

## Tigers return to first

by Sandy Smith

Victories by the Dal Hockey Tigers last Wednesday over the Acadia Axemen, 4-2; Saturday, 6-5, over UNB; and 8-1 Sunday against St. Thomas University have returned them to first place in the AUAA Eastern Conference. With one game in hand on second place Saint Mary's, the Tigers will have a great chance to strengthen their hold on first place should they have won against SMU last night.

Although naturally pleased to be back in first place, Tiger head coach Pierre Page is concerned and confused about the reputation his team seems to have attained. Dal is presently averaging three times more penalty minutes per game than any other team and Page feels that this may be because the officials perceive the Tigers as "the big, bad guys . . . something we are not." He added that he

could see no other reason than this supposed reputation for the obvious inconsistencies shown by the officials in instances such as Tiger Dwight Houser receiving seven minutes in penalties for one high sticking infraction, while in the same game a player from St. Thomas gave Dal's Ken Johnston a twelve stitch gash, but was not penalized.

Unquestionably, the Tigers will not be able to play shorthanded as often in the playoffs and Page has made it the team's number one priority to exercise restraint on the ice in order to dispell any adverse reputation and to minimize penalties. He regretted an outburst that had him ejected from Sunday afternoon's game saying that it was as much his responsibility as the players to show restraint. Other priorities set down by the coach include improvement in play in their own end

and an intensified fore-checking game.

Saturday night the Tigers were able to overcome some poor puck handling in their defensive zone and rally from an early 2-0 deficit to edge UNB 6-5. Louis Lavoie's top corner bound slapshot with but thirty-three seconds left in overtime was the margin of victory. Dwight Houser, Barkley Haddad, Adrian Facca, Jim Bottomley, and Chuck Tulpin all found the range once against the troublesome UNB squad. McCallum's goal was by far the prettiest of the night as he raced end to end before tucking the puck behind Ken McClean in the UNB goal. McClean had little rest as Dal pumped 45 shots his way, while UNB returned 41 at Ken Bickerton.

Page noted that although one does not like to have to, "it's nice to know that you can come back when you have to."

Sunday afternoon the Tigers did not have to worry of comebacks or any such thing as the game was never in doubt. Plagued with sixteen freshmen on the roster and the loss of captain Rick Roemer, a former Tiger, just two minutes into the game, the Tommies were doomed from the start. Rick McCallum led the onslaught with a pair of unassisted goals, one of

them shorthanded. Barkley Haddad also had a pair with singles going to Glen O'Byrne, Adrian Facca, Jim Bottomley, and Kevin Zimmel.

Haddad, Zimmel, Facca and Paul Jefferey all scored once in last Wednesday's win in Wolfville. The Axemen come to town Saturday night to avenge the loss, game time being 8 p.m. at the Forum.

### ATLANTIC INTERCOLLEGIATE HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS

Teams	GP	W	T	L	Pts	GF	GA
<b>East</b>							
Dal	25	16	1	8	33	115	91
S.M.U.	26	15	2	9	32	123	69
St. F.X.	24	14	1	9	29	130	96
Acadia	25	10	1	14	21	119	112
<b>West</b>							
Moncton	23	19	1	3	39	165	101
Mt. A.	24	13	0	11	26	125	137
U.N.B.	22	11	0	11	22	128	124
U.P.E.I.	24	11	0	13	22	119	112
S.T.U.	24	4	0	20	8	95	184
M.U.N.	17	1	0	16	2	44	137

## Men's cagers... maybe next Year

by Greg Dennis

For all intents and purposes, the Atlantic University Basketball Conference season is over for the Dalhousie men's team. Any hopes the hoopsters entertained of making the playoffs were dashed on Saturday when the Tigers fell 108-89 to the University of New Brunswick Red Raiders. The win virtually, if not mathematically, clinched the fourth and final playoff spot for UNB.

"Our remaining games are against St. F.X., St. Mary's and Acadia (2)," said Peter "Doc" Ryan, who is putting the wraps on his first year as an AUBC coach, "and we'd have to win all of them, so . . ."

"We'll be using the games to gain more experience," Ryan said looking to next year. "I'll be giving all the guys a chance to play as I have all season."

The Tigers played three games last week and besides the loss to UNB, they were dropped 107-92 by the St. Mary's Huskies on Wednesday and then grabbed their second win of the season—a 92-78 decision over the Mt. Allison Mounties. Allistar MacDonald was the high hooper in the SMU game with 26 points, while Steve Lambert had a team high 20 points in the UNB contest. In the win over the Mounties, MacDonald and Lambert were held to only ten and seven points respectively as the Tigers concentrated on working the ball inside to the big men. Phil Howlett cashed in 29 points, Roger Jones had 21 and Pat Slawter added 10 to

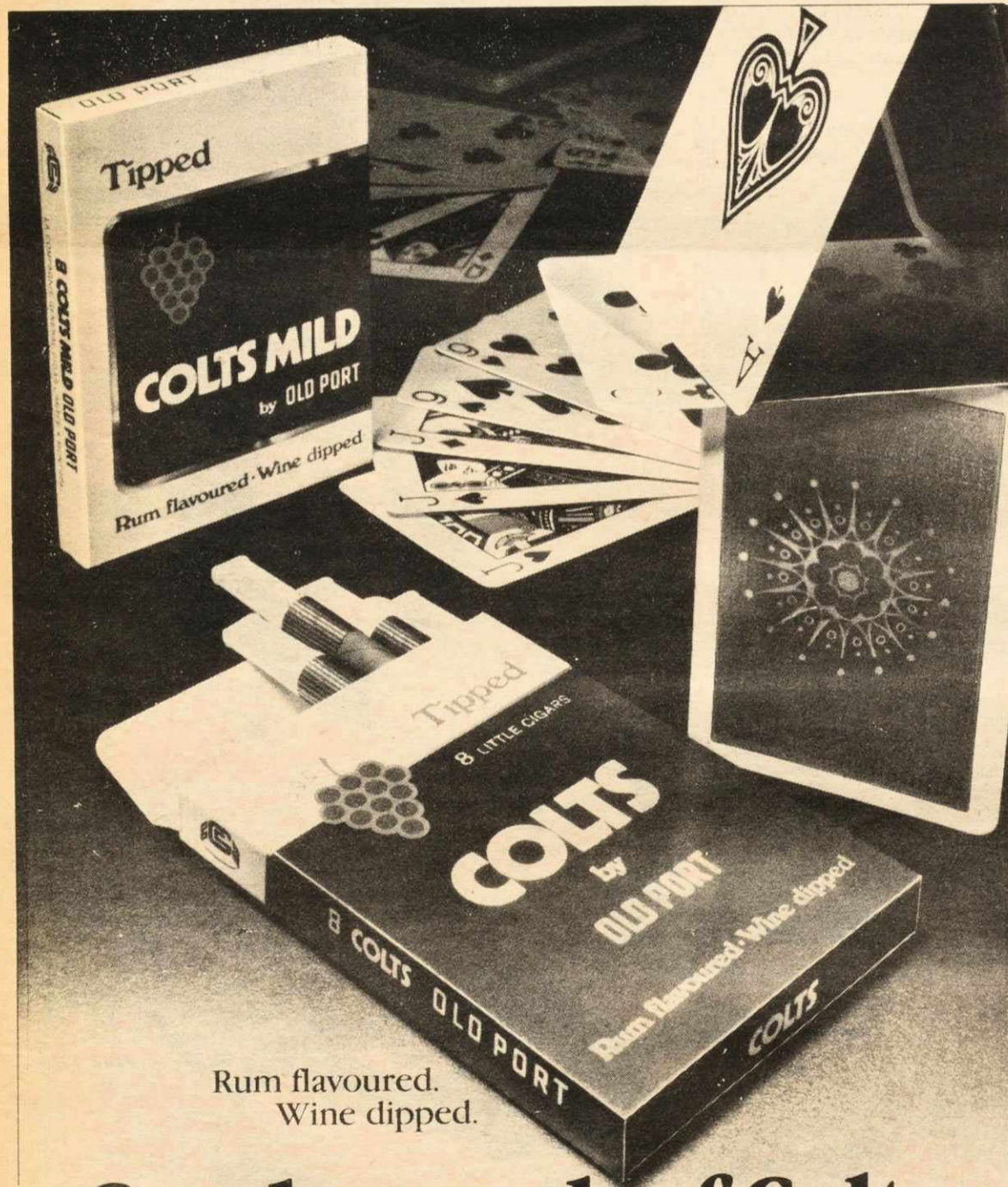
lead the attack.

The Tigers averaged 91 points per game last week. "I guess the coaching is starting to pay off," chuckled Ryan. "The guys have been playing very well. Overall, this has been a pretty good year for me, but the experience and talent just wasn't there. I hate seeing those kids get beat by 40, 50 points a game. I don't want to experience that again."

Looking beyond the end of the schedule, all members of this year's Tigers will be returning for 1980-81. Ryan has also been putting out feelers for new talent and has talked to local high schoolers, a player from Montreal and a few Americans. However, administration apathy, tough admission standards, dollars or whatever may keep these dribblers off of Dal campus and may result in Ryan's departure. Mt. Allison basketball coach Garney Henley recently announced his resignation due to a lack of co-operation from the administration saying the atmosphere there was stifling his traditional winning ways.

"I'm optimistic that I'll be back," said Ryan. "I just want us to be competitive in this league. I don't want to beat my head against the wall. If the co-operation doesn't come from the administration, we might as well just play intramurals."

The Tigers, thrust into the role of giant-killers, play their next home game tonight at 8:30 against the powerful Acadia Axemen.



Rum flavoured.  
Wine dipped.

# Crack a pack of Colts along with the cards.