



PANTHERS LOOKING GOOD

We are pleased at the opportunity to start off on a positive note, so we will begin by offering congrats to last year's basketball team for being named as the "Team of 1977" by Sport P.E.I. The award was accepted by Gary Heald, last year's coach, and by Colin MacAdam on behalf of the players. We are also pleased to note that Kelly Crockett, who won practically every possible prize in table tennis, was named "Female Athlete of 1977" by Sport P.E.I.

In basketball last weekend, we do not think we have ever seen a U.P.E.I. team play as well as our boys did in lambasting Dalhousie on Friday night. In almost any game fortune has to co-operate in making a team look GOOD and it seemed that all the breaks came our way and the team certainly took full advantage of them. It appeared that everything we tried turned out well. With Dave Arsenault, our leading scorer, taking his turn at sitting out, as the fourth American, and Dennis High playing his first game since the Xmas break, our heroes quickly assumed the lead; led at the half 34-26 and closed it out with a commanding 80 to 58 score. Lloyd Pullen played a remarkably strong game and led our scorers with 27. Dennis High dominated the first half with 16 points and had 10 rebounds, and was such a tower of strength on defence that Dalhousie had to take most of their shots from outside and were held to a 26% average in their shots. When Dennis fouled out midway in the second half, Keith Streiter took up where he left off. However, if Panther fans were justifiably enthused over their favorite's showing on Friday night, Saturday's game certainly reversed things and Dame Fortune smiled at Dalhousie throughout this game. We honestly believe that on Friday night they could have taken any team in the league... but on Saturday afternoon... it appeared that the pace our starters set in the previous game

took a heavy toll and they seemed to lack energy. As happens in such cases, McCarthy's Law took over. You know it goes something like "When things are going bad, they can be depended upon to get worse." Our shots, when hitting the netting in the centre seemed to defy gravity and, after a struggle, pop out; Dalhousie shots would hit the rim, bounce straight up and then go in!

Close referees decisions always seemed to go against us, Keith Streiter got into early foul trouble, and so on, ad infinitum. "We shoulda stood in bed." We trailed 25-35 at the half, struggled up to 41-45 at one point but trailed at the buzzer 67-58. Keith Streiter was high for us with 21.

However, the weekend split gives us a one game lead in the league standings and, with a 19 point bulge in the four games between the two of us, we should qualify for the final playoff spot. We cannot see Dal beating Acadia, St. F.X., or S.M.U. while the team that played for us on Friday Night is capable of winning any game in the schedule. We have six more matches to play in the regular season, at St. F.X. and Acadia this weekend, at Acadia and Saint Mary's next Friday and Saturday; we close out here with the high flying



Pantherette rush

St. F.X. on the 24th and 25th. In the meantime please feel sympathy for Coach George Birger as he endures the coaching trauma of playing musical chairs (or is it eenie-meenie-miny-mo) with four

American stars when only three are permitted to participate!

The news in hockey is good and bad. We'll do the "Good" first. In Sackville, our teams dampened the enthusiasm of a Mount A. Winter Carnival crowd by annihilating their favourites 10-7 in a game that wasn't nearly that close. The scores by periods were 6-2, 8-3, and ended up 10-7 as Mounties scored four power play goals late in the game. Louis Lortie, Shane Turner and Val Mitchell potted two apiece, while singles went to Ken Burton, Larry



Ken Burton & Mike Sellick Arsenault, Wilfred MacDonald and Paul Martin. In Moncton next afternoon we felt we could have won but dropped a close one 5-4. Our goals were scored by Danny Kinnear, David Cameron, Val Mitchell and Louis Lortie. Trailing by only one in the final period, several shots that seemed certain to tie it up in the closing moments just did not go in. One, for instance, a hard shot by Danny Kinnear, hit the cross bar and Everett Stewart got so excited that he knocked Jack Hynes' hat off his head! Hockey fans know what a rare occurrence that is. The bad news, much worse than just losing the game, is that the pride of Kikora, high scoring David Cameron, sustained a broken ankle and will be lost to the team for the balance of the season. David still leads the league in scoring but will most certainly be passed in the six games remaining. We are sure that all Panther fans will miss David a great deal

and we look forward to having him back next year. We are quite certain that none will miss him more than his linemate

Lortie, as David and Louis are one-two in the league in scoring. The Panthers, by the way, are the greatest goal scorers in the league although struggling for a playoff spot. David, by the way, even with six games to play, has broken the old U.P.E.I. record for assists, formerly held by the great Billy Weatherbie, as he was credited with #30 in the Moncton game.

On this page you will find a table, showing the present standings and the games to play. Quite obviously we still have a good chance to make the playoffs...even a third place finish is possible.

Due to peculiar scheduling, neither men's basketball nor hockey are heard this weekend and the only local event for Panther fans will be the Lady Panthers against the St. F.X. girls in the gym on Friday at 6:00. A good showing of fans would be encouraging to team morale!

In closing, we would like to comment on the letter written by the President of the Table Tennis Association, which recently appeared in the Guardian, effectively demolishing a critic of the sport. If a trophy was given to the most devastating sports letter or comment of the year, we think it would be a most attractive ornament for the library. We'll NEVER cross typewriters with this friend if we can help it!

A.U.A.A. STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	PTS
S.M.U.	17	15	2	0	30
St.F.X.	17	10	4	3	23
Moncton	16	10	6	0	20
U.P.E.I.	16	8	6	2	18
Dal.	16	7	7	2	16
Mt.A.	16	6	9	1	13
U.N.B.	18	3	13	2	8
Acadia	16	1	13	2	4

REMAINING GAMES:

- St. F.X. vs. Dal., U.N.B., Moncton.
- Dalhousie vs. St. F.X., U.N.B., Moncton, Acadia.
- Moncton vs. Dal., St. F.X., Mt.A., U.P.E.I.
- U.P.E.I. vs. Acadia, SMU, Mt. A., Moncton.