

Express-sions

By ZEKE BRENER

The Express have lost their last three games but coach Jacques Demers is not all that worried. He feels that he is just "three or four players from being a competitive" hockey club. That statement seems to be true.

So far the only defenceman who has shown any real flair is Gaston Therrien who has just been called up to the Nordiques for their West Coast road trip.

The defence have been the main culprit of the mistakes that have cost them the games. No one on the core of rear guards has any real experience. The oldest, when at full strength is a mere 23 with limited pro experience. While in the limited time that they have played they have improved the team still has a need for at least two veteran rear guards in order to stabilize the defence.

The addition of Rick Dudley was clearly a benefit. Even playing on one knee as he did last Sunday night he bolstered the Express attack to the point where his line kept sustained pressure on the Hawkes. While they didn't score expect some good play from him and his line mates; Daley and Dean.

One of the bigger problems faced by the Express so far this year has been the injuries both on Nordiques and the Express. This has created in the words of Coach Demers "a revolving door" and because of that they "are paying the price of not being able to play as a team."

Attendance so far has been scarce. You may notice at the bottom of the game summaries in the local papers attendance being quoted as generally around 2000. That number is the ones that actually paid but not all them show up to the game. At Thursday nights game the attendance was "1842", but the actual number there was around 1000.

The Express announced Sunday that NEXT Sunday's game against the Springfield Indians will have a special buy - one ticket-get one free offer in effect. The game in question starts at seven p.m. Springfield is the team immediately above Fredericton in the Northern Division standings. This game does have some importance both as a four pointer and also in light of the Express' horrendous home record.

So far the entire Express organization has bent over backwards to help the BRUNS staffers. According to Demers "there is a need to let the students know." Demers also states that the students can look forward to some more student nights and maybe even a campus nite.

On a different note it's not just the defense corp that is short on experience; the PRESS CORP lacks it to, especially the radio media. From their actions I think they must feel that they are GOD's personal representative to the media corp in Fredericton.

We all know that these people guard against the breakers of the rules as long as those rules do not apply to them. They ignore the Campus Police despite the fact it is these people who keep out the wanted non-media people.

They also try to pretend that they are the most knowledgeable people there ever was in the hockey world, and resent anybody who does not believe them. GOD help them when they actually meet someone who is actually a knowledgeable person, then their ego's will burst. Let's hope that is soon.

Roger Crozier was at the game on Thursday. He's now assistant GM for Washington. He was scouting the Bears to see who was playing well and could be brought up in case of injury.

My case of Wild Turkey has finally arrived so I'm gone for another week.

Soccer Regionals here Saturday

The AUA Soccer Championships will be decided at the University of New Brunswick (College Field) on the weekend of October 31st and November 1st. You are cordially invited to attend the games and we look forward to the continuation of your excellent coverage of this great sport.

The following schedule of events will provide you with

relevant information concerning the weekend's activities.

Saturday, October 31

12:00 p.m. - Game 1 St. Mary's (1st place AUA East) vs. 2nd place AUA West

2:00 p.m. - Game 2 UNB (1st Place AUA West) vs. 2nd place AUA East

Sunday, November 1

1:00 p.m. - Championship Game Winner Game / vs. Winner Game 2

4:00 p.m. - Team Reception Room A116, Lady Beaverbrook Gymnasium

Second place finishers have as yet to be decided. Should you have any questions regarding the tournament please contact Dan Wolfenden, Tournament Co-ordinator at the University by calling 453-4575.



Richard David eludes Eddie Godin during Thursday's game (Tom Henderson Photo)

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