

# Clare Drake interview:

**Question:** Why did your team lose that sudden-death playoff to Saskatchewan?

**Answer:** I think we played well enough last night to win a lot of games we've played this year. Had we played about 80 per cent of the game we played last night in the Manitoba series we would have never been in the position of having to play them (Saskatchewan). We've played a lot of games this year where we've carried the play for the first two periods but we haven't been able to score . . . We were lacking finish around the net.

**Q:** Do you think the Bears played too much hockey this season?

**A:** It wasn't that we played too much hockey. All the travelling probably hurt us more. There was the trip to Quebec, Montreal, Denver. . . . it cuts into the team's studies . . . they have a tougher load and it hurts the hockey.

(The Bears played 39 games this season according to Gateway calculations. This is a correction on the original figure that appeared in last Friday's Speaking on Sports column.)

**Q:** How big a factor was injuries . . . losing players like Gary Link?

**A:** Losing Gary Link hurt us, because at the time he was hurt he was probably our steadiest defence-

man. He very seldom plays an outstanding game and he very seldom plays a poor game.

**Q:** And on the forward lines did shifting the players around make much of a difference? I tend to look on hockey like football where a player sticks with a position.

**A:** I think it probably hurts inexperienced players a little bit. But I think we try and work our team on the basis, I have the last two or three years, of moving them around a bit so that new positions aren't unfamiliar to them.

For example, this year, our forwards, we had three left-handed shots who played center ice. We had Harper playing left wing with a righthanded shot, Stelmaschuk on left wing, another righthanded shooter and we had Zarowny in the same situation.

This could've been an asset if they'd gotten used to it. But I think there are certain basic things a forward has to do and to a reasonably good forward it shouldn't make that much difference, but I agree sometimes three players get used to each other.

**Q:** How do you feel about shifting players around to try and get a hot streak going?

**A:** Well that was part of the reason for us shifting players around. You never know if you've got the right combination unless you've got a line that is doing outstandingly well. The way we were scoring—you see we weren't scoring well. And as a result you never know—you put a line together—now I thought Cebryk, Zarowny and Le-

## Hockey Bears' mentor looks at team's past, future fortunes



—Neil Driscoll photo

### COACH CLARENCE DRAKE

. . . team 'lacked consistency needed in college hockey'

#### The interview

1966-67 has perhaps been Clare Drake's most traumatic season as coach of the Golden Bear hockey club. But despite a rocky finish, the Bears were no strangers to the win column.

Before this season, Drake had guided his charges to five WCIAA crowns in eight seasons. In two of the four years national finals have been held his team was there.

In an interview with Gateway co-sports editor Don Moren, Drake discusses the season and the future fortunes of the Golden Bears. The talk was taped the day after the Bears' sudden-death loss to Saskatchewan.

Blanc played well together last night. That was the first time they ever played together.

**Q:** Do you think not having a junior team hurt the club seriously this season?

**A:** No, I don't think it hurt our team this year but I think it will hurt next year—there may have been a couple of times when we could've brought up a junior who was playing well. But I don't think over all it hurt that much.

**Q:** How would you rate this team with all the other teams you have coached?

**A:** We didn't have that many individually talented players, but as a team I thought we played in some of our games as well as any of the previous teams, but we weren't consistently good. We lacked the consistency you have to have in college hockey, more so than in any other kind of hockey, because really what you are playing is a series of playoff games. You take the junior or senior leagues, they play their schedule and most of them end up in the playoffs. Then all you have to worry about is playing well in the playoffs.

**Q:** You're losing a lot of players this year. Will your team be a little weaker next season?

**A:** Well you never can tell. We're losing nine and possibly ten players. All the defencemen will be gone with the exception of Jim Seutter, who didn't play that much this year and he played as much forward as he did defence.

**Q:** Do you do much recruiting? Does the university scout all over the country looking for players?

**A:** Well not all over the country but there are players who write in or alums who write or tell me about promising players.

**Q:** There are players like Harper (Regina) and LeBlanc (New Brunswick) who have come a long way to play hockey here.

**A:** When I talked to Brian his home was here after finishing his junior at Regina. He went out to British Columbia to try out with the Nationals. When it didn't work out there he came back and played with us. It wasn't a matter of

him going out and looking for a team. It was that his home was here. . . . (phone rings)

**Q:** Are you satisfied with the Molson Scholarship Program as it stands now? Would you be in favour of extending it to second and third year students?

**A:** No, I don't think so. Well, I think they could possibly be extended to students who do exceptionally well academically in their first year. I think the first year is probably financially the toughest for a student. . . .

**Q:** Are you presently in favour of athletic scholarships?

**A:** Yes, but not as you commonly think of them. But I think this first-year tuition based on marks and ability in a given field—I can't see anything wrong with it.

**Q:** Do you do any scouting around the province?

**A:** We get recommendations from people and we try to get out and see players who are playing in a league. We haven't travelled around much in the past. We may do a little more this spring.

**Q:** Do the poor crowds hockey got this year affect the performance of the team?

**A:** I think a good crowd would improve the performance of the team. I think it would help them to play better more often. It gives them the feeling that they're playing for something other than themselves and that the university is interested in the team and wants it to do well.

### Edmonton Public School Board

## SEPTEMBER TEACHER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

in

## ELEMENTARY and SPECIAL EDUCATION

Sept. 11 to 22, 1967

**ELIGIBILITY**—This program is limited to:

- Students who have completed first year in the Faculty of Education and who will qualify for Standard E certificate in 1968.
- Holders of approved degrees who propose to qualify for a teaching certificate in elementary education in 1968.

**PURPOSE**—This program is designed to give an orientation experience to prospective teachers of elementary grades and to teachers in special education (opportunity classes, hospital teaching, hearing conservation, etc.). The Edmonton Public School Board is faced with rapid expansion in these areas in the future and will need a large number of teachers in the next several years.

**DURATION**—September 11 to 22, 1967—a period of 10 days.

**REMUNERATION**—\$10.00 for each day of internship participation.

**HOW TO APPLY**—Application forms for internship are available at the office of C.M.C., Student Placement Office, 11149-91 Avenue and in the Records Office (R.833) of the Faculty of Education.

Completed forms are to be submitted to:

M. J. V. DOWNEY,  
Director of Personnel-Instructional,  
Edmonton Public School Board,  
10733-101 Street, Edmonton, Alberta