



# JOCK TALK

By MICKEY PLACE

Last Fall, in our first "Jock Talk", we warned all incoming Panther rooters that the way would often be hard and beset by discouraging defeats. With them we will commiserate that the weekend of 20-21 Feb. 83 was a really heartbreaking one. Don't say we didn't warn you. We never promised you a rose garden!

For the hockey Panthers it was particularly hard and we can paraphrase a saying attributed to Yogi Berra, "The game ain't over until it's over." by a Panther cry, "The season wasn't over until AFTER it was over!" Needing wins over Saint Thomas and Mount A. coupled with a Saint Mary's loss to favoured Dalhousie, in order to gain a coveted playoff spot, the Panthers did their part by winning a pair and then had to sit and wait for the final score from Halifax. The news was BAD as the Santamarians really made a desperate stand in winning 3-2. Our first reaction was "Foul" but we read that that dratted goalkeeper Mark Locken made 25 stops in one period to shut off the Dalhousie attempts to even it up or win! His heroics probably were a big factor in his being named M.V.P. for the league. Our game against St. Thomas was won in a breeze as Jeff Lantz, Callie MacPhail and Tony MacKenzie all scored a pair while Rob Mazzucca, Trevor Crawford, Albert Roche and Norman Beck added singles for a 10-2 win. The Mount A. game followed a different script as the Panthers were never ahead

until Albert Roche scored the game winner late in the final period for our 4-3 win. Other goals came from Tony MacKenzie, Norman Beck and Trevor Crawford. This ends paly for the season. We really expected to finish second in the league but injuries and what seemed like hard luck contrived to keep us from ever achieving what we believed to be our potential. We thought that the last term addition of Callie MacPhail and Darwin MacCutcheon would give us a triumphant finish but, as well as these two played, we just didn't make it. We will lose, by graduation, Trevor Crawford, Terry MacKenna, Callie MacPhail, Jeff Lantz and Dave Reid. We'll also lose hard working Francis McCarbille the modest and Hard-working Team Manager. We also hear that some others will not be back for next season so that Coach Jack Hynes will face a really tough job trying to replace the departing stalwarts. Thanks boys for an interesting and exciting season. We didn't make it but we tried!

Fate also was unkind to our Basketballers. It was very obvious that, with the UNB Red Raiders coming to town we needed a pair of wins. The first game we won 88-72 after leading at the half by only 42-40. In the game the following afternoon we trailed by only 53-52 at the half but went cold in the early minutes of the final session and the visitors assumed a 15 point advantage which we managed to wittle down but could

not overcome as we lost 101-94. Even then, we still had a long chance and could even catch St. Mary's IF a complicated pattern of wins and losses should occur. However, in Antigonish, SMU's Greg Williams made a desperate 25 footer go through the hoop with but 3 seconds remaining and Gary Heald's struggling crew beat league leading St. FX 74-73 in a startling upset and we were out of contention against them. We then lost to Dal 90-74 to knock out any playoff aspirations we might have entertained. However, to end things on a high note, we rebounded the next afternoon to beat Acadia 78-67 with Billy Redmond giving a sparkling 32 point performance to mark his final game in a UPEI uniform. The win was too late to do us any real good but it did pit us in a point tie with UNB. We sure came close as our 9-7 record was identical to theirs. Unfortunately, during the games played between the two teams the Mainlanders outscored us and so are rated ahead of us in the final standings. We came close! However our Panthers must act as spectators rather than as participants in the playoffs which start Friday night in Halifax. Coach Ed Hilton will lose only one player by graduation. That is a pretty big ONLY however as the player is Captain Billy Redmond. In our humble opinion there are very few players who have locally contributed as much to the game as the modest and self effacing Captain Billy. He has been a gentleman always and a real model for others to follow.

We have never noticed that his feet are too large but we do believe that his shoes will be hard to fill! Also graduating will be our friend Courtney Betty who forsook play for high marks a couple of years ago but has acted as assistant coach and smiling and cheerful Larry MacAdam, Team Manager. We wish the three of them every success. Curtis Brown misled us by promising we'd make it to the finals (we realize he did his damndest to make it so we bear him no ill will!) so we have long ago, arranged to be in Halifax for the weekend. We believe that many other Panther fans will be making the trip. We'll know Saturday and if you are not making the trip, keep tuned to CIMN. So ends another Panther sport season. Do not look back with regrets. Look forward to next year with optimism. NOW GET BACK TO THOSE BOOKS..IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK!!!

**Men's Basketball**

Standings	GP	W	L	F	A	Pct
St. FX	18	13	5	1517	1353	.722
St. Mary's	18	12	6	1348	1263	.667
Dalhousie	18	12	6	1469	1382	.667
UNB	16	9	7	1303	1133	.563
UPEI	16	9	7	1337	1291	.563
Acadia	18	5	13	1251	1371	.278
Mount A	16	0	16	1093	1475	.000

**Womens Basketball:**

	GP	W	L	F	A	PTS
UNB	14	14	0	1065	705	28
DAL	14	12	2	971	650	24
SFX	14	10	4	858	731	20
SMU	14	7	7	920	863	14
MUN	14	6	8	775	897	12
ACA	14	4	10	717	813	8
UPI	14	3	11	688	899	6
MTA	14	0	14	596	1032	0

**Volleyball (W) Standings:**

	MP	MW	ML	GW	GL	PTS
UNB	14	13	1	40	7	26
*DAL	13	11	2	37	10	22
MUN	14	10	4	34	15	20
SFX	14	8	6	25	26	16
ACA	14	7	7	23	28	14
*UDM	13	3	10	17	32	6
MTA	14	2	12	14	37	4
UPI	14	1	13	6	41	2

As postponed games 12 FEB have no effect on standings they will not be played.

The Sun would like to thank Mr. Mickey Place for his unflagging devotion to the paper and for keeping us informed of all we wanted to know about sports but were afraid to ask.

THANKS MICKEY!

-Sun staff