

Sports Notes by Steve McManus

Men's Hockey Panthers Claw Back To Even

The season was in jeopardy for the panthers hockey season this weekend as the boys went into play with a dismal 2-4 record. Fortunately, the panthers were able to finish the weekend off with two big victories against Acadia and Dalhousie, two teams that defeated them the week before.

Friday, the boys went head to head with the Axemen of Acadia looking for redemption from the 7-3 pounding they were handed just five days before. The panthers were able to sneak out a 5-4 win at the Civic Center, with two huge goals from the crafty center John Kozoriz. The panthers were able to keep their home unbeaten streak alive and test the ice for their matchup Saturday night against Dalhousie.

The following day the panthers offence did not disappoint as they took their second home win in as many days defeating the Tigers 6-4 in a high paced, physical game. Jason Flick got his revenge as the Tigers had defeated our Panthers in their last meeting 3-2.

The two important wins put UPEI back to the five hundred mark and they now sit only one point out of third place and only two points behind StFX for second in the division. The guys have three important games this week against StFX, UNB, and SMU, which could boost them into first place contention. However, those three opponents currently occupy the top three spots in the standings.

Upcoming Games Include:

Opponent	Date	Time
vs SFX	Tue, Nov 11th	7:00
vs UNB	Sat, Nov 15th	7:00
at SMU	Sun, Nov 16th	5:00
at UDM	Wed, Nov 19th	7:30
at UNB	Sat, Nov 22nd	7:00

Ladies Hockey Panthers Drop Openers

So far this season hasn't gone the way head coach Don MacFadyen had hoped. The girls began their season by taking one on the chin from StFX, who pulverized the Panthers 9-0. However, the Xavier women's hockey program has been the powerhouses in the Atlantic division capturing 4 of the last five AUS Championships. The girls did what they could but were caught on their heels, and were outscored, outshot, and out-matched.

Last Friday, the girls travelled to Moncton to tangle with the Blue Eagles. Although they failed to win the girls put forth a great effort but ended up on the short end of a 2-1 score.

Moncton is a team UPEI will need to beat if they wish to advance to the playoffs. Giving their division rivals their first win of the season may hurt the lady panthers down the road but they must focus the season one game at a time. This weekend the girls will hit the road for two games against St. Thomas on Saturday, and Mount Allison on Sunday. Two teams who have posted only one win combined in their first five games of the season. If the panthers can take these two games they would crawl back to an even 2-2 record.

Upcoming Games Include:

Opponent	Date	Time
at STU	Sat, Nov 15th	3:00
at MTA	Sun, Nov 16th	1:00
at SMU	Sat, Nov 22nd	2:00
vs MTA	Sat, Nov 29th	2:00
vs UNB	Sun, Nov 30th	6:00

Panthers Volleyball Off to Respectable Start

This season the girls find themselves around the middle of the pack with a 2-3 record, which lands them in a four way tie for fourth place in the Atlantic division. Last week the girls split their games by defeating StFX 3-1 (25-21, 25-22, 21-25, 25-18) and dropping their match against UCCB 3-2 (25-12, 19-25, 25-21, 23-25, 17-15).

Again this weekend the girls managed to split matches losing to UDM in straight sets (25-20, 25-11, 25-20) and defeated the defending AUS Champion Dalhousie Tigers in convincing fashion 3-1 at the UPEI Sports Center on Sunday. Jackie Ellsworth picked up player of the game honors for her fine defensive play.

The panthers will have a week off to hone their skills as they will travel to Saint Mary's on Saturday for their only game this week. The undefeated Huskies will make the girls earn their victory if they are able to come out on top.

Upcoming Games Include:

Opponent	Date	Time
at SMU	Sat, Nov 22nd	2:00
vs UNB	Sun, Nov 30th	6:00
at UNB	Sun, Jan 11th	2:00
vs SMU	Sat, Jan 17th	3:00
at SFX	Sat, Jan 24th	4:00

Players of the Week

Female



Jennifer Pickering

As an important part to the girls volleyball team, Jennifer will have to continue the dominant play which she has illustrated flawlessly in her first three years on the team. She is a powerful player on the ball as well as tough defensive player who in 60 games last season managed to rack up an impressive 169 digs. Jennifer is a fourth year student here at UPEI and will be given a few more leadership roles that she will have to succeed at if the girls are going to win this year.

Male

John Kozoriz



This weeks male athlete of the week goes to John Kozoriz, who scored two goals, including the game winner against Acadia this past weekend to help the panthers hockey team in an undefeated weekend of play. John has played well all season, creating scoring opportunities, and playing well on the penalty kills. This psychology major is a key face-off man for the panthers and in his second year at UPEI, has a bright future as the panthers offensive threat in years to come.