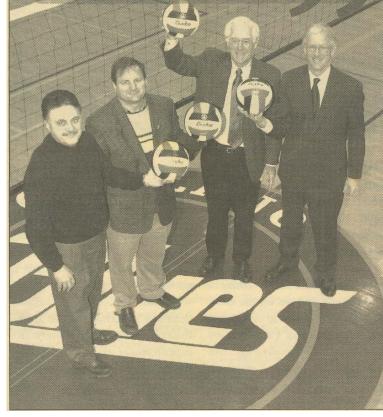
Capilano to host CCAA Volleyball Championships

Our women's volleyball team has been ranked in the top 10 in Canada for the last four years and hosting this tournament will showcase it.



By Karen J. Lum

- Sports Editor

t seems that our beautiful city is winning bids everywhere to host prestigious events these days. The 2007 CCAA National Women's Volleyball Championships will be held at Capilano College next year from March 8 to 11. The tournament should be a great arena to display the Blues volleyball talent, as well as the talent of hundreds of other Canadian athletes. Not to mention the understated elements of the Sportsplex, with its showcase gymnasium that holds two full size volleyball courts, eight badminton courts, two indoor soccer courts, and 10 glass basketball backboards.

"Our women's volleyball team has been ranked in the top 10 in Canada for the last four years and hosting this tournament will showcase it with the very best the country has to offer," states Joe Iacobellis, Capilano College athletics and recreation manager. Indeed, the Blues men and women finished the BCCAA regular season in third place. Next year should prove to be even more positive than the 2005/2006 season, as most of the women's team is coming back for a second or third year with another notch on their volleyball belts.

The last time Capilano College hosted the national tournament was in 1986. The women took fifth place that year but the competition was held at Simon Fraser University because the Sportsplex wasn't completed until 1991.

"Hosting this type of tournament is a source of pride for our team, our institution, our community, and the Canadian sport delivery system," says Iacobellis. He expects that the nationals will open the world's view of the standard of women's collegiate athleticism and has stated, "Canadians tend to regard American college sport as being the elite standard by which to gauge athletes; but I think our community will be pleasantly surprised with the high standard of college sport that will be shown at this national event."

Aside from the College, the North Shore will also receive a boost in its local economy from a national tournament of this caliber. The championship is expected to bring in \$150,000 to services like accommodation, catering, transportation, and shopping.

Hopefully this tournament will also raise awareness around the campus for collegiate sport and hype up Capilano a bit. The Blues need you to come out and support the teams, especially when facing the rest of the country. Put on some blue, listen to "Eye of the Tiger," and cheer your ass off from March 8 11, 2007. Go Blues!