



## Panthers Put Positive Spin on Season

By: Jason Martell

The 1996 AUAA Women's Field Hockey season was an impressive one for the UPEI Panthers, but sadly it came to a seemingly predestined finale.

UPEI lost to UNB 6-0 in the conference final giving the Reds their 11th consecutive title keeping their 73-game unbeaten streak alive. After making their second trip to the championships the Panthers have reason to look back on 1996 without regret.

Anne Mayne, Lori Cred and Tracy McGee were all moved to the AUAA all star squad and were integral parts of this version of the Field Hockey Panthers who advanced to the final after a 2-0 victory over the St. Mary's Huskies in the conference semi-final.

### HOCKEY:

The UPEI Panthers men's Hockey team began the AUAA regular season with a 1-5 record. The panthers goals against average stood at 4.83 after their first half-dozen games but they were still scoring four goals per game. Three of their losses came at the hand of UNB who were ranked fifth in Canada in the last CIAU poll.

UPEI will get a chance to move up in the MacAdam Division when they play host to Dalhousie and Acadia.

### ATHLETIC NOTEBOOK:

Students can pick up their varsity hockey student passes at the Sports Centre on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 12-4pm. These passes are for the UPEI/Dal game on Saturday at 7pm and the UPEI/Acadia tilt on Sunday at 2pm.

The UPEI 3 on 3 basketball tourney is set for Friday, November 15th.

For more details on any athletic events, please contact Ron Annear at the Sports Centre, 566-0627.

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## Panthers Put Team Dynamics to the Test

On the weekend of October 25-27 the UPEI Women's Basketball Panthers put their team dynamics and many hard long practices to the test. With the team having a roster of only nine players and two of those players Shannon Walsh and Eireann Rigby playing injured, every team member realized that to win this weekend they would all have to put out 100 percent effort.

Friday evening the Panthers took to the court against Laval. Laval is a team of size and strength who placed sixth in the CIAU last year. The score was tied most of the game. With the Panthers coming out on top with a 74-71 victory Jen Johnston lead the team with twenty-two points and was named tournament allstar. Eireann Rigby finished the game with 15 and Kara Saunders finished with 10 points. This was an upset for the tournament with everyone (except UPEI of course) thinking that Laval would destroy the Panthers.

The win gave UPEI a needed Boost.

Saturday was the rival of the AUAA. UPEI was playing guest to the home team UNB Reds. UNB is a very quick team with size from Charlene "Chucky" Woolaver (a former member of the UPEI Panthers). UPEI did not let this factor get the best of them but with tired injured ankles and the playing of a strong home court team, UNB did defeat the Panthers 78-63.

The defeat was tough on UPEI but they knew that they couldn't dwell on it because they had another game to play on Sunday against Bishops. After meeting with a few players Saturday night, team coach Tracy Ellsworth and assistant coach Reigh Veighdito met with the whole team Sunday morning before they left for their game against Bishops. The Panthers realized what things had to change from Saturday's game in order to have a comfortable win over Bishop's.

Sunday night saw the Panthers break away from Bishop's right from the whistle never look back. With strong playing in the defensive and offensive ends and team leading rebounding from Shannon Walsh the Panthers defeated Bishops 87-68. This win gave the Panthers a second place finish with UNB winning their Fall Classic Tournament.

In my view, Panthers played with determination and dedication. They knew they had some tough teams to play and they all played with 100 percent effort.

In other action the Men's Basketball Panthers defeated Acadia by 2 points with Doug Newson Scoring 28. Saturday saw the Panthers loose a close game to St. FX with Doug Newson scoring 25 points.

NOTE: The Lady Panthers play this coming weekend at the Dalhousie Tournament and then at home on November 21&22.

**GO PANTHERS!!**

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