

# Coaches of the Year

by Joel Fournier

Pierre Page and Bob Thayer coaches of the Dal varsity Hockey and Wrestling teams were named as AUAA Coaches of the Year in their respective sports.

For Page, this award culminated a year that saw his charges improve from a dismal showing in 1973-74 to a highly respectable third place finish this year with a record of 12-6.

Page, who stresses a scientific approach to the game, has become recognized in Maritime circles as a dedicated, hard-working coach and an innovator of new and exciting concepts with his team. This approach, along with the fact that only three members of the current team will be missing from the line-up next year, promises some happy moments for Dal fans next year.

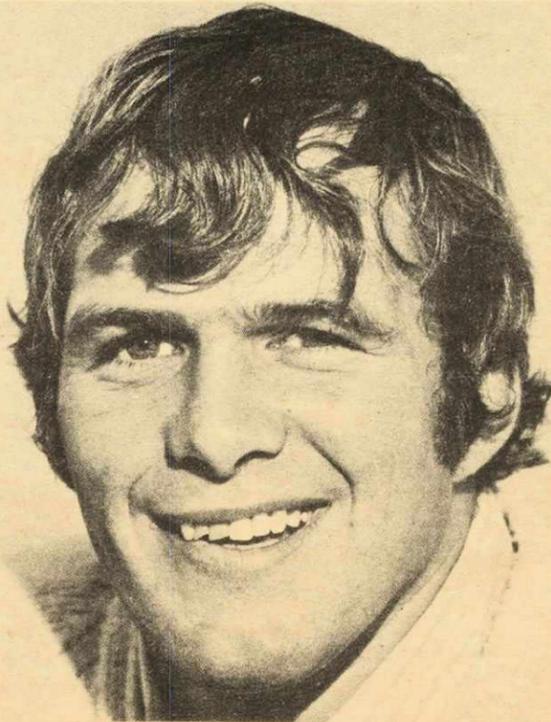
To those of us who know coach Page personally the award comes as no surprise. This soft spoken, affable tactician is well liked and respected not only for his technical knowledge but also for his gentle-manly manner.

Pierre's other duties include coaching the Varsity Golf Team, a group that managed to bring three AUAA Championships to Dal in the past four years. Coach Page lectures with the School of Physical Education where he specializes in Activity and Theory courses relating to specific sports.

Bob Thayer in his first year at Dal has made quite an impression on those athletes who came into contact with him. In addition his fellow coaches were so impressed by his knowledge and teaching ability that after only one season in this conference he was named Coach of the Year.

Thayer is well known on the National scene also and this year was nominated as CIAU Coach of the Year.

Bob's coaching credentials are exceptionally noteworthy. In the high school ranks he has piloted his teams to Quebec and Ontario Championships. He has also coached at Washington State and the University of Alberta where his wrestlers distinguished themselves by demonstrating an extraordinarily high degree of competitiveness,



**Bob Thayer**

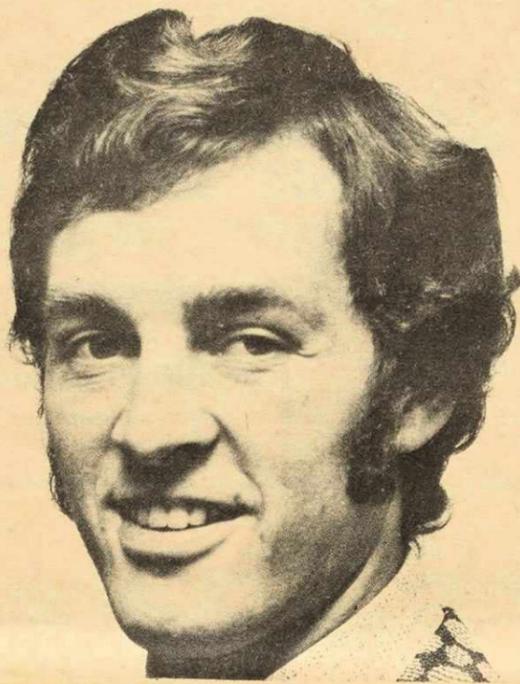
a trait no doubt inherited from their mentor.

As assistant coach of the Canadian National Team, Bob has played a significant part in the development of many of our country's finest competitors. He is also involved in international development and the upcoming Olympic Games.

Besides his wrestling duties Bob is assistant Coach of the Varsity Football Team and a professor in the School of Physical

Education where he specializes in exercise physiology.

The honors bestowed on the two coaches evinces the quality and calibre of the athletic and physical education program here at Dal. These two gentlemen, rather than being the exception, are the rule as far as teaching and coaching ability is concerned. Congratulations to two well deserving recipients on winning the highest tribute their colleagues can pay them.



**Pierre Page**

## Volleyball team places 2nd

Friday, February 21/75, the Dalhousie Women's Varsity Volleyball team left on a ten day trip to Saskatchewan and Alberta. Friday night, an hour after arrival, the team practiced at the University of Saskatchewan. Saturday was an all day tournament consisting of nine teams. The Tigerettes placed second over all. Results of the tournament were: Dalhousie vs. Kelsey 15-8 and 15-13, Dal vs. Challengers 15-4 & 15-8, Dal vs. Coyotes 15-9 & 15-6, Dal vs. Ptarmigan 15-5 & 15-11. In the semi-finals the Tigerettes went three games to defeat the Grass Hoppers 8-15, 15-8 and 15-5. The Huskiettes of the

University of Saskatchewan defeated Dalhousie in finals 7-15 and 6-15.

Sunday the Tigerettes played the Huskiettes in five exhibition games; 12-15, 14-16, 5-15, 15-13 and 10-15. In the afternoon the Huskiettes invited the Dal team to the Sky River Ranch where they spent an enjoyable afternoon on toboggans ski-doos and snow shoes. The Huskiettes were recently 2nd at the CIAU's held in Laval University. Sunday evening the team for Edmonton where three days were spent with warm hospitality from the coaches family.

Monday morning the Tigerettes played five games against the Univer-

sity of Alberta Pandas; 8-15, 15-12, 15-12, 14-16 and 11-15. In the afternoon the team toured the city and shopped. Tuesday morning was a playing practice session with Phoenix, a senior "B" team from Edmonton. Dal defeated Phoenix in a single game after practice 15-10. In the afternoon the team visited the Alberta Game Form, the largest in North America. Wednesday, Dal left for Calgary at noon by bus and at five o'clock played seven games against Cals, a senior team in Calgary; 2-15, 3-15, 3-15, 4-15, 15-8 and 12-15. This team is one of the top 4 teams in the country.

Thursday the Tigerettes visited the 626 foot Calgary Tower and the downtown shopping malls. At five that evening, the Tigerettes defeated the University of Calgary Dinnies; 11-15, 15-12, 12-15, 15-4, 15-8. Dal lost a sixth game 13-15.

Friday the team went to Banff for the Weekend and lodged at the Banff School of Fine Arts. The afternoon was spent skiing at Sunshine Village, by most of the players, with only one casualty. Unfortunately, Helen MacGregor broke her left ankle and was forced to spend the night in the Banff hospital.

Saturday the team toured Lake Louise and viewed the Rockies atop the Gondola lift at Whitehorn. Some members of the Tigerettes swam outdoors in the Sulfur Mountain Hot-springs and later the team shopped on Banff Avenue.

Sunday the Tigerettes drove back to Calgary where they boarded their flight to Halifax, via Montreal to end their 10 day excursion. Among the travelling Tigerettes were Coach Lorne Sawula, setters; Margot Nugent and Filiz Erdogan, spikers; Cindi Rice (Captain), Carolyn Cox, Helea MacGregor, Bonny McNamara, Joan Kelly, Peggy Kennedy, Judy Reardon and Ann Gormley, Managers: Laura Pertus and Brenda Bailey. While on the trip the Tigerettes were pleased to have visits from two former players of the team; Kaiva Celdoma, who now coaches the U. of Manitoba Team and Mary Miller who is a Physio therapist in Edmonton.

As an added sequel to our trip the team was caught in Montreal by a airport strike in Halifax. So instead of arriving home Sunday night, the team arrived home Tuesday night much to the disgust of the conductors on our train.

Overall Coach Sawula was pleased with their performances. This trip, to the West, marked the first time that any University Volleyball team from the Maritimes has travelled on an extended journey in Canada. Beside the volleyball the Dalhousie team made many friends among the teams played. As well the team was excellent in advertising and promoting Nova Scotian spirit, laughter and humility. Overall the team won 6 matches and lost 4. The high-light of the trip was the final match against the University of Calgary Dinnies. Five members of the Dinnies were bronze medalists at the recent volleyball championships during the Winter Games in Lethbridge. Defeating this team shows that Maritime Volleyball and more specifically the Tigerettes, are on the rise to success. Hopefully the Tigerettes will capture the Provincials on Thursday evening at Dalhousie (6-10 p.m.) and then move on for regionals in Newfoundland during the March 15th weekend. With a little luck here the team should end its season as Maritime representative to the Canadian Open Championships in Quebec City on April 4-5th.

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