

Tigers open camp



by Greg Zed

With the hockey season about five weeks away the Dalhousie Varsity Hockey Tigers have opened an extensive land training camp which will be followed by an intense on-ice scrimmaging campaign in the hopes of attaining a playoff position.

The Tigers will have a skelton of players returning which should add sufficient experience to give the club the edge in tight games. Between the pipes for another year will be Melvin Bartlett. His return comes with the experience of eight league games, which saw him earn a respectable 4.18 average. Bartlett in his second season with the Tigers was certainly instrumental in a number of Dal victories. On defense the squad will see John Mallowney, who has certainly developed his play-making ability since joining the team in 1974. Robert Riopel, who was a rather versatile Tiger in his first season will return to the squad as a rearguard. Jack Gray will join the previous blue-liners and his fine skating ability should help the Tiger squad. Rounding out the defensive corps will be M.V.P. winner Rick Roemer. His proven defensive ability and hard-hitting talent has certainly given other teams a lot to look out for. Roemer will undoubtedly bolster the Tiger line-up and add team leadership.

Up front the black and gold brigade will see Amherst native Hal Davidson who should patrol the line lanes with much more experience. Al McNaughton will return and his digging approach should help the Tiger's scoring punch. Bengal Award winner Earl Theriault is expected back after a successful first season. He finished 21st in the scoring race but provided much of the offensive power to the Dal roster. To round out the squad, Tom Mann will certainly be flying

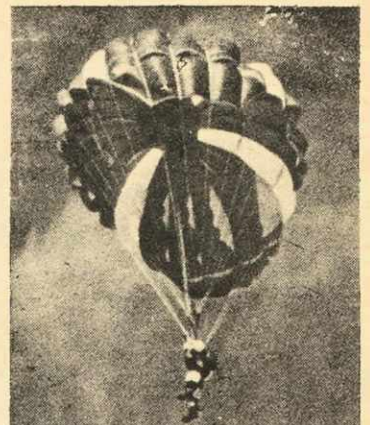
this season. Often referred to as the most consistent Tiger of the 1975-76 season, Mann was voted along with Melvin Bartlett as outstanding Rookie.

All in all the skelton team that returns will have the experience as well as the pride to go all the way. In pre-season talks thus far the attitude is very positive and several enthusiasts suggest that talent together with pride and enthusiasm should aid the Dal squad in their drive to the playoffs.

Those not returning from last year include Tom Coolen, who will be toiling in the Holland National Hockey League, and Paul Finlay, who is attending training camp for the Maine Nordiques of the North American League. He graduated with his Bachelor of Education, May 1976. Team captain John Gillis has used up his eligibility and will be employed in Moncton whereas Jim Shatford, who has also used his eligibility will be attending Dalhousie in his final year of study.

Mike Gilbert has decided to take this season off and will be travelling in Europe whereas Darrell MacGregor is reported to be working in Ontario after receiving his degree in Physical Education. Don MacGregor has used his eligibility and will be missing from

Cont'd on pg. 14



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