

# Six hoops teams prepared for Don Grant Class

## ■ University women's tournament slated for this weekend at Coliseum

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Co-operation and hard work from volunteers are the keys to success in hosting the Don Grant Classic university women's basketball tournament.

The seventh annual tournament will run from Friday to Sunday at the Moncton Coliseum.

The partnership with participating university teams, the City of Moncton, the Moncton Kiwanis Minor Basketball Association, the behind-the-scenes work from the

staff at the Moncton Coliseum and every volunteer are core components of what makes the tournament a success each year, tournament chairman Rob Hiscock said.

The first Don Grant Classic was played in 2005 and the initial goal, which is still true today, was to provide a high-quality, pre-season tournament for Canadian Interuniversity Sport women's basketball.

The first year had four teams, all from the Maritimes: the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds, St. Francis Xavier X-Women, Acadia Axewomen and Saint Mary's Huskies.

This year, participating CIS teams are: UNB, Acadia, St. FX, University of Saskatchewan Huskies,

Universite Laval Rouge et Or and the University of Prince Edward Island Panthers.

The Reds and Panthers men's team will also meet Saturday at 2 p.m. for an exhibition game in addition to the nine women's games, said Hiscock.

"People in the basketball community like it," he said. "They like the sport and I think it's great for Moncton to be able to have teams of this caliber come to the city because we don't have a CIS team in Moncton."

The tournament committee is seven or eight people and each is in charge of a different area, said Hiscock.

"All of us are kind of basketball

junkies and pitch in where we need to."

High school students are recruited to work the clocks and keep scores, said Hiscock.

"We do pay them for their services because they are part of the actual game and we pay them a fare per game rate."

In addition to the three days of women's basketball, the UNB team is coming down a day early to host a skills camp on Thursday.

"UNB will come and I believe they're going to go to five middle schools."

A couple of players will go to each school and get together with a group of 30-40 students.

"It's really about a little bit of

fun with basketball and about how good athletes education go hand in hand.

UNB and the coaches Moncton Miracles of the Basketball League of Canada will conduct a coach's clinic on Thursday.

"They will both join coaching clinic open to Hiscock said.

The clinic will be at Thursday night at 7 p.m. to girls or boys coaches free of charge.

Tournament games at 4 p.m. at the Coliseum at 4 p.m. at the Coliseum at 4 p.m. against Saskatchewan. UNB will square off Laval at 6 p.m. while UNB will square off at 8 p.m.