

the Dalhousie Gazette

Volume 115, Number 11,
November 18, 1982

Esdale suspension causes uproar

by Bruce Galloway and Ken Burke

A seven-game suspension given to Dal hockey Tigers coach Peter Esdale has thrown the Dalhousie Athletics department into an uproar.

Esdale was suspended following an incident during a University of Maine-Dalhousie game at Orono, Maine, last Saturday night. In the first period, Esdale removed his team from the ice and did not send them back within the required time. Esdale was not available for comment on the suspension.

Under both NCAA and CAHA rules such an action results in an automatic suspension for the coach, pending a hearing to determine what, if any, action should be

taken.

After a lengthy meeting on Wednesday morning, the ethics committee of the Atlantic Intercollegiate Athletics Association (AUSA) handed down their ruling,



Tigers coach Peter Esdale

which consisted of:

- suspension of Esdale's coaching duties until December 6, seven games after the incident occurred;
- a ban on Esdale's participation in the AUSA all-star game on December 7;
- Dalhousie offering payment of damages to the University of Maine for cancellation of the game in question;
- Dalhousie sending "appropriate letters of apology" to the University of Maine for the incident.

Dalhousie Co-ordinator of Elite Sport Wayne MacDonald gave the Athletics Department's official statement. "We are very disappointed with the severity of the penalty," said MacDonald. Mac-

Donald filled in as hockey Tigers coach during their 8-3 victory over Acadia on Tuesday. He said the "damages" Dalhousie must pay the University of Maine will probably range between \$1500-\$2000.

"We are in the process of putting together an appeal within the 48 hour time limit," said MacDonald, referring to the AUSA ruling. Under CAHA rules, Esdale was liable for a suspension of up to one year for pulling his team for more than three minutes while the game was in progress.

According to eye-witnesses, the incident in Maine arose after play had become chippy and several "questionable" calls ensued from

the officials. Esdale pulled the team off the ice, and did not return within the NCAA regulation two minutes, thus forfeiting the game.

Chairman of the AUSA ethics committee, Father Kehoe of St. Francis Xavier University, refused to comment on the specifics of the incident, but noted, "It was a very serious matter."

The only other case of an AUSA coach being suspended in similar circumstances occurred in February of 1974 when Bob Boucher of Saint Mary's pulled his team from a match with the Memorial Beothuks. Boucher was suspended for the remainder of the season, including the AUSA playoffs.

Pulling out of the CFS national dream

by Cathy McDonald

Student associations at two Halifax institutions and the provincial body may disassociate themselves from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) as a result of a CFS conference last week.

Delegates from Saint Mary's and the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD) are angered at lack of response to their criticisms of CFS at the week-long semi-annual conference in Victoria, B.C. They are proposing their schools hold pull-out referendums in January.

CFS representatives were not available for comment, as they are still meeting in Victoria.

"I hope we get out as soon as possible and save half a year's fee," said Eric Walker, a delegate who represented NSCAD. "We have a student body who feels CFS doesn't do anything." Walker is also the chairperson of the Student Unions of Nova Scotia (SUNS), the provincial student organization.

As a small institution, NSCAD finds it prohibitive to send delegates to the semi-annual conferences, Walker said. While two conferences in a row have passed motions to expand the subsidies for small institutions, which would help NSCAD, this policy has not yet been implemented. Walker said CFS executive director Diane Flaherty told him this issue was not a "priority". Walker said this comment shows the executive is not as responsible to the plenary as it should be.

Walker said CFS is "overblown

and top-heavy", spending disproportionate amounts of money on travel budgets for its staff and meetings of the 17-member executive.

In comparison, Walker pointed to an important motion concerning money that was defeated at the conference.

A motion to support the students at Université de Moncton who staged an occupation last spring to protest tuition hikes was defeated. The motion called for \$500 towards legal fees for student leaders who were arrested, but the CFS Treasurer argued the amount could not be afforded.

The Canadian Federation of Students is a two-year old organization that was created by combining the National Union of Students (a political organization) and the Association of Student Councils (a services co-op). This restructuring also included incorporating the independent provincial student associations into provincial wings of CFS.

Saint Mary's University was the first to join CFS by referendum in the fall of 1981. But now SMU vice president external Charlie MacArthur feels CFS's priorities "are not in line with ours". He complained about the direction the service wing of CFS is taking. Students at Saint Mary's haven't made use of the "Youthsaver" discount card, a CFS-Services program, he said, even though it was clearly made available to them.

On the political side, MacArthur reiterated complaints from other

Nova Scotia institutions that CFS staff did not offer much support when the province cut education funding last summer. "There was neither hide nor hair of the national office, although they knew about it," he said.

Nova Scotia delegates especially took issue with a motion at last week's conference making it mandatory that institutions belong to both national and provincial organizations, and not one only. Cur-

rently the Student Unions of Nova Scotia has members who are not interested in being members of CFS. They are the Acadia and Saint Francis Xavier student associations.

The new rule will likely see SUNS pulling out of CFS, according to Dalhousie student union president Peter Rans. "SUNS will decide over congruent membership in January," he said. "I still believe in the idea of a national student

organization personally (but) right now I'm not all that sure...that they are serving student interests in Nova Scotia," said Rans.

This is a difficult political issue for SUNS, Rans said, as "CFS hasn't done a sufficiently good job in attracting Saint F.X., Acadia, College de St. Anne and the University of Cape Breton." These institutions are apparently interested in SUNS but not CFS.

Board rep Jay Doucet resigns

by Tom Morrison

"Another one bites the dust" is fast becoming the theme song of Dal student council this year.

Board of Governors representative Jay Doucet has announced his resignation due to academic pressures. Doucet is the fourth member of student council to resign or be removed from his position this year.

In a formal letter of resignation to be read at this Sunday's meeting of the Dalhousie student union, Doucet said that he will not be disappearing completely from student politics; just from this position. He has agreed to remain active on various committees until he can be replaced.

Academic demands have been cited as the main reason for this action. Doucet, who is currently

undertaking his third year of an honours biochemistry program, said that his position on the Board

"just simply took up too much time".

Doucet also said that he was "just tired, and burned out politically". He said there "just comes a point where you have to give up".

He added he felt frustrated with the DSU, which so far this year has "not done very much". He expects a change in this situation, however, once the matter of CFS is resolved and Peter Rans, DSU president, and John Russell, DSU vice president (internal) can concentrate more on their work at Dalhousie.

Vice-president Russell expressed regret at Doucet's resignation. "He's going to be missed," said Russell. "He was a very hard worker."



Childerhose/Dal Photo