Rebels Preparing For Title Defence

L'ecole Normale on the University of Moncton campus was the site of the Atlantic Invitational Volleyball tournament last Saturday and Sunday. It brought together eight of the toughest teams in the Atlantic Provinces, including the UNB Red Rebels, Fairview, Fredericton Junction Piranhas, Charlottetown "Y" Micmacs, Bathurst College, Dalhousie Tigers, Mount Allison Mounties and the host University of Moncton Blue Eagles.

In the Rebels first match Saturday morning, they were caught napping by a strong Fairview team who took the match two games straight by scores of 15-13 and 17-15.

Things looked up for the Rebels as they met Fredericton Junction Piranhas in their second match and after losing the first game 15-13, came back to win the second 15-8. The Rebel offense was varied and the defensive back court was sharp. The Piranhas showed their strength however and they won the match by taking the third game 15-11.

With a 0-2 record and three matches left on Saturday, UNB's work was clearly cut out for them. They needed three wins to keep their playoff hopes alive.

In the first of these three matches, the Mount Allison Mounties felt the sting of the Rebel's effective blocking and the frustration of their quick back court. The Rebels won the match in two straight games with scores of 15-10 and 15-8.

The Charlottetown "Y" Micmacs provided more fuel for the Rebel fire as they fell in two games, 15-12 and 15-9. Once again, good blocking and effective back court coverage provided the key.

In their final Saturday match, the Rebels offense lacked imagination at times, but good blocking helped them to a two game sweep over Bathurst College.

The Rebels started Sunday morning with a 3-2 record and in third place behind Dalhousie and Fairview. In their first match of the day, they were beaten in three games by eventual champions Dal. The Rebel defense failed to stem the tide of centre spikes by the Tigers and as a result the back court suffered. The Rebel offense was adequate and featured the smart hitting of Phil Peterson and the steady setting of Al Turnell.

The match to decide the last playoff spot took place against University of Moncton in front of an understandably large partisan crowd. The Rebel attack was imaginative and strong, their defence alert and steady. Their mental coolness stood them in good stead as they won the first game, 15-12. The second game featured the solid blocking of Aubrey Morris and Brian Noble and the good wide spiking of Gary Gray as the Rebels locked away fourth place in the standings with a 15-8 win.

The playoffs pitted Fairview against the Rebels and Dal against the Piranhas. The bullet-like spiking of John Fraser and Ken Benoit of Fairview proved to be too much for UNB who had lost their mental sharpness and were defeated 15-11, 15-8. In the other semi-final match, the Piranhas came back to win the second 15-6 after losing 3-15 in the first. It was to no avail, however, as the Tigers rallied to win the third game and a berth in the finals with a 15-7 victory.

In the all-Halifax final, Dal lost the first game 8-15, but came back to upset the defending champion Fairview, 15-4, 15-8.

In one week the AIAA Champion Rebels put their title on the line against nine other college teams right here at UNB. Feb. 11 and 12 should be a very interesting weekend, especially the UNB, Dal final.

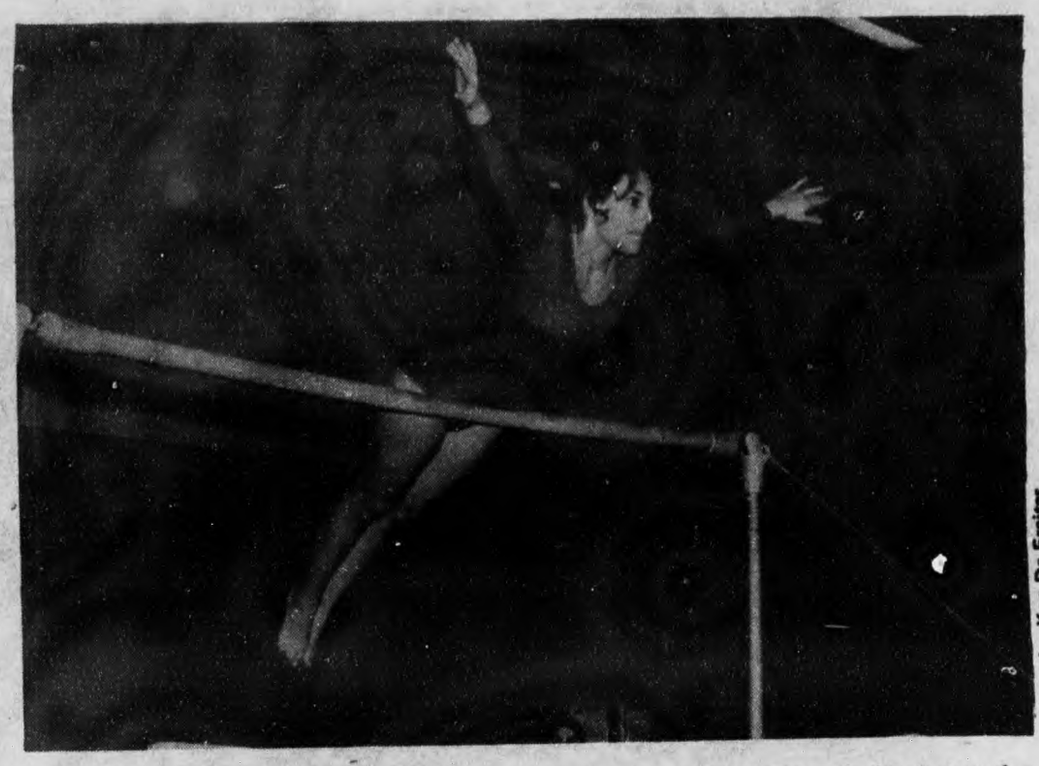


Photo by Ken De Freitas

UNB gymnast Rhonda Kemeny exhibits excellent form on the high bar during last weekend's second Annual UNB Gym Meet.

Acadia Takes Gymnastics Meet

By YVAN PICARD

Acadia University of Wolfville, N.S. took both the men's and women's titles in the University division of the second University of New Brunswick invitational Gymnastics meet.

Acadia won the women's title with 89.55 points. UNB was second with 85.4. Acadia won the men's competition with 106.25 points, UNB was second with 100.55 and Université de Moncton, third with 97.35.

Janice Hebb of Acadia won the women's all-around title. She had 30.80 points to finish ahead of teammates Wendy McLeod with 30.10 and Pamela Giberson with 28.65. Hebb won the vaulting event, came 2nd on unevens, 3rd on floor and fourth on beam. The best figures for UNB were Janet Hardie and Janie Proudfoot who came 2nd and 3rd respectively on beam.

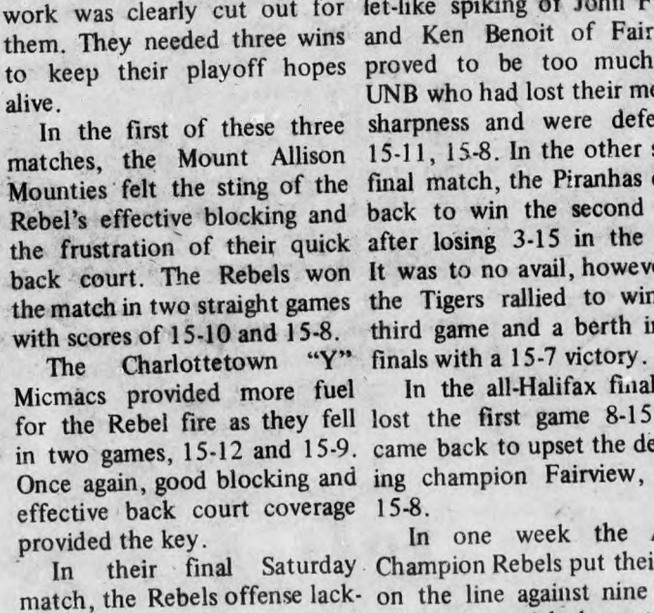
In the men's competition, Doug Nolan of UNB placed 3rd in all-around with a score of 36.8 and a first on floor and vaulting. The men's competition was heightened by three individuals who competed independently because of their ineligibility to University teams. Dennis Ring of Halifax won the All-Around title with a score of 39.30, Art Gibson of Fredericton Eagles came 2nd with a score of 37.15 and Barry Boudreault of Fredericton Eagles came fifth with a score of 35.75 and Larry Mark of Acadia came fourth with a score of 35.7. Competition was very tight and interesting all day and now the gymnasts are back to work for the big meet of the year, that is, the Atlantic Intercollegiate Gymnastics Championships at Acadia University, February 18th, 1972.

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