

Tigers gearing up for playoffs

by Greg Zed

"Winning isn't everything... wanting to is. Certainly this quote has been heard before, but the thrust of it has been directed to the Dalhousie pucksters during the organizational meeting back in October. Unfortunately the Tigers managed to salvage two victories prior to the Christmas break which has put a great deal of pressure on the players during the latter part of the season.

The curtain opened for the Tigers January 8 and the response has been encouraging. However, thus far, the Dal squad has lost two squeakers to league front-runners St. F.X.-Men as well as cross town rivals SMU Huskies. The point worth making at this time is that the team has yet to win a big game...a game that will put them in a more relaxing standing when the league's schedule ends in mid-February. "It's the big games we have to win," said coach Pierre Page, "but it seems that we have been only

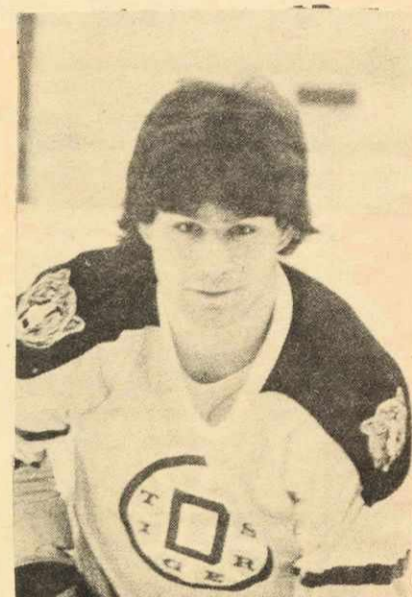
able to reach our short term goals. As we get nearer to the end we need to win the big ones". Page was referring to the most recent loss to U.P.E.I. by a narrow margin of 5-4. "In terms of success, we have come a long way from the first of the year, but, the battle is far from over. The team has matured as a team...we are successful with the team approach, however, our success allows a number of players to become absorbed within the system." With this in mind it has become apparent that some players are not playing up to their potential. The rest of the team is covering up, but not to the extent that is necessary to win the key games.

Last Wednesday, the Tigers, still fired-up from their games against both SMU and St. F. X-Men, exploded for seven goals on route to a 7-2 victory over Acadia Axemen. Dal's towering left winger Ray Off sparked the hometowners with two big goals while singles went to Gerald Dickie, Rick Gaetz, Hal

Davidson, Eric Eisenhauer and Shawn MacDonald. Blair Burgess and Bill Young replied for the Wolfville pucksters.

Thunder Bay native Ray Off, who has certainly been one of the more consistent players on the surging Dal squad, tipped in Rick Roemer's shot from the point after Roemer took a pass from rugged Gerald Dickie. Acadia, who recently defeated Univ. de Moncton 6-5, fired two goals to take a short-lived lead. Bill Young eluded Dal's Ken Bickerton after taking a pass from Rick Spencer and Greg Hubbert. Roger Surret's goal was scored on a passing play from Dave Halpin and Blair Burgess. At 16:36 of the first period Off deflected a shot to tie the encounter. Sparked by the fine performance of defencemen Jack Gray on a pass from Earl Theriault, the Tigers tied the game. Rick Gaetz put Dal in the lead on his mark from Theriault.

In the middle frame the Acadia squad tried to mount an attack but



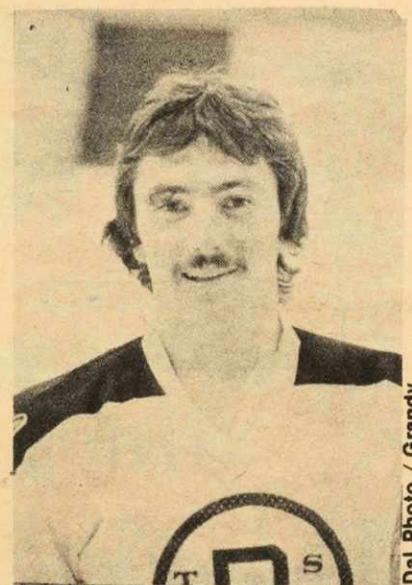
Dal Photo/Grandy

the stalwart performance of Ken Bickerton kept the visitors under control. Lunenburg native and defenceman Eric Eisenhauer authored the only goal of the stanza when he fired home a loose puck. Center man Rick Gaetz was instrumental in setting up the only goal of the period by beating the Acadia defence and blasting a drive at Acadia goal-tender Rod MacKillop...Eisenhauer knocked in the rebound.

In the final period Hal Davidson batted in Glen O'Byrne's shot, which was originally stopped by MacKillop.

Rugged Gerald Dickie, playing with a broken nose, took command of the left lanes early in the third period when he broke down the side and drilled a thirty foot blast into the upper corner past a surprised Acadia goal-tender. Finally Shawn MacDonald dented the twines on a play set up by rear-guard Jack Gray. All in all, the win was the first of the year for the Tigers and it was the beginning of the final stretch. As usual, the Dal rink attracted a good crowd and the excitement was tremendous. In fact the crowd from the residences have certainly sparked the Tigers out-put. As a number of players put it: "We definitely play better before a crowd."

On the weekend the Dal squad travelled to Mt. Allison to tangle with the Mounties and tangle is a mild term to use. From the opening period both clubs played a strong physical game which saw Dal's Rick Roemer, Tom MacLeod, and Grant Pyle do battle with their counterparts. The battles appeared to be



Dal Photo / Grandy

won and over on the ice but when the players went to the "sin-bin" Mt. A's fans began to play their usual amateurish tactics which included blatant abusive language at Dal's Hal Davidson. In the end Athletic Director Warren Lutes was summoned to the penalty box to control a number of drunken animals. To add to the scene, one can

continued on page 9

ADMIT ONE

Otto Armin

One of today's most exciting violinists

**Tuesday,
January 25
8:30 p.m.**

**Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
Dalhousie Arts Centre**
Tickets and Information: 424-2298

ADMIT ONE

AFS
FEA

ATLANTIC FEDERATION OF STUDENTS
FEDERATION DES ETUDIANTS ATLANTIQUES

IS RECEIVING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FULL-TIME POSITION OF STAFF PERSON

DUTIES

- Office work
- Co-ordinating communication between the federation and the students
- Some on-campus political organizing

QUALIFICATIONS

- Clerical skills
- Bilingual (mandatory)
- Well organized
- Ability to work well with people in different settings
- Willingness to travel

SALARY

- Decent negotiable wage, benefits, and expenses

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- January 31, 1977

MUST BE COMMITTED TO STUDENT CONCERNS

AFS/FEA is an organization of students from the four Atlantic provinces, working together to promote the quality and accessibility of Post-Secondary education.

Send resumes and enquiries to:

Ed Cassidy, AFS/FEA Hiring Committee, Students Union, Saint Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S. (902) 867-2411.

COMING SOON

Otto Armin

Violinist

**Tuesday,
January 25
8:30 p.m.**

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
Dalhousie Arts Centre
Tickets & Information 424-2298

Ernesto Bitetti

Classic Guitar

**Saturday,
February 5
8:30 p.m.**

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
Dalhousie Arts Centre
Tickets & Information 424-2298

Valleau & Tritt

Cellist & Pianist

**Sunday,
February 6
3p.m.**

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
Dalhousie Arts Centre
Tickets & Information 424-2298

COMING SOON