

A Sports Editorial

EDITOR'S NOTE: This editorial is written to find out the views of the student body on recruiting. We invite anyone to make up his mind and write a letter to the sports department on this subject. ED.

Now that the football season is over and hockey has just begun it is time to look at recruiting and how it applies to Dalhousie sports on the Maritime collegiate scene.

Before one can talk about recruiting it must be defined. Let us define recruiting as, any encouragement to join. Now like all definitions it is not just black and white in application, but is of varying shades of grey.

THE EXTREMES

To say "no recruiting" means that nobody in the athletic department can on the department's budgeted monies write letters, travel or talk to any coach anywhere, about his students, who are not only good athletes but also of high scholastic standing or to the students who have been brought to the attention of the athletic department. This is not the only stipulation on "no recruiting." The other one is that the students and coaches cannot be contacted by any means by a member of the athletic department on his own time and money.

Full and absolute recruiting means the entire opposite. Members of the athletic department may offer any good athlete free tuition, room and board and even high paying jobs which require a bare minimum of time and effort. In a sense what you are doing under this system is hiring athletes to play for you and they, although considered amateurs, are in fact professionals. Generally speaking, to get this type of student into university it is also necessary to bend the rules of admittance to the university backwards to get the student into university. If the athlete is of poor scholastic standing then the professors must co-operate by giving him passing grades to which in all probability he is not deserving.

THE INBETWEENS

Between the two extremes of recruiting there are many shades of grey. The one that needs discussing is the one of light grey. This one requires no money from the athletic department except for stationery and stamps. By this type of recruiting a coach would be able to send letters to the coaches and students whom he would inform of the advantages of going to his particular university. If the coach desires personal contact with particular persons he would have to do it on his own time and money.

No tuition, room, or board would be paid, nor would soft, high-paying jobs be found for them. Admittance of the student would only occur if his marks measure up to the academic requirements of the university. In fact, the athlete would derive nothing but a very good education in return for going to the coach's university.

IN PARTICULAR

Let us turn from generalities to maritime intercollegiate sports and Dalhousie in particular. — Dalhousie works on a non-recruiting basis while the other universities in the Maritimes have recruiting of various shades of grey. As such there is recruiting in only the three major varsity sports; football, hockey, and basketball.

Let us look at the universities and their stand on recruiting for the major varsity sports. St. F.X. has the second best college football team in Canada as rated by the Ryerson Institute of Technology. Last year's hockey team was second or third best in Canada while their basketball team was not far behind Acadia, the second best in Canada by three points. Since no fantastic scholarships are offered by X there must be some type of recruiting or how else can a university of 1600 students compete rather favorably with much larger colleges in Canada (i.e. UBC with 12,000 students.)

St. Mary's has 650 students with 96 of them from the U.S. About 30 of these 96 play varsity sports. So, why is it if there is no recruiting that 30 of 96 are more inclined to athletics than 30 of 550?

Acadia has the second best college basketball team in Canada and about the worst hockey and football teams in the Maritimes. If there is no recruiting why do Americans make 8 of the 13 spots on the basketball team?

Mount Allison has a ceiling on its enrollment, namely 1200 students and yet it competes better than favorably with Dalhousie and its 2800 students. UNB recruits solely for its hockey team but competes with Dalhousie on an equal footing in the other two sports because of its physical education school. It appears that St. Dunstan's has entered the recruiting fight this year as it is rumoured that they are going all out to win the National Collegiate Hockey crown.

Dalhousie is at the moment the only university that does not have any recruiting.

HOW TO COMPETE

The question now arises how Dalhousie is able to compete with teams that recruit. There are two solutions: based on the old adage "If the mountain will not come to Mohammed, Mohammed must go to the mountain." Either Dalhousie joins the others in recruiting or the others join Dalhousie in not recruiting.

At present we do not recruit and the administrative policy will, it seems, not change in the near future. If this stand is to remain then Dal is forced to compete in a separate league.

Now if Dal cannot join a league where no one recruits then we are forced to recruit. Assuming we do recruit how black a grey recruiting do we do? Do we just send letters and let the coaches make personal contacts on their own time and money and offer no financial reward or do we go all out to get the best? For ten thousand dollars Dal can come up with the best college teams in Canada in football, hockey and basketball.

LOSSES VS GAINS

There is more, however, to this question than just should we get the best. To get the best what do we gain and what do we lose? Some of the gains are obvious. We have winning teams. The sports teams will pay for themselves by the increased money received from the gates. The university will gain immeasurably in publicity which will be national.

The loss is solely academic. The academic standards would suffer as some students not meeting the entrance requirements would be admitted and some degrees would be granted which in fact would be worthless.

The question for or against absolute recruiting must be weighed solely on the losses and gains. Which outweighs which?

ACADEMICS WIN

From here the academic side must win. Now should we have any recruiting at all? Again we are back to the Mohammed adage. If the universities agree to give up all recruiting and strict control is gained, then, this is the solution.

If they will not give it up, what then? Should we recruit or not? If they will not stop we must recruit on one basis or another. The best basis for this university is on the light grey recruiting definition. That is, allow the coaches to make contact by mail to anyone they wish but when the student comes to enroll he must meet all the academic requirements for entrance.

On this basis Dal can compete with the other universities to a more favorable degree and yet maintain its scholastic standing.

THE END RESULT

As we see it there are two things that can happen; either the other teams stop recruiting or continue their old policy. It seems unlikely that the former will happen, so Dalhousie is faced with two alternatives; recruit or drop out of the intercollegiate leagues. If Dalhousie will not recruit, we say that since we do not compete on an equal footing with the other teams, get out of the league. Therefore **RECRUIT OR GET OUT. WE SAY RECRUIT.**

GIRLS' SPORTS

BY MARGIE McDOUGALL

Another field hockey season has passed but it will not be forgotten because Dal gained its greatest number of victories in three years.

The try outs for the team were held early and many enthusiastic players turned out. Soon the players had thinned out to the following: forward line— Wendy Doodie, Dorothy Woodhouse, Heather MacKinnon, Daphne Armstrong, Sue Powers, Pam Young; Defense— Keren Price (captain); Judy Greenwood, Karen Jamieson, Liz Campbell, Saundi McKay, Judy Peerey and Nancy Graham (goalie). Jay Botterell, Wendy Stoker, and Daphne Windsor played a couple of home games with the team but found that their work demanded too much time to play regularly.

This year Dal saw quite a few players on the team, some who had never played before. However, under the excellent coaching of Miss Carol Arnold (Women's Athletic Director) and Miss Jane Williams (who represented Canada on the All-Star field hockey team) the team shaped up very nicely.

Intercollegiate standings look like this: 1. UNB 2. Mount Allison 3. Acadia 4. Dalhousie 5. Kings.

VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball team has improved greatly since the beginning of the year and the girls are beginning to look and play like a team. The intercollegiate Tournament, slated for the November 22 weekend at Kings promises to be a successful one.

As of the present Dalhousie, Acadia, Kings, Mount Allison, Mount St. Bernard, UNB, and the New Brunswick Teachers' College have entered teams. It has not yet been decided how the tournament will be run but Dal is hoping to provide strong opposition. The practices have been continuing on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The number of girls was cut down at Thursday's practice.

BASKETBALL

Girls are now conditioning for basketball. This is the most important sport for girls and a large number of games have been scheduled on the intercollegiate level. Good physical conditioning, shooting, and passing are three facets of the game which the girls have been practising at least three hours a week in the gym.

Skating is continuing on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30-11:30 in the rink.

I'FAC HOCKEY

Med school began their inter-fac hockey schedule on Oct. 28 as they usually do by winning. They swamped the hopeful engineers 7-0. Frank Sim was the big man with 4 goals while Lund had two and Murray 1. In the Com-Dent game the next day, Commerce walked over Dents with a 5-1 score. MacLean and Marshall of Com each scored two goals.

COMMERCE-DENTS WIN

The two games on Nov. 4 resulted in a Comm loss to Arts 3-2 and a 5-4 win by Dents over Science. This game saw Dents come from behind a 3-0 first period deficit with 5 quick goals that were unanswered until late in the third period. Marshall and Gardiner of Dents scored 3 and two goals respectively while the Science goals were equally split among 4 players.

FIRST PROTEST

On the 5th Engineers tripped Pharmacy - Education 6-5. The sixth saw the powerful Med team scourge the lawyers 5 to 2; Sim scoring two goals. On the 7th in a mighty game Arts took Science in a scratchy 4-1 protested contest. The protest was that the Arts goal-ender, Dave McMaster because of his practicing with the Dal varsity team was ineligible.

Nov. 12th saw Science drive to a 5-4 victory over Commerce. The following day; Dents and Law skated to a 1-1 draw.

MEDS-ARTS LEAD

The standings put Meds and Arts in a 1st place tie, each with four points. Dents are in sole possession of second place with 3 points. A three-way tie between Commerce, Engineers, and Science occupies 3rd spot, each with 2 points. Pharmacy-Education is cellar bound with no points.

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