

B-ball round-up

by Marc MacDonald

The UPEI basketball Panthers played their respective home openers against UCCB over the weekend.

The Women's Panthers played first on Saturday and were able to pull off a 78-69 overtime win over the Capers. The game had been tied at 62 at the end of regulation but the Panthers were able to pull off a victory with 5 key foul shots by Kate Myron and a three pointer by Kari McArdle. Kate Ellis led the team in scoring with 18 and Myron netted 15 in the contest. The top scorer for the Capers was Kimberly Reynolds, who had 16.

In between the men's and women's games UPEI took the time to honor Andy Packard in a ceremony where his number was retired. Andy Packard came to UPEI in 1971, and through outstanding play, he became one of the top rebounders, scorers and shooters in the league as well as making the AUAA All-Star team.

Packard's parents, brother and sister were also guest at the celebration. In order to present Packard with the honor the two current basketball teams were joined on the court with some of his former teammates who included; Jamie Ballem, Paul Connolly, Walter McEwen and Mike Connolly (UPEI men's head coach). Some of Packard's former teammates and President MacLauchlan who were not able to attend sent along their congratulations.

Finally, the banner with Packard's uniform number 42 was unveiled in the rafters of the Sports Center as the crowd which was almost full to capacity rose giving Packard a standing ovation.

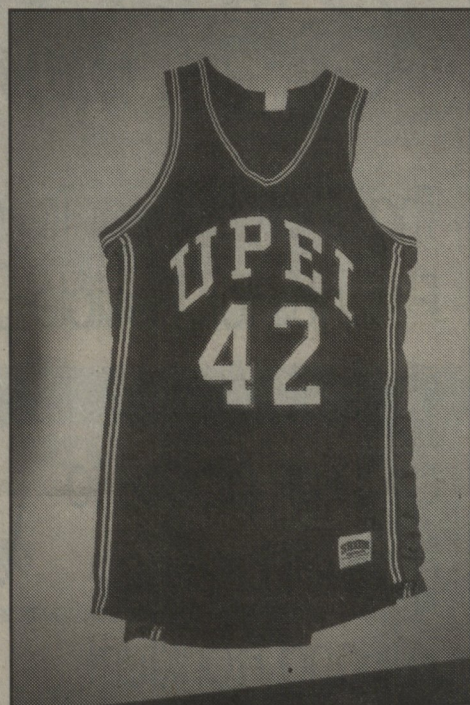
Following the celebration the men's team took to the floor but

were unable to come up with a win. The Capers upset the Panthers in their home opener 82-76. Jimmy Morris led the Panthers with 31 points while the Capers top scorer was Craig Cline who had 22 points.

On Sunday the Lady Panthers were less successful dropping the match 80-59 to the Capers. Kate Ellis once again led the team in scoring with 11 points while Krista Connolly added 10. Cape Breton's Heather Ross was top scorer for the Capers with 17.

Things appeared to be more promising for the men's team on Sunday as they finished at half time up 40 to 38.

The Capers came out in the second half and took the lead but the Panthers were able to take it back once again when Dave Love hit a three-pointer to put them up 62-61. However, the Capers kept the pressure on and the Panthers ran out of time losing the game 86-82. Dave Love had the team high with 22 points while Jimmy Morris was second with 21. The Capers' top scorer was Andrew Carter.



The retired number.

