

Lady Panthers Take First Place

By Marc MacDonald
Sports Editor



The UPEI Lady Panthers played two very important games this past weekend against Acadia. The Panthers and Axettes were both tied for first place (each with 14 points) in the AUAA Nelson Division going into the weekend's games.

"If we want a bye for the AUAA's we really need to win these four against Acadia" said fourth year Christine Larouche explaining the importance of the Panther's next four games.

The teams met first on Saturday in front of a large crowd at the Field House. From the beginning of the game UPEI used a full court press and high pressure defense against Acadia. By the end of the first half the Panthers were up 28-22. In the second half UPEI continued to press

and Acadia made numerous turnovers. The Panthers, led by Kate Ellis (13 points), managed another 28 points in the second half and defeated Acadia by a final score of 56-42. UPEI's fifth year captain Marie-Claude Couture was awarded the AUAA palyer of the game. Top scorers for Acadia were Lindsay LaMorre and Heather McIntyre each with 10.

Sunday's matchup saw more of the same for the Panthers. The Panthers used more high pressure defense to shut down Acadia and were helped offensively by Ellis' domination of the post. As well point guard Couture and forward Christine LaRouche were able to connect on several long distance passes that resulted in points. By the close of the first half UPEI was up 32-20. Despite

their lead the Panthers did not let up on their pressure defense in the second half. Midway through the half Captain Courture and second year Melissa Harwood had to switch on defense because of an Acadia pick. When the Acadia player went to lay it up she was stopped by a block as Couture sent the ball out of the court and the crowd into a frenzy. The final score (59-48) saw UPEI pull of the two game sweep of Acadia. AUAA player of the game went to Christine Larouch who lead the Panthers with 12 points. Top point getter for the Axettes was Robin DeYoung with 22 points.

"We weren't afraid of them, we played them and we won," said LaRouche.

Missing from the Panther lineup for this weekend's games was Carolyn Ellis, who is out for two weeks with an ankle injury.

The sweep over Acadia put the Panthers to first overall in the division. Next week (February 19 and 20) UPEI will travel to Acadia to play their two remaining road games. These games will be crucial for UPEI as the Axettes have two more games remaining in their season than do the Panthers. The Lady Panthers will be at home on February 24 against St. Mary's to play their final game. This will also be the final home game for All-Canadian Marie-Claude Couture. Couture has had five successful seasons with the Panthers capturing the AUAA championship in 1998.



UPEI Student Union Faculty of the Year Award

To recognize the significant contribution Faculty makes to student life.

1) Do you know a Faculty member at UPEI who has made an outstanding contribution to student life?

2) Is there a Faculty member who has made a difference in the classroom, in a student activity, or as part of an academic group?

All full-time students are welcome to nominate a Faculty member for the Faculty of the Year Award:

Information required:

Name of Nominee, Reason for Nomination, Your Name, and Student #
Send to:

Matthew Hogan
mhogan@upei.ca
UPEI Student Union
550 University Ave
Charlottetown, PE
C1A 4P3

Deadline: Friday March 17, 2000

