

# Huskies crumble in championships

from the SMU JOURNAL

For the second year in a row, the Saint Mary's Huskies were in the final game of the Canadian College Hockey championships and for the second year in a row, they were beaten by the University of Toronto Varsity Blues.

The frustration that has been felt is almost beyond comprehension. What can you say when you lose and yet know that you are as strong as the winner?

The Huskies came out strong in the first period and quickly took a 1 - 0 lead on a goal by Ron Hindson. The SMU team controlled the play and forced the Blues in their own end. The terrific forechecking of Carl Boswick and Ritchie Bayes forced the Blues' offensive drive into a state of disorganization, for the most of the period.

However in the Saint Mary's end of the rink, Chuck Goddard was called on to make some key saves and he was a definite key to the Huskies' momentum. Before the first period was over, Hindson had scored his second goal and it looked as if SMU was going to take all the marbles.

The Huskies continued their terrific forechecking

in the second period, but U of T made the scoresheet and was back in the game.

Kenny Martin made the score 3 - 1 before the period had ended, slipping the puck behind Cole in the Toronto net.

It really looked as if SMU were going to avenge the 3 - 2 defeat of last year when the period started, but at the 28-second mark the Blues made the score 3 - 2.

Only 50 seconds later, the score stood 3 - 3 and the Blues were really flying. Only a few minutes later, U of T had a 4 - 3 lead and it did not look too hopeful as the Blues' tremendous offensive pressure of the third period was beginning to tell its tale.

When Brian O'Byrne got a penalty it looked as if the Blues were going to pull off the comeback, but Ed Hebert stole the puck from the Blues, went in all alone, sucked Cole out of his jock strap and gently slipped the puck into the net.

The Blues continued to press and Brian St. John scored a real pretty goal on Goddard, putting the puck in the top right hand corner, which proved to be the winner.

U of T got a penalty with a minute and thirty

seconds left in the game. Coach Boucher pulled Goddard from the net and SMU had a two player advantage. They were unable to apply any real pressure, as the Blues' defence were able to clear the puck constantly out of their end.

That's the way it ended . . . but we'll be back, say SMU supporters.



## What's in a game?

by Brian Miller

This article is going to be a very personal expression of some observations of the intercollegiate sports scene. At first I was going to go into a big harangue over the inability of teams from the Atlantic region to win in national competition.

This was precipitated by the loss over the weekend by the SMU Huskies to the University of Toronto Blues. Not that hockey is the only sport where local teams have trouble winning, it's just the most recent example.

As to what's wrong with the local teams, it could probably come down to a lack of competition. In most sports there are one or two particularly strong teams while the rest of the league is woefully weak. It follows that when the local champion goes on to national competition that the locals are at a loss as to what to do when they meet a team that won't roll over and play dead.

So, does it really matter whether we turn out a for real champ? Not really. As for the spectators, they usually forget about the season by no later than two weeks after the last game. The most significant thing a game seems to offer a spectator is an immediate outlet for emotional feelings and a chance for some socializing.

On the other hand, the participant has the opportunity for some lasting personal satisfaction. And, maybe even an educational experience. Whether he gains an education depends on the philosophy of the coach. The traditional approach of the coach has been, "If you don't like my ideas either keep your mouth shut or get out."

This year's men's varsity basketball team tried an unconventional approach towards team discipline and playing philosophy. Simply what it amounted to was a discussion on the part of both players and coach as to the rules under which the team was to operate. If we are to judge success by winning and losing (as is the case most of the time in competitive athletics) then, the approach by Coach Yarr was a success. This year's team was not expected to win many games because of a lack of talent. Although the team started poorly, by the end of the season they had a 9 and 3 record (the best record outside of last year, for probably the last 7 years).

Not everything went without a hitch. There was some static, but Coach Yarr should be given the credit for having the guts to try a system where he is not

given the opportunity to beat his players over the head.

Earlier I mentioned the chance a competition has for gaining an education. What the education amounts to is a chance to see how personalities express themselves in a wide variety of contrived situations. If the coach's philosophy doesn't permit his players to express their ideas instead of his own, then what he does is take away the spontaneity of the situation. It is the spontaneity or unpredictability that provides the colour and interest in sporting events.

Most people like to pretend that sports events are life and death struggles. It is this tendency that leaves athletics open for ridicule on the part of the population that is not interested in sports. I suggest that the contrived aspect is not in conflict with the idea that participating in athletics can be

an educational experience. What differs is the intent of participating. Is the game being played only to win, or is it being played for the experience of the moment?

Well, does this discussion

amount to a rationalization for not winning? I hope not. There is no need for compromising quality, but under the present athletic system, there seems room for debate over the motivation of participation.



### The Dalhousie Campus Shop Welcomes Students to Our Modern Facilities in the S.U.B.



we have . . . New  
Paperbacks . . . Jackets . . . Sweaters  
. . . Basic Sundries . . . Ceramics . . .  
Jewellery . . . Magazines and  
Periodicals

Hours 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
MON. • TO • FRI.