

Basketball Panthers on a roll

By John Pendergast

This past weekend saw both UPEI's basketball quads come up victorious against two powerful teams from Nova Scotia.

To start off Saturday night, the Lady Panthers met the St. Mary's University Belles at six o'clock.

During the first half, the Lady Panthers were off to a very shaky start. They were relying on their man-on-man defence against SMU's tight one, but the Belles had a high rate of turnovers.

UPEI had an edge over the Belles with a rebounding rate of 50-27. Despite the 21% rate of shooting from the floor, UPEI managed only a 7-26 lead at the end of the first half.

The second half had the spectators at the Alumni Gymnasium on the edge of their seats. The Belles gained ground at the start of the half with a 36-33 lead.

SMU was putting on the pressure at the 14:21 mark, having switched to a zone defence with additional force at the centre line. The score at that point was 38-35 for SMU.

The Panthers battled their way back gradually, as Cathy Chandler tied the score at 41:15 with a foul shot, to make it 40-40 all.

The Alumni Gym erupted in cheers as Karen Rowell put another point in to have the scoreboard show 56-50 for the home team.

The last few minutes of the game saw tremendous offensive efforts by rookie Sherridawn Jones, who tallied 13 points and 12 rebounds for the game. Rowell also came out with 3 points.

The Lady Panthers won the game with a score of 62-57. Sandra Mumford of SMU was the Belles' leading scorer with 20 points.

The men's Panthers game against the X-Men could only be described as the highlight of the evening, no slight to the ladies.

The second game of the evening, at eight, saw the nation's fifth-ranked team lose considerable prestige as they lost to the Panthers by a score of 85-75.

It was obvious from the program that the X-Men had a height advantage over the Panthers — the Xavier team averaged 6'4" with their biggest, Roger Joli-Coeur, at 6'10".

It soon became apparent that size was not a factor, though, as Panthers Tyrone Norman and Mike Morgan faced all-conference John Hatch in a man-on-man defence. This forced the X-Men into a zone defence which Tejan Alleyne's outside-the-key shooting demolished.

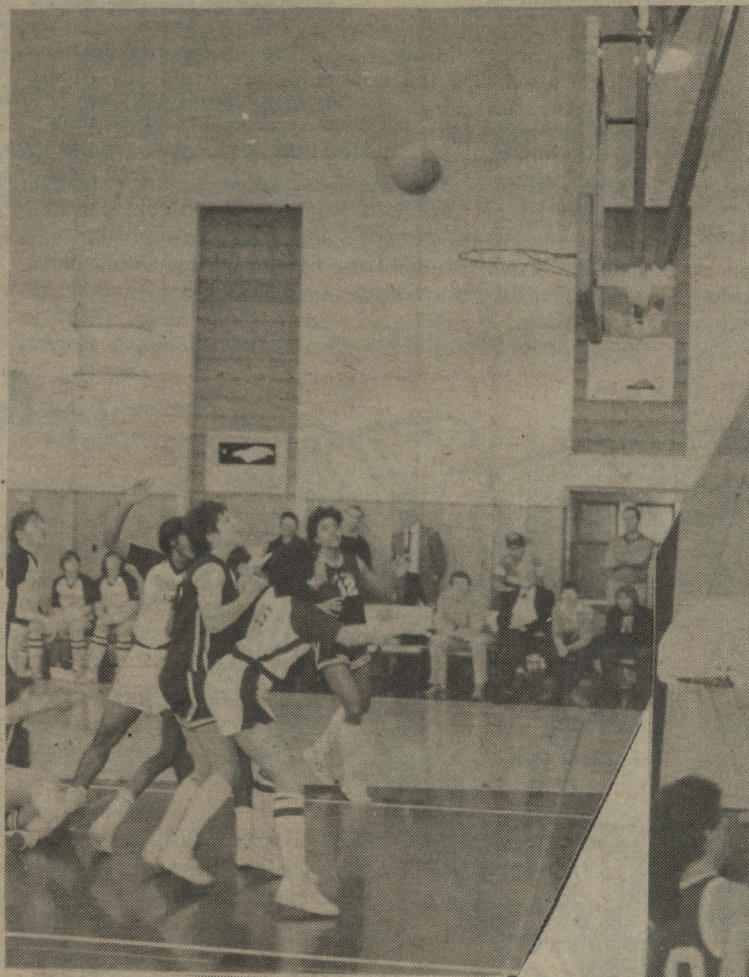
At the end of the first half, UPEI led 40-35.

UPEI began the second half well, but St. FX's comeback efforts resulted in a see-saw battle.

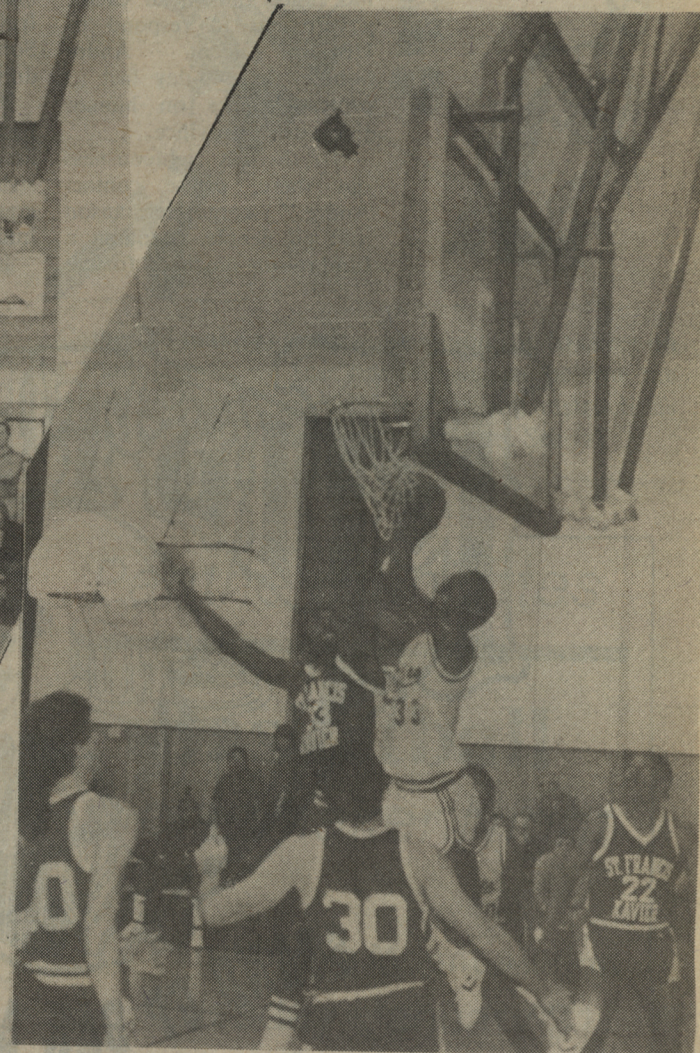
At the ten-minute mark, both teams switched to a zone defense.

Trevor Hilcox put on a fascinating offensive show with 13 points and three unsuccessful but heart-stopping slam-dunks. Unfortunately, he was fouled out at the 0:10 second mark.

Throughout the dying seconds of the second half, UPEI had to contend with St. FX's tight man-on-man defence.



The Lady Panthers' defence was a key to their victory over the SMU Belles Saturday night at the Alumni Gymnasium. Rookie Sherridawn Jones was top scorer with 13 points.



The triumph of the term for the Basketball Panthers, as they embarrass the St. F.X-Men in a 85-75 decision Saturday night. (Photo: Grimmer)

Mixed blessings for Hockey Panthers

By John Pendergast

The Hockey Panthers were on the road over the weekend with Fredericton as their destination. However, it did not fare well with the Panthers — they lost in overtime against the UNB Red Devils on Saturday.

On Friday, the Panthers played what could be considered a warm-up game against the uncompetitive St. Thomas Aquinas Tommies. UPEI blitzed over the Tommies at the end of the first period with a 3-0 lead. Norm Beck was the Panthers' top scorer with three goals. The other Panther goals were scored by Albert Roche, Greg Gravel,

John Pocock, Jeff Lantz, and Ron Carragher.

However, Saturday's game showed an extremely good effort by the Panthers as they lost in overtime to the AUAA top-ranked Red Devils.

The Panthers had a slow start indeed; UNB had a 2-0 lead at the end of the first and was in front 4-1 at the end of the second period.

In the third period, UPEI tried to make a comeback effort.

The Panthers scored three goals in the final three minutes of play, thanks to Bob MacDonald, Garth Arseneault, and Ron Carragher.

UPEI started its final

attack in the final minute of the third period when the Panthers pulled the goalie, allowing six players on the ice.

Albert Roche scored the fourth goal in the final minute, leading the game into overtime.

Unfortunately, Terry Balcoms of the Red Devils scored a fifth and final UNB goal. Final score: 5-4 for UNB.

UPEI's assistant coaches feel the UNB game was simply a bad break, that the UNB club had more experience while the Panthers had more talent.

The Panthers are definitely looking forward to meeting the Red Devils in the finals.



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