

Hockey Night in Halifax

Canada's most famous sidekick comes into his own

BY GREG WHITE

Stepping out from the shadows of his co-host and into the spotlight as Canada's premier sports broadcaster, Ron MacLean has finally arrived. Evolving from the sidekick on *Coaches Corner*, MacLean has proven himself as a competent and capable newscaster, who is admired by his colleagues and respected by the athletes that he interviews.

Introduced as "The best in the history of this country" by Bruce Rainnie, the CBC's next great sportscaster, Ron took the stage in the McInnes Room amidst a sea of hockey jerseys.

The 37-year-old broadcaster still has ties to the only part of the country without an NHL franchise. His parents are originally from Cape Breton and Ron played his minor hockey in Chester before moving to Red Deer, Alberta, at the age of 10.

In tenth grade, Ron got his start in broadcasting spinning vinyl at a local radio station in Red Deer. When TSN began its operation in 1984, he was brought aboard as a broadcast correspondent in Calgary.

MacLean was later picked up by the CBC to broadcast the Toronto Maple Leafs' games on Wednesday nights, but his big break didn't come until March of 1987 when he replaced Dave Hodge as the host of

Canada's most beloved program. Since that time he has excelled as host of *Hockey Night in Canada* and co-host of *Coaches Corner*.

Apart from the interesting asides from Ron's own life and his professional success, it was clear



Ron MacLean with Greg White. (Photo by Andrea Gagliardi)

what entertained the crowd the most. Fans revelled in the comedic stories of Don Cherry and his views on fighting, Don Cherry and his views on Russians, and Don Cherry and his views on himself.

As the anecdotes and stories about Cherry continued, it became clear how much mutual respect the two men have for one another, despite the antics on the air.

This respect has never been more evident than in Ron's acceptance speech for the Gemini Award for excellence in sports broadcasting. In his acceptance, he included an emotional dedication of the award to Cherry's late wife Rose, who

passed away to liver cancer during last year's Stanley Cup Finals.

NAGANO

"I think [Nagano] is a classic example of how tough it is to be the favourite," he says.

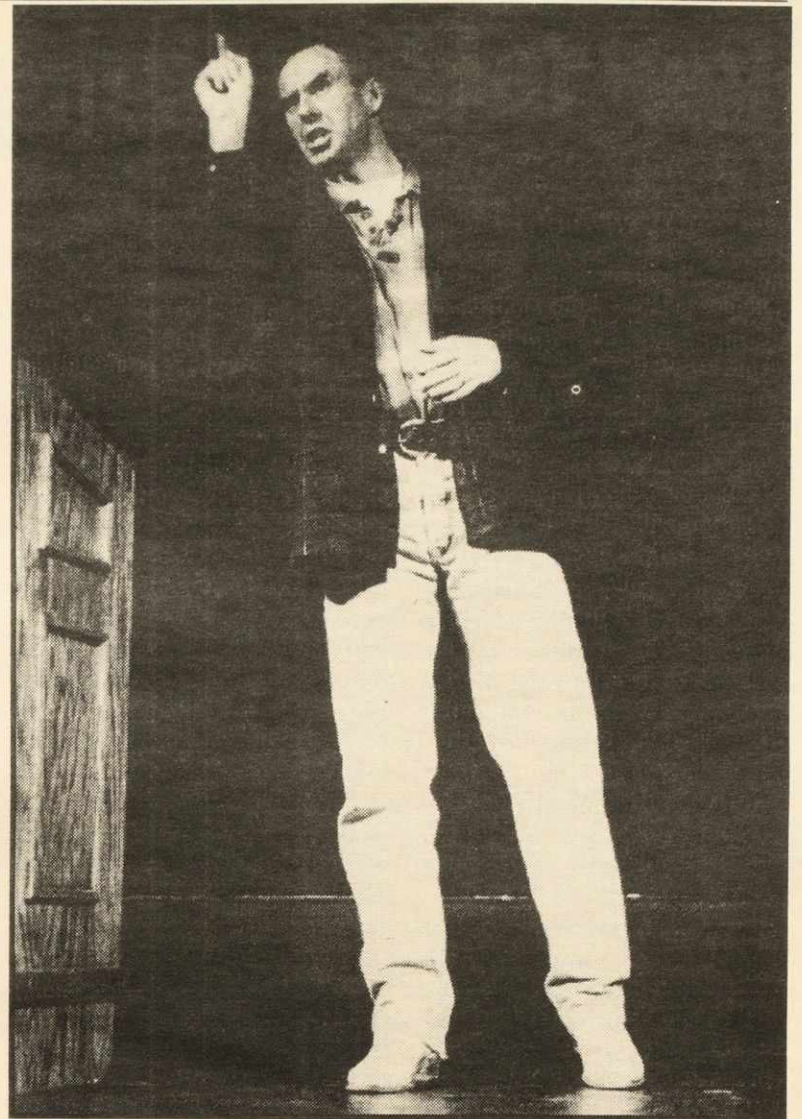
Ron is quick to criticize the 30 million newly-crowned experts who questioned decisions made by the coaching staff either before or during the Olympics. He saw Canada's Olympic Men's Hockey Team as a focused and committed bunch but believes the shootout is "a stupid way to decide a hockey game."

"It came down to the best overtime goaltender in the world [Patrick Roy] versus the best breakaway goalie in the world [Dominik Hasek] and we only got 10 minutes of the first."

THE FUTURE OF 'COACHES CORNER'

"The theory used to be that Grapes would want to go out on top because he loved the way Bobby Orr went out after just eight years and we never saw him play in the twilight of his career. But I think with Rose gone and I think with Del, his grandson, just moving up into hockey...I think there are a lot of factors that'll keep Don around longer. I hope that's the case.

"On the whole, I still think he has



Ron MacLean does his best Don Cherry impression. (Photo by Ryan Lash)

a fun time coming to the games, I think he'd miss that energy of being 'Don Cherry'. I know he enjoys having a couple of beers and plotting the next *Coaches Corner*...I think he's having fun... So, I think we'll see him around for a few years."

On television, he has always

impressed his audience with his insight, dedication, and the pride with which he conducts himself. His dry sense of humour has begun to infect a nation of viewers as he continues to keep Cherry on his toes. However, it seems to be the class and integrity of Ron MacLean that makes a nation proud to offer him up as our ambassador of sport.

MANAGER WANTED...

The Dalhousie men's varsity hockey team is looking for an energetic student-manager to assist with the day-to-day operation of the team.

Applicants must be goal-oriented, able to manage time very wisely, capable of budget management, and familiar with the game. Knowledge of skate-sharpening and equipment would be an asset. They must have great interpersonal skills and be assertive. There will be some travel involved, mostly on weekends.

If you think you are up to the challenge, please call 494-6673 and/or drop off a resumé at the Dalhousie Hockey office (located in the lobby of Memorial Arena).



Athletes of the Week



RICHARD MENZIES
TRACK & FIELD

Richard ran the anchor leg on the Tigers' 4x800m relay team as they captured the bronze medal at the CIAU Track & Field Championships at the

University of Windsor. He ran the final leg in a time of 1:54.50 which was the fastest on his team. He struggled through training prior to the race due to injury and illness, but he ran with heart when his team needed him the most. Richard is a second-year Arts student from Bear River, Nova Scotia.



BRIAN PARKER
BASKETBALL

Brian played an incredible 124 out of a possible 125 minutes on his way to capturing the AUAA Tournament MVP at the Basketball Championships on the weekend. He was all over the court, scoring,

rebounding, passing and stealing opponents' passes as the seventh-seeded Tigers advanced to the AUAA Championship game. He had game highs of 29 points, 16 rebounds, 8 assists and 7 steals on the weekend. He was also named the AUAA Athlete of the Week. Brian is a fifth-year Bachelor of Arts student from Laurel, Maryland.

An alternative way to travel through Europe!



Unlimited bus pass for 16-38's

Prices start at

- Hop-on hop-off bus service. **\$280**
- Travel through Holland, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, and England.

Prices shown are based on travel commencing by 30 May 98. Check with us for summer rates!



3rd floor SUB
494-2054

Owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students

EDDIE'S TATTOO REMOVAL

555-0710

Have one too many and you might do something you'll regret later.

KNOW WHEN TO DRAW THE LINE



TEACH ABROAD

TEACH OVERSEAS with your Bachelor's Degree INFORMATION SESSION

- When:** Thursday, 19 March 1998, from 7pm- 9:30pm
Where: Sir James Dunn Building, Rm 101 Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia
Cost: \$35.00/Students \$45.00/All Others
 Register in advance as enrollment is limited
 Call Toll free — 1- 888-801-8479

Content: (a) How to discover where overseas teaching jobs are, (b) How to apply for these jobs—covering letter and resume, (c) Working Visa, (d) Travel to and from your country of employment, (e) Living Accommodations, (f) Health and Health Insurance, (g) Canadian Income Tax, (h) Returning to Canada after your overseas assignment, (i) Teachers (BEEd) needed for public and private schools throughout the World, especially the United Kingdom; (j) Teachers of English as a Second Language (TESL) (any bachelor's degree) are needed throughout the countries of Asia and Europe.

Please Note: A resource manual, with addresses, will be distributed.

The Canadian Institute for Teaching Overseas
1 - 888 - 801 - 8479