

Lady Panthers Lose AUAA By One Point

By Nancy Ross

Last weekend the UPEI Lady Panthers travelled to Fredericton to participate in the Atlantic Universities women's basketball conference championship.

The Lady Panthers placed third in regular season play with a 10-4 record, followed by St. Mary's with a 9-5 record.

But the top two teams in the AUAA this year were UNB and Dalhousie. The former had an impressive 13-1 record for number one spot, while Dal had 12 wins

and 2 losses.

In semi-final action UPEI easily disposed of the Dalhousie squad, taking advantage of the numerous turnovers created by the other team. The Lady Panthers' strong zone defense forced the Tigers to take low percentage shots outside the key.

In the second half, Dal didn't reach the scoreboard until the 12:38 mark. The noticeably sluggish offense exhibited by both teams in the first half improved considerably, but the Panther defense remained strong to hold the Dal offense at bay.

The final score was 52-41 for UPEI. Paula Edwards led with 17 points and 12 rebounds. Sherrydawn Jones accumulated 10 points.

Other contributors for UPEI were Libby Baldwin with 9, Sonia Edwards with 8 points and 11 rebounds, Colleen Rossiter 2, Tracy MacEachern 2, Cindy Doyle 2 and Debbie MacAloney 2.

As UPEI Lady Panthers were eliminating Dal from further competition, the UNB Red Bloomers defeated the St. Mary's Belles 70-56. As a result, UNB and UPEI were destined to meet in the AUAA final championship game, to be played the next day.

The AUAA championship game got underway on Feb. 23 at 2.

The defending UNB Bloomers got off to an early start, but the fired-up Lady Panthers were not to be underestimated.

UPEI kept a strong defense, forcing UNB to shoot outside the key. The two teams traded baskets, and at half time UNB led 26-21.

In the early part of the second half, UNB had accumulated an 11 point lead

but this was as big a margin as they would get. UPEI kept their two-three zone defense tight and again UNB was forced to make the outside shot.

On numerous occasions, UNB gave up possession of the ball because the thirty second shot clock ran out. This kept UNB's score below average.

The Lady P's came within three points in the last five minutes, finally getting a big break which gave them the lead and the perspective victory as Sherrydawn Jones sunk the go-ahead basket with 25 seconds left on the clock.

It appeared UPEI was on its way to victory, but these thoughts were quickly shattered when Bonnie MacKenzie scored for UNB with just six seconds left on the clock.

The Lady Panthers made a final attempt to regain the lead when Sonia Edwards went to the hoop with a twenty-foot jump shot which went off the rim at the sound of the buzzer.

The final score was a heart-breaking 46-45 for the UNB Red Bloomers.

UPEI dominated the boards outrebounding UNB 45-27. UNB had a slight edge in the shooting percentage with 35-32. The Lady Panthers captured 21 turnovers compared to the Red Bloomers 20.

Sherrydawn Jones led the Lady P's with 14 points including the go-ahead basket. Sonia Edwards had 12 points and successfully hauled down 17 rebounds.

Other scorers were Paula Edwards with 8, Libby Baldwin 4, Cindy Doyle 4, Debbie MacAloney 2 and Colleen Rossiter 1.

Although all the team members did not get to play, the bench was strongly supportive of those who did see playing time. On many occasions the bench drouded out the home town fans by their constant chant of "Defense, Defense".

Congratulations to coach Dave MacNeil and the Lady Panthers for a great season and tremendous AUAA final

On the weekend, two lady Panthers were recognized for their contributions in the AUAA conference.

Paul Edwards was named Rookie of the Year, eliminating several contenders for the award. Paula was also named to the first all-star team.

Sherrydawn Jones was named to the second all-star team for her tremendous contributions to the third place Lady Panthers in the AUAA conference.

The *Netted Gem* congratulates both Paula and Sherrydawn for an outstanding season and their contribution proved a tremendous asset to the team.

From the Hart



While most students enjoyed the Mid-term break by relaxing at home, studying or partying at their favourite resort, UPEI Panther teams were very hard at work.

The Men's Hockey team, ranked second in the nation by the Canadian Inter-University Athletic Union, clinched first place in the conference with a victory over Mount Allison in the final AUAA game of the season.

The P's are now embroiled in a tight series with the UDEM Blue Eagles for the AUAA title and the Panthers will have to keep a close check on the Moncton skaters and grind them down if they want to take the series. When Moncton roams around unmolested they are unbeatable on any ice surface.

It was the first time the Panthers have ever finished on the top of the heap in the very competitive hockey loop and their best finish was back in the early seventies when UPEI finished in second place. The Saint Dunstan University Saints finished in first place in the mid-60's.

The Panthers swept the Dal Tigers in two games in the best-of-three semi-final while Moncton advanced to the final series by beating the scrappy Acadia Axemen.

Acadia almost took the series as they defeated the Blue Eagles in Wolfville and lost in the second game in Moncton in double overtime.

The Dal-UPEI matchup was what you would call exciting hockey and a lot of the credit must go to the Dal goalie Darren Cossar who played outstanding between the pipes and to the entire Dal organization.

Thane Campbell, a former member of the UPEI Panthers now playing with Dalhousie, said that many of the Dal Tigers were playing despite 100 degree temperature brought on by a touch of the Flu.

Campbell was doing the color for CKDU, Dalhousie University's new FM Radio Station.

The Panthers played last night and the series concludes this weekend at the Forum Saturday and if necessary Sunday, both scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, in an attempt to generate some noise and support for the P's, *The Netted Gem* will sponsor a banner and noisemaker day at the Forum.

Gentleman Jim's Steak House, K-Mart Foods and A&A Records and Tapes have offered gift certificates for the prizes.

The UPEI Lady Panthers almost upset the UNB Red Bloomers at the AUAA Women's Basketball finals in Fredericton, New Brunswick last week.

The Women, had a banner year and it came down to the final minute before the game was decided with the UNB squad.

They advanced to the final by beating the Dal Tigers in the semi-final while UNB defeated the Saint Mary's Belles in other semi-final.

UPEI dominated the boards and kept UNB shooters in check with an excellent 2-3 zone defence.

Rookie Paula Edwards was named Rookie of the Year in the AUAA and named to the First All-Star team while Sherrydawn Jones was selected as second All-Star.

The selection of Edwards as top rookie was an excellent choice in that she quickly adapted to the AUAA and was one of the top players in the conference on any scale.

She played as though was a senior was one of the premier players in the league this year.

Libby Baldwin, Colleen Rossiter and Debbie MacAloney are the only graduating players and all three players were quality players. UPEI has a great team going into next year though.

The Mens' hoop squad stole two games from the St. Francis Xavier X-Men last weekend in Antigonish launching them into first place and the number two college basketball ranking the country.

Acadia, which is hosting the AUAA finals this weekend in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and UPEI have an identical win loss records but because the Panthers defeated Axemen three out of four times they encountered each other, UPEI gets the top billing for the tournament.

UPEI faces the Mount Allison Hawks in the semi-final while the host Axemen play St. F.X.

It should be a great tournament and the P's will be after their first ever conference championship. Good Luck!

It seems UPEI Basketball fans are the best in the Maritimes. That word from Mark Alberstat of the Dalhousie Gazette.

In his article, Overtime, Alberstat says UPEI fans are "the most supportive fans" anywhere and they outshouted a silent Dalhousie crowd at game played in mid-February in Halifax.

Thanks to Elizabeth Fobes and Tom Hogan from UPEI's class of 83, who are now attending the University for sending a clipping to the *Gem*.

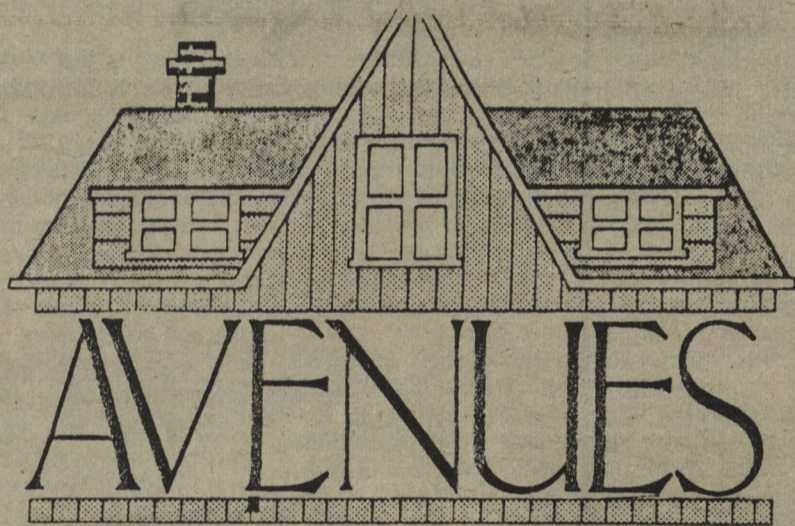
Predictions ... Wednesday UPEI 4 Monct 3 — overtime, Friday UPEI 86 Mt A. 75, Acadia 76 St. F.X. 75.

Saturday UPEI 5 Moncton 2, UPEI 66 Acadia 64.

CIAU rankings

() Denotes ranking last week

Men's Basketball	Hockey
1. Waterloo (1)	1. Alberta (1)
2. UPEI Panthers (2)	2. UPEI Panthers (4)
3. Acadia (3)	3. Moncton (3)
4. Victoria (6)	4. Toronto (5)
5. Manitoba (5)	5. Manitoba (6)
6. Lethbridge (4)	6. Chicoutimi (2)
7. York (8)	7. Ottawa (10)
8. Winnipeg (7)	8. Laurier (8)
9. McMaster (NR)	9. Saskatchewan (7)
10. Saskatchewan (9)	10. Regina (9)



MON & TUES TWO BIT NIGHT
In effect **ALL NIGHT**

WED *LADIES NIGHT*

Super Happy Hour 'til 10 pm (Ladies Only)

Happy hour Prices 10 'til 1 am

Door Prizes

Thur

Thursday is Florida Nite.

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