onto the field.

Clad in ladies field hockey shirts, socks and skirts, and disguised in make-up and wigs, the frolicking, fun-loving quintet cheers on the Panthers to victory over UNB at noise-maker day.

Little did the crowd, somewhat bewildered and totally amused, realize that they were witnessing the brainchild of Gus Hillstrom.

For the first time in UPEI's history, dedicated male liberated students took matters into their own hands and ventured into a previously untapped obligation.

Yes . . . it was the beginning of a legacy . . . the UPEI cheerleaders.

UPEI soccer fans were still in shock following the awesome debut of the Panthermanettes!

A fever had engulfed the UPEI populous and its environs! The Panthermanettes had gone where no man had gone before!

After the UPEI soccer Panthers guaranteed themselves a playoff final hosted at UPEI, the Panthermanettes continued their quest of building up Panthermania!

With the support of athletic director Ed Hilton, the boys geared up for yet another performance.

As the Panthermanettes cheered on close to 2,000 screaming fans hungry for victory over Dalhousie, it was obvious the crowd would not tolerate a defeat.

And such was the case; they were not disappointed.

The next day had an air of Christmas as the Panthermanettes donned their long-johns in order to combat the elements that threatened cancellation of the biggest game the campus has ever seen.

You could almost hear the late Bing Crosby crooning that old familiar song - "Here we go Panthers, here we go, uh, uh!" as volunteers crawled out of the woodwork to shovel away snowflakes that had filtered down during the night and caressed the great green expanse of MacAdam field.

It was official! Panthermania had taken over! The ominous white cover only gave the Panthermanettes the opportunity to utilize the head-first-slide, the 3.2 point landing and elegant tumbles to the ecstatic roars of the incredibly raucous Panther fans.

Needless to say, the Panthers buried UNB with the snow that was shovelled off the pitch. The final read; Panthers 2 - Red Sucks 0!

Then, as four of the quintet found themselves en route to Montreal, without their fearless leader, little did they realize he was on his way on an unexpected sidetrack from a marketing conference in Halifax.

"Thar she blows!" wailed Flynn' Phil as he rendezvoused with the rest of the team at the Sheraton Mont-Royal (Boy they've got great towels, don't they, Ian? But that's okay, we won't tell).

The Panthermanettes reluctantly found themselves in (friendly) bars, strip joints and houses of ill-repute.

But they still managed to make it to the game the next day (keep it up guys, if you don't have drinker's droop!)

Although they were not allowed onto the field, the Panthermanettes cheered on the crowd (the majority of which were Panther fans who braved fan vans and treacherous highways to get to Montreal...Allright!) who were wanting a Panther victory.

Even though the soccer Panthers, the Panthermanettes and the fans went down to defeat on the scoreboard...we all know in our hearts we accomplished a huge victory! We know for sure, next year, the soccer Panthers will be back; and with them will be...the Panthermanettes.

For your information...these are the gallant souls that made up the Panthermanettes in 1983: Gus Hillstrom, Phil Stanyer, Kent Thomson, Murray Culligan, Kevin MacNeil, Mark MacAdam, Philip Muise and Bill Harwood, without whose courage and patriotism we could not have provided proper moral support for the soccer team! Way to go Panthers! We love you!

Male and Female athletes of the week

After two big Panther hockey victories last weekend over St. FX and Moncton at the Forum, Greg Gravel left the rink smiling.

The big, strapping centreman from Kapuskasing, Ontario scored four times and added five assists in two games, and his achievements did not go unnoticed.

Gravel became the first UPEI varsity sports participant in the history of this school to be elected the CIAU male athlete-of-the-week!

Quite an accomplishment! And we want you to know we



A capacity crowd looks on as Panthers' Mike Morgan and Trevor Willock (40) leap above the outstretched arm of Willie Hubbard (42) grabbing for a rebound in AUAA basketball action last Saturday at the Alumni Gym. Grey Williams (54) and Ron Valentine (23) brace themselves while Carl Doucet (44) blocks out big Gary Bratty. The Panthers pulled away in the second half to upset the stunned and highly-rated, St. Mary's Huskies 79-61. Willock led the Panthers with 19 points and 11 rebounds and Curtis Brown and Mike Morgan chipped in with 18 and 16 points respectively. (Photo: Stanyer)

Hockey Panthers

By Phil Stanyer

The UPEI Panthers hockey team is for real.

You didn't have to be at the Forum Saturday or Sunday to hear the blasts escaping out the doors.

The green machine exploded for two AUAA victories to up their record to five wins against just one loss on the year.

St. Francis Xavier were the victims Saturday, absorbing a 7-1 drubbing.

Then the Panthers shocked appreciate your efforts Greg!

And if you haven't put two and two together by now, the local athletic department also saw in their infinite wisdom to present Gravel UPEI's male athlete-of-the-week.

Debbie McAloney came out of nowhere, Sunday, to lead our Panthers lady's basketball team to a 72-61 victory over King's College of Halifax.

All Debbie did was score 20 points and pull down 11 rebounds for her female athlete-of-the-week award.

Way to go Debbie! We're pulling for you and Greg and all UPEI athletes!

the powerful University of Moncton Blue Eagles 10-2 Sunday.

Against St. FX, the Panthers erased a 1-0 deficit to post the victory.

Ron Carragher led the way with two goals, while Greg Gravel, UPEI's male athlete of the week, added a goal and two assists.

John Panasuk, who just might be the fastest skater in the AUAA, jammed in the winning goal following a goal-mouth scramble late in

the second period.

The Panthers dominated the game, peppering the opposition with 53 shots on the afternoon, including 29 in the final frame.

Meanwhile, Dave Reid played very well in the Panther net, turning aside 17 shots, allowing only a backhand midway through the second period off the stick of Ken Taylor.

It was almost the same story in Sunday's game.

After the Panthers scored five unanswered goals in the third period against St. FX, all they did was put six past a bewildered Blue Eagle goaler, Sunday.

It was 4-0 for the Panthers before the defending AUAA champions got on the scoreboard.

And they struck quickly near the end of the second period.

Two goals 23 seconds apart, the first one on a powerplay, cut the locals lead in half as they headed for the dressing room.

But Greg Gravel was flying out of the gate in the final session.

He took a lead pass from Steve Fulton and scored shorthanded on a breakaway to give the Panthers a three-goal lead.

And they didn't stop there.

With the crowd going wild, Norman Beck rapped in two goals within 12 seconds to give his team a 7-2 margin with about 12 minutes to play.

It was John Butler's turn two minutes later, and then Gravel again.

John Pocock sent the fans into delirium when he put the Panthers into double figures for the first time this season at the 15-minute mark.

It was simply the biggest victory for a Panther hockey team in years.

It defied logic that they would beat the second best team in the country last year by such a lopsided advantage.

Gravel played like a man possessed, and his incessant style of play really typifies the kind of hockey that we are going to see from the Panthers this season.

In the first period, when the green shirts were really flying, Gravel stroked a slapper so hard that it sent starter Daniel Berube to the dressing room with an injured knee.

Avellino Gomez was superb in the Panther net, and kept his team in the game in the first period when the Blue Eagles had numerous scoring chances.

The momentum could have swung either way early, actually, but Gomez and the defence avoided letting the puck into their own net, one time with the help of the goal post.

And the Panther powerplay worked to perfection, accounting for their first four goals.

The Panthers next play Saint Mary's Huskies tonight in Halifax, and then take on the St. Francis Xavier X-Men in a return match tomorrow in Antigonish.

GOAL-LINES — Coach Vince Mulligan has got to be happy with the effort of his Panthers. Monday's practice was nothing more than a light skate and shooting the puck around. And they just might have a new motto; we're not chasing anybody, from now on they're chasing us. They're a confident bunch of boys and it's going to take a lot to knock the Panthers off their pedestal right now. The potential is there for a winner and every Panther knows it; they just have to play consistent hockey the rest of the season and be ready come playoff time.