

**Crunch time for Soccer and Field Hockey Teams**

The regular season is over for one team and is winding to a close for the other of UPEI's Fall sports teams. The Field Hockey team squeaked into the playoffs last weekend as they defeated the ST.F.X. Xettes 1-0. The team headed into the weekend knowing that in all likelihood the season would boil down to the game against X. X played the UNB Red Sticks and lost leaving the door open for the Lady Panthers. The Panthers could have wrapped up a spot by defeating Saint Mary's on Saturday but once again the turf proved to be an advantage and the Lady Panthers fell behind early and were unable to catch up.

That set the stage for Sunday's encounter. The lady Panthers had put themselves in this predicament by playing poorly earlier in the year at home against X, tying and losing in two games. All season long the team felt as if they were a much better team than their record indicated and fortunately had a chance to make the playoffs going into the final game.

The first half ended scoreless and one half of field hockey would mean the difference between making the playoffs and going home finished for the year. The Lady Panthers showed that deep down they wanted it more and with ten minutes left Heather Morrison scored the goal that put the team in the playoffs. Record wise the team certainly didn't finish as well as last year, but considering the fact that they lost 6 players including their key goal scorer the team should feel somewhat vindicated by making the playoffs.

Up next for the Lady Panthers is their perennial nemesis U.N.B. It was last year that the Red Sticks put the Panthers out of the playoffs, although it could be said that the team was robbed. Some very controversial decisions were made by the officials that arguably prevented the Lady Panthers from advancing to the final against Saint Mary's. Many of the players from last years team feel as if they have some unfinished

business to take care of. Over the years UPEI has played UNB right to the neck only to end up losing. That was the same story this year as the girls played their best games against the Red Sticks and succeeded in coming away with only a tie in three games. There is a saying in sports that sooner or later the numbers game will catch up with you. Let's hope that this is the weekend that the numbers catch up with UNB and the Lady Panthers finally even the score!

**BEST OF LUCK GIRLS, SHOW UNB WHAT HEART IS ALL ABOUT! GET THE JOB DONE!**

The other fall team the soccer panthers are also alive in the hunt for the playoffs. With two games left the team needs to win both games and have Mount Allison loss to UNB which is most likely. The Soccer Panthers returned from their road trip last weekend with ties against Acadia and Dalhousie.

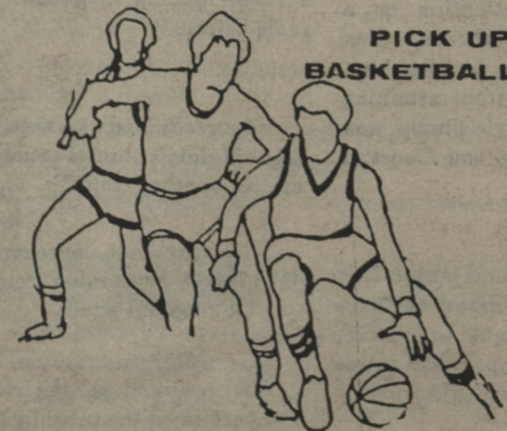
The Soccer team is unbeaten in it's last nine games and appears to be getting on a roll at the right time. With any luck the Panthers would have locked up a playoff spot, but a lapse against Mount A allowed the Mounties to escape with a tie in a game the Panthers dominated.

This weekends games are simply put the most important



games of the year for the Soccer Panthers. Mount A plays UNB on Friday night so they will know by game time if their season is still alive. The Panthers defeated ST.F.X 1-0 in an exhibition game this year so that obviously is a plus for the team. Saint Mary's tied X 2-2 last weekend and there are reports the SMU team is unhappy and may be suffering from internal strife.

Hopefully Mount A will have lost to UNB and the PANTHERS can still have a shot at the playoffs. Do the team a big favor and show up at MacAdam field Saturday and Sunday to cheer the team on. They could really use our support. Attendance at games has not really been tremendous this year so grab a friend and go to this weekend's games. The team would really appreciate it.



**PICK UP BASKETBALL**

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TUESDAY - 3:30 - 4:30pm

THURSDAY 3:30 - 4:30pm

OPEN TO ANY STUDENTS ON A DROP IN BASIS.