

SPORTS

Book playing big role in drive

Hockey Tigers continue to play well

by Sandy Smith

Since returning from the Christmas break, the Dalhousie hockey Tigers have, as many of you know, been playing winning hockey. They have been winning for a number of reasons, none more important than the fact that they've been getting outstanding goaltending from Ken Book. Book continued to play well this past week as the Tigers scored wins over Saint F.X. and Acadia, before dropping a game to Moncton at the Halifax Forum last Sunday.

Book, a native of Middleton, N.S., is in his third year of the Commerce program here at Dalhousie, but is playing in his first year with the Tigers. He played hockey last year for the Metro Valley Junior 'A' League champions Scotia Colts, and he notes there is some difference between the two leagues. "In junior, each team has two or three guys who can shoot, and so you know who to look out for," he

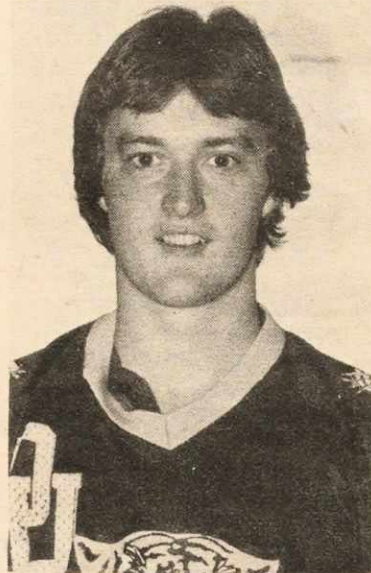
said, "but here, most of the guys can shoot—and they're smarter shooters. They don't just blast it."

Just as Book sees a difference between the levels of play in junior and university hockey, fans most certainly see a difference for the better in his play since the start of the year. Book does not, however, even begin to take all of the credit for the improvement. He says, "I guess it's a degree of confidence for everyone. The whole team's playing better and I'm playing better."

As far as specific improvement, Book says that he and the defencemen are all now sure of each other's responsibilities in situations like "2 on 1s" and "3 on 2s". As a result, he's just concentrating on "playing the angles better."

Tiger fans can expect the outstanding defensive work to continue if reports from Book are correct. "We're all getting our systems down better and better," he says, "and the team's coming together."

Coming together it is, and last Wednesday night in Antigonish, the offence kept coming and coming together sending ten pucks past the Saint Francis Xavier defence



Book — sure of responsibilities

en route to a 10-3 win over their Kelly Division rivals. Brian Gualazzi snapped out of his winter doldrums scoring

four times and assisting on one other goal to lead the Tigers. Rick McCallum scored once and assisted on three others to get four more points, while John Kibyuk scored twice, with Andy Williams, Shawn MacDonald and Paul Leck each scoring once in the victory.

Saturday night in Wolfville it was (surprise) Rick McCallum once again leading the way. McCallum scored twice and set up two more to raise his season's point total to thirty-four on sixteen goals and eighteen assists. Adrian Facca also scored twice for the Tigers, with Gary Ryan accounting for a single in the 5-2 Dal victory.

Here's an encouraging note from goalie Book, who displays a good attitude for someone tending the goal—he wants to be perfect. "Personally, I felt I could have shut them out," Book said of the Acadia game. He also made an interesting note on the Tigers' play in general against the Axemen saying, "It seems, with Acadia, we always score the goals when we need them. At the start of the third period it was close, but then Facca scored and things went alright."

As far as Sunday's 4-0 loss to the Moncton Blue Eagles

goes, well, it's in the past. When Dal was able to pressure the visitors late in the first period and for most of the second period, when the play was most even, things were just not going right. Passes hopped over sticks, shots got deflected . . . well, you know the type of day.

Although Moncton was able to often keep the puck in the Dal end for substantial lengths of time with strong fore-checking, none of the Moncton goals came after having the Tigers bottled up in their own end. All came on breaks where Book found himself without the usual number of defenders present. He is not to be faulted for any of the goals. On the contrary, he is to be lauded for keeping the score from moving closer to that of a dull, one sided football game.

The Tigers continued their uphill drive towards a playoff position with a victory over the Acadia Axemen last night at the Forum. The win puts them in third place for the time being. The Tigers continue to be busy, playing tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Metro Centre against the slumping Saint Mary's Huskies before moving on to play Saint F.X. again Sunday

Swimmers finish shut-out season

Both the men's and women's swim team topped off a perfect winning season by defeating Mount Allison and Memorial last weekend in the final regular season AUAU meet. The point scores were computed on a one-to-one basis. They went as follows. Women: Mt. A. 74, MUN 9; Dal 60; Mt. A. 35; Dal 73; MUN 9. Men: Mt. A. 35, MUN 60; Dal 86, Mt. A. 9; Dal 58, MUN 37.

Dal's final meet prior to the AUAU Championships was highlighted by a number of very fast swims. Among these outstanding performances was one by Dawn Suto in which she broke her own AUAU record in the 200 backstroke with a new time of 2:29.8. Ron Stegen became the eleventh member of Dal's CIAU team by clocking a 0:55.0 in the 100 freestyle. Mike Tighe won the 200 breaststroke by over 5 seconds to record one of the events fastest times this year in the conference.

In the women's competition, the Tigers took seven of the nine individual events. Mount A's Marianne Carlyle won the remaining 200 breast and 50 free. Winning for Dal were Su-

san Mason (800 free and 100 free), Dawn Suto (200 back), Susan Bennie (200 free), Lorraine Booth (200 IM), Lousie Deveau (200 butterfly), and Carol Flynn (400 free). Dalhousie won the 400 Medley and 400 Free relays, but forfeited the latter by entering an exhibition team.

The Dalhousie men won both of their relays while splitting up the single events; five for Dal, four for MUN. Chris Daly of Memorial won all three events he was entered in; the 50 free, 100 free and 200 back. His teammate, Jim Tuck, succeeded in winning the 200 free. Winners for Dal were Brian Jessop (200 IM and 200 fly), Tom Scheibelhut (1500 free and 400 free), and Mike Tighe (200 breast).

With the AUAU's just a week away, the team is going through a series of "taper" practices in which the finishing touches are added to a year's conditioning. There are a number of swimmers on the verge of qualifying for the CIAU's in March and with the AUAU's taking place in home waters, the feeling of optimism is high.

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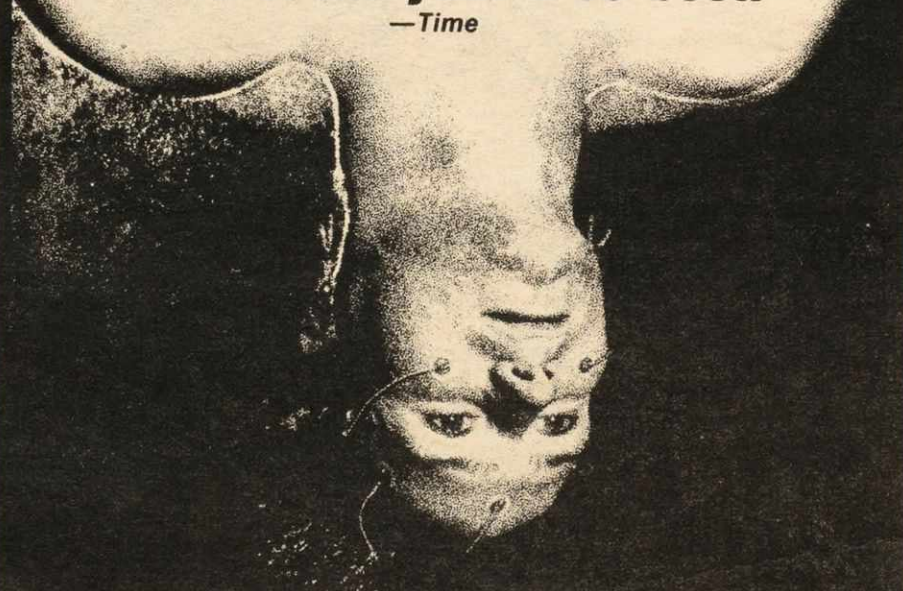
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