

Panthers Sweep Acadia

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Streaks

Sports and streaks go hand in hand. Winning streaks, losing streaks, personal streaks, streaks of all kinds.

The UPEI Basketball teams have some very impressive streaks of their own.

The UPEI Panthers and Lady Panthers have not lost at home since February of 1986. They went undefeated all last year at home and so far this year the same trend is holding true.

The UPEI Panthers faced their toughest test of the season when they hosted the Acadia Axemen Sunday at Alumni Gym. The Axemen along with the St.F.X X-men were tied with the Panthers for first place in the AUAA with 30 points.

As expected the years largest crowd piled into every nook and cranny in Alumni Gym. Fans were waiting to get into the gym at 11 o'clock, two hours before the women's game.

The gym was tense with anticipation as the teams took to the floor knowing full well just how much was riding on the game. A Panther victory would give UPEI a solid hold on first place as they had only suffered one loss on the year whereas both Acadia and St.f.X. had three.

The Panthers bolted out to start the game led by Curtis Brown who stole the ball numerous times to race down the court for layups which gave UPEI the early lead.



UPEI's Peter Gordon (34) launches a shot against the Acadia Axemen Sunday at the Alumni gym.

UPEI was able to maintain that lead for the entire first half as they continually were able to hit from the outside and inside and never let Acadia get within 5 points.

The Panthers were also pleasantly surprised with the play of Peter Gordon who played despite a rather large and cumbersome splint on his left hand to protect an injured finger. Gordon showed no obvious ill effects as he scored 18 points on his usual way, fad away jumpers, driving hanging moves under the basket and of course when Acadia fouled him he was lethal from the line. Gordon shot 7-7 from the line and is leading the conference in foul shooting at 91

However the day belonged to Brown. The fifth year guard took control of the game and never let the Panthers sag. He hit crucial shots when he was called on and was a major force in pushing the ball upcourt. Brown had some very big steals none bigger than in the second half when he stripped Clive Anderson of the ball and went in for the layup when Acadia was threatening to get back in the game.

Brown also hit five tense free throws late in the game when Acadia was fouling hoping to get back in the game. Brown was smoking in the first half when he did some serious gunning to score 16 first half points and help give the Panthers a 38-31 half-time lead.

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