

SPORTS EDITION THE JOURNAL

SPECIAL

SAINT MARY'S

FEBRUARY 20, 1990

Huskies upend Axemen at Metro Centre

by T. Paul Woodford

The Saint Mary's Huskies remain in playoff contention after a come-from-behind 66-64 win over Acadia Axemen Friday night at the Metro Centre.

The win boosted the Huskies record to 7-8 and kept them in a fourth place tie with the Dalhousie Tigers who upset St. F.X. 79-66 in the first game of Friday's doubleheader. Both Saint Mary's and Dalhousie have 22 points. The 7-7 Tigers have games remaining against Acadia, last place Memorial and two against SMU. The two teams will battle this Thursday night at the Tower.

On Friday, the Axemen came out strong in the second half and quickly erased SMU's 35-32 halftime advantage and went ahead 42-40 with 18:22 left. The Axemen stretched their lead to 51-42 with 12:25 left before the Huskies went to work.

Senior forward Tom McCutcheon spearheaded a 16-4 SMU run that gave the Maroon and White a 57-55 lead with 5:58 left. Acadia hung with the Huskies the rest of the way and had a chance to tie the game with three seconds remaining but Ted Byrne's baseline jumper bounced off the rim.

Paid attendance for Friday's doubleheader was 6,372. SMU coach Ross Quackenbush was impressed with the turnout.

"I thought it was a great crowd. I think Halifax wants something like this and it should perhaps be made an annual event," said Quackenbush.

McCutcheon led SMU's balanced offence with 17 points, Brian Thompson meshed 16, Chris Rowarth contributed 11 and Richard Sullivan added 10.

Rowarth was impressed with SMU's balanced offence.

"All season it's been myself and Brian (Thompson) doing most of the scoring, but this was a great team effort and that's what we need to win," said the former AUBC all-star.

Kevin Veinot led Acadia with 14, Ted Byrne struck for 12 while Skeeter Mower added 10 in a losing effort.

Saint Mary's coach Ross Quackenbush elected to start 6'0" rookie Richard Sullivan against the Axemen instead of second year man Jason Darling. Sullivan played most of the game in Chris Rowarth's usual position of point guard while Rowarth played off guard.

"Rich started tonight because of a defensive strategy that Acadia uses," said Quackenbush. "They put Eric James on Chris (Rowarth), and he (James) is really quick and when Chris plays the point he's gotta do all that work bringing the ball up the floor. Tonight we decided we'd go with two really good ball handling guards. Whichever guy James was on he'd just throw the ball to the other guy and let him bring it up the floor. I think it worked to the extent that Chris had a stronger set of legs near the end of the game, he wasn't worn down as on other occasions this season."

Sullivan feels the confidence Quackenbush has shown in him all season is paying off.

"Coach has shown a great deal of confidence in me and that really helps. I was just glad to get a chance to start tonight and I tried to make the most of the opportunity," said the former Fredericton High standout.

Acadia coach Dave Nutbrown was more impressed with Tom McCutcheon than any other player on the floor.

"I thought McCutcheon played exceptionally well for them. Of all the kids out there tonight, it seemed like he always made the big play for them when they needed it," said Nutbrown.

"He's maybe the most unselfish player in this league. He just does whatever they ask him. You have to appreciate a kid who's played five years and never gives you a bad game. He gives you whatever he has every night," added the eighth year Acadia court boss.



Tom McCutcheon handles the ball during action last Friday night at the Metro Centre. The Huskies came from behind to upset the Acadia Axemen 66-64 (MacEachern Photo).

In order to make the playoffs the Huskies will require some help from the Axemen. An Acadia victory over Dalhousie on March 2 in Wolfville will enable SMU to qualify for the post-season dance by beating Dal on

Thursday at the Tower and March 4, the final day of the regular season, at the Dalplex. Acadia already gave the Huskies some help by beating Dalhousie Sunday at the Dalplex.

The AUA championships are slated for March 10 and 11 at the Halifax Forum. Saint Mary's hasn't participated in the AUA playoffs since 1987.

SPORTS

Falk leads Lady Huskies to weekend sweep

By Journal Sports

Sharlene Falk scored twenty-three points and added twelve rebounds as she led the Saint Mary's women's basketball Huskies to a 58-42 win over the Memorial Seahawks last Saturday in St. John's.

The win gave the Huskies a two game sweep over MUN after a 59-58 narrow win on Friday night over the same Seahawks.

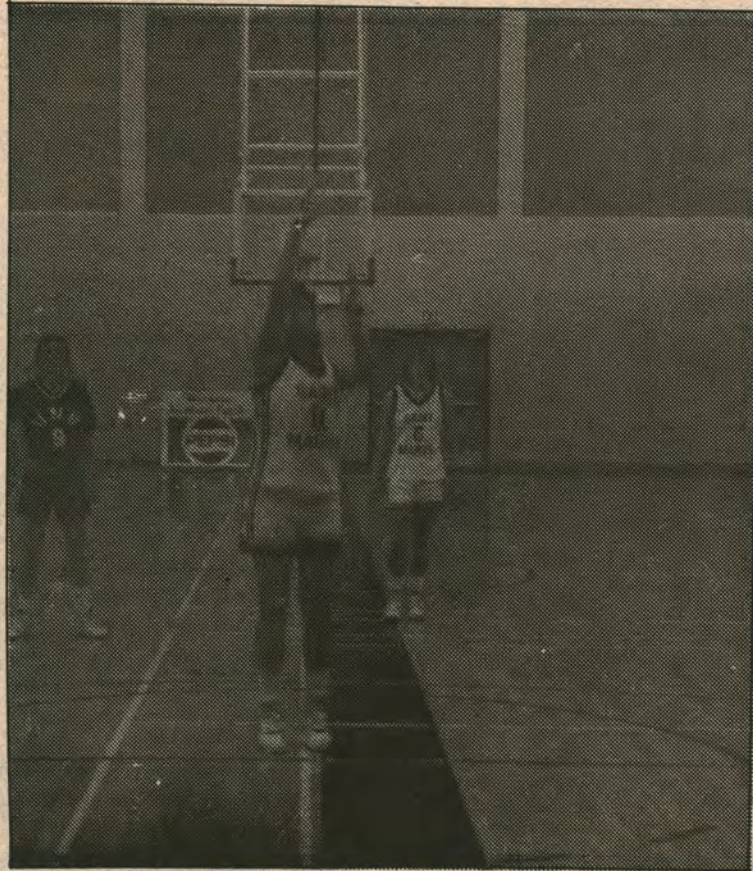
Saint Mary's improved to 6-7 on the season and can do the pre-season unthinkable and even their record at 7-7 if they upset the UPEI panthers in their final game this Sunday in Charlottetown.

Huskies 59 Memorial 58

In a Friday night thriller, the Huskies eeked out a win over the stubborn Seahawks. Flynn paced the Huskies with seventeen points as Saint Mary's regrouped from a 33-26 halftime deficit to take an exciting 59-58 victory.

Christina Chadwick and Cathy Callaghan each pumped in seven more for the Huskies while Memorial was led by Janet Williams with fifteen points and game-star Joanne Sturge with thirteen.

Sturge had a chance to win it for MUN but her shot with no



Sharlene Falk - 23 points Saturday vs. MUN



"I couldn't be more pleased with the way we've played thus far this season," Huskies head coach Jill Healy said. "Although we're not as mature as I'd like the team to be, we've done a tremendous job."

"I don't think anyone expected us to be this competitive and if we can even our record this weekend, I'll be more than satisfied."

Cindy Flynn added ten points for the Huskies. Falk really came to life in the second half, shooting a perfect 8 for 8 from the floor in the period.

time remaining went off the rim and the game was over.

"We didn't panic in the crunch," Healy added. "We are so used to close games that I think we're no longer scared of one point contests. We showed a lot of poise down the stretch."

The University of New Brunswick Red Bloomers lead the AUBC and seem destined to host the playoffs. UNB finishes the season with back to back games versus the 3-9 Seahawks this weekend and a sweep over MUN will solidify top spot for the Bloomers.

Wanted

The Journal is now seeking applications for the position of Sports Editor for the 1990-91 academic year.

Carry on the Journal's Tradition of Top-Flight Varsity Sports Coverage.

Anyone interested should contact Joe Meahan in Room 517 of the Student Centre or call 422-1234.

The Journal wishes to thank The Department of Athletics and Recreation for making this special issue of The Journal possible.

Huskies Basketball



Saint Mary's vs Dalhousie
Thursday 8:00pm
at the Tower

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SPORTS

Capers in, Huskies out

Cape Breton eliminates Hockey Huskies

by Joe Meahan

Two short weeks ago the Saint Mary's hockey Huskies looked destined for the post-season. SMU's 3-2 upset over nationally ranked Moncton on February 7 showed that the Huskies were capable of beating any team in the AUHC. While the Huskies were coming on, the University of Cape Breton Capers were stumbling as the two teams began the race for the Kelly Division's final playoff position. An Acadia-Saint Mary's playoff matchup seemed evident and Cape Breton looked like a team defeated.

However, Dr. Fate, who had Cape Breton on a life support system last week has re-diagnosed the Capers and suddenly UCCB is alive and well. The Huskies in the meantime have, surprisingly, died.

Last Saturday Cape Breton came into Saint Mary's Alumni Arena needing to win by two or more goals to clinch the fourth and final playoff berth. A two goal win would give the Capers a better goal differential in head-to-head competition with the Huskies so if the two teams were tied for fourth, the Capers would get the nod. The Capers defeated SMU 3-1 and thus UCB will host Acadia in one Kelly Division semi-final this Wednesday while Dalhousie will meet St. Francis Xavier in the other semi. Saint Mary's can start thinking about final exams because their season is over.

"I think we played well for the most part," Huskies head coach Norm McCauley said. "Cape Breton just had a little spark and had a bit of momentum and that was the difference.

"After they made it 2-1 they shut us down but overall I thought we played a good game against Cape Breton."

Cape Breton and Saint Mary's both played tentative hockey in the opening period with neither team getting any good scoring opportunities. SMU outshot Cape Breton 8-6 in the period.

Michael Perry opened the scoring for UCB. He slid a shot by Husky goalkeeper John Campbell early in the second on a rebound and the Capers led

1-0.

The Huskies finally woke up midway through the period. Wayne Morrow blasted a shot past Darren Nixon in the Capers net and the score was tied at 1-1. The Huskies dominated the remainder of the period but the only other goal was scored by Cape Breton. Perry scored his second in a row and the Capers were ahead 2-1 after two.

The goal that clinched a playoff position for UCB came at 5:57 of the final period. Stephen Gordon beat Campbell up high giving the Capers the decisive two goal advantage. Saint Mary's, who owned the final half of the second period, were simply shut down in the final stanza only recording five shots on goal. The Huskies were history.

Perry feels the Capers can give the Axemen a run for their money. "We're looking forward to Acadia," said Perry. "We're hungry for it and I think that's what pulled us through today, a lot of hard work and determination."

The Huskies finish the season with a disappointing 5-14-2 record but McCauley feels Saint Mary's were not as bad as their record showed. "I don't think we're a five win team but we got some bad breaks along



the way and that's life," added the rookie head coach.

SMU was buried in their final game of the season on Sunday which meant nothing in the final standings. The playoff bound St. Francis Xavier X-Men blasted the Huskies 10-2 at Alumni Arena. Saint Mary's finishes the season with a 2-7-2 record at home.

The MacAdam Division semi-finals have been determined as well. The defending conference champion Moncton Blue Eagles will take on the St. Thomas Tommies in a rematch of last years final in one semi while the UPEI Panthers will take on the vastly improved UNB Red Devils in the other semi-final.



Cal Bussey (L) and Brad Balmas (R) battle for the puck during Saturday action at Alumni Arena. Cape Breton eliminated the Huskies with a 3-1 win. (MacEachern Photo)



Until we meet again - A dejected Ron Pitre is the last Husky to leave the ice last Sunday. St. F. X. burned SMU 10-2 in the final game of the AUHC season. (Ken Moore photo)

SPORTS

Panthers shock Volleyball Huskies

Upset losses cap off disappointing season

By Joe Meahan

The up and down season for the Saint Mary's Volleyball Huskies finished on an all time low last weekend. The Huskies were stunned not once but twice by the previously winless UPEI Panthers last weekend in Charlottetown.

The two Panther victories were UPEI's first in over three years. The Huskies finish the season with a disappointing 5-11 record which puts them in sixth place in the final league standings.

"We played poorly and UPEI was ready for us," Huskies head coach Joan Matheson said. "They (UPEI) played two awesome defensive games and they definitely were deserving of the wins."

Both Panther victories came via 3-2 decisions. Saint Mary's blew a 2-0 set lead in Saturday's match while having to play catch-up continually in Sunday's engagement.

SMU was led by Julie Gow in both matches. The rookie out of Bridgewater recorded twenty-two kills in Saturday night's loss while spiking down ten kills in Sunday's defeat. Monique Rafuse had twelve kills in a losing effort on Sunday.

Shawna Bernard almost single handedly destroyed the Huskies on Saturday night. Bernard paced UPEI with twenty-four kills as the Panthers won by scores of 15-17, 4-15, 15-10, 15-13 and 15-8.

The Huskies were able to shut down Bernard in Sunday's match but couldn't handle game star Lee Ann Weeks. Weeks guided the Panthers with twenty kills as UPEI won the contest by scores of 13-15, 15-11, 15-11, 7-15 and 15-13.

The Panthers finish the season in an eighth place tie with St. Francis Xavier. Both teams had 2-14 records.

Huskies 3 Acadia 0

Saint Mary's finished their home season off last Friday evening at The Tower taking a 3-1 win over arch-rival Acadia. The Huskies finished the year with a 2-5 record at home.

Going into the Acadia contest the Huskies had but one game-plan, shut down Krista Moore. Moore, one of the most powerful hitters in

the conference is one of the few players who can almost single handedly determine the outcome of a match.

The Huskies managed to contain Moore for the most part but what Saint Mary's wasn't expecting was an inspired Axette backup. The result was the most entertaining match played at Saint Mary's this season.

Saint Mary's had defensive problems in the opening set. Moore was finding holes everywhere and superb defence from Saint John native Christine Thorne, gave the Axettes a 15-13 first set win. Thorne was equally strong in an offensive light recording 11 kills on the night.

Saint Mary's would regroup in the second set as Monique Rafuse started to get her game going. The 6'1" Middleton native struck for key blocking stuffs and took advantage of superb setting by Marlene Ouellette to go on a killing spree as the Huskies claimed the second set 15-7. Rafuse finished the game with twenty kills and thirteen blocking stuffs. Meanwhile Moore was having an erratic serving game and playing brutal defence.

Ouellette, who also had six kills and three blocking stuffs felt Acadia played much tougher than in their earlier engagement, a 3-0 SMU sweep on Jan. 24. "Once we shut

down Krista there wasn't anybody else," Ouellette said, referring to the earlier match. "But tonight they were really up for us and they didn't give up."

"They got alot more quicker attacks on the outside and were playing really good defence tonight," the Bathurst N.B. native added.

The third set would turn out to be the turning point in the match. Led by Thorne's and Nicole Collins sensational defence and a suddenly rejuvenated Moore, Acadia stormed into a 7-1 lead. The Huskies fought tenaciously to come back but Acadia and Moore still maintained a 13-9 lead and the set seemed over. However, Anne O'Neill put a damper on Acadia's and Moore's parade, frustrating the New Minas resident time and time again with phenominal digs as the Axettes attempted to go ahead. Acadia then simply went cold and the



Julie Gow (15) was one of the few bright spots in SMU's stunning back to back losses to UPEI last weekend (File Photo - T. Paul Woodford)

Huskies stole a crucial 15-13 third set win. O'Neill finished with six kills and two blocking stuffs on the night.

"We just lost the intensity," Thorne said. "In order to win matches like this, you must maintain the intensity or you'll lose control."

Thorne commented on the difference in the two matches the two teams played this season. "We hadn't played together in a while because that match (Jan. 24) was our first after Christmas," Thorne added. "Once we got a few wins under our belt we started playing with a bit more confidence. I

feel the team that played tonight wasn't the same that played before."

The fourth and final set witnessed Julie Gow play very intense at the net for the Huskies as SMU wrapped up the match with a 15-9 win. Gow finished the match with ten kills and a blocking stuff.

YA BOOZE--YA LOSE

PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

A message from the *Saint Mary's Journal*