

Overtime

Recruitment: Caring is the key

by LISA TIMPF

Brandon University made the news earlier this year as a result of the firing of a coach after allegations that he had paid off intercollegiate athletes.

Recruitment, either above or below the proverbial table, is nothing new to intercollegiate sport in North America. In the late nineteenth century, collegiate sport was organized by the students themselves, and was modelled after the British Public School sport tradition of emphasizing character building, sportsmanship, amateurism and gentlemanly competition.

It seems, however, that once the American entrepreneurial system grasped the concept that college sport could be sold for big bucks, the orientation shifted from sport as an activity outlet for the students, to sport as a form of entertainment that could be marketed to the university community and beyond.

The better the athletes, the better the entertainment package and the more money to be generated and prestige for the university. Take it one step further, and the best way to get good athletes is to recruit them, pay them, or offer them jobs or "perks" such as new cars, free accommodation in residence, or university admission when their academic transcripts are not quite up to par.

Recruitment did not originate with university athletic administrators and coaches. Before the turn of the century, students and team managers at some schools were recruiting non-students to play for their teams. This trend was not confined to sport; debating team members as well were actively recruited.

But the structure which made recruiting more effective entered when then university athletic administrations got into the act.

Problems were perceived in the US system early in the twentieth century. A number of people reacted with alarm to the perceived "evils" into which intercollegiate sport had fallen. The *Carnegie Report on College Athletics*, written by Savage, et. al. in 1929, was one example of outspoken criticism of the college sport system.

Savage's study found that few Canadian colleges appeared to be following in the footsteps of their neighbours to the south. This has attributed to a stronger link in Canada with the British sport traditions.

However, controversies of a smaller scale were to be found in Canadian college sport. Dalhousie caused its own miniature controversy when using graduates from previous years to play on her teams. While this had been permissible in city league play, other schools in the intercollegiate league objected to the practise, and Dal eventually had to give up using alumni stars in intercollegiate play.

Canadian universities, then and now, were not and are not one big happy family in terms of athletic recruitment issues. Different regions have different stipulations regarding kind and degree of athletic scholarships. That's over the table.

Under the table, recruitment can take on many forms—alumni donations for athletic scholarships, awarding of goods or promise of free accommodation, admission to academic programs on different considerations from other students, and a promise of a job (often something like cutting the artificial turf or turning on water sprinklers) to "needy" athletes—all of these are used as subtle lures to get a promising athlete to attend a given university.

The techniques have varying degrees of acceptability, and are used in amounts ranging from none of the above to perhaps almost all by some institutions.

The *Matthews Report* on University Athletics in Canada came out in 1974. After performing a study on all Canadian university athletic programs, the author of the Report suggested that recruitment of non-Canadian athletes to play at Canadian schools should be controlled, if not curtailed. It suggested that recruitment be confined to the same area as normal university academic recruitment. As well, the Report suggested that emphasis should be placed on a university's academic goals and user needs, and that skill development of athletes should always be a secondary consideration to furthering the athlete's education.

Some Québec universities were already moving toward more emphasis on intramurals and club sports, as this was where the perceived user need lay. In other regions, the trend was toward more increased elitism.

Many of the athletic directors and university presidents across the country objected to the suggestions outlined in the Report, particularly with respect to the recruitment of non-Canadian athletes.

Among these individuals were, perhaps ironically, a representative from Brandon University, whose words were preserved in the *Proceedings of the Workshop on the Matthews Report* as follows: *The active recruitment of athletes for some of the intercollegiate activities is a must for us. The Brandon basketball team, for instance, must recruit successfully outside our borders in order to be merely competitive.*

Other questioned the degree to which Canadian universities could, or should, be forced to fit into the same mold.

Representatives from St. Mary's University remarked in the *Proceedings* that "The report does not come to grips with regional differ-

ences, with the impact of population, with the impact of the size of universities, with enrolment patterns."

The situation in Canada is not seen to be as grave as that of some schools in the United States. John Underwood, in a 1980 edition of *Sports Illustrated*, said that college sport had become a fan system for pro sport at the expense of scholarship.

I'm not saying that recruitment *per se* is good or bad. Different regions of the country perhaps do have quite valid reasons for feeling differently about the issue.

What I do feel is important is that the good of the athlete be considered first. It is when students are lured to a school only to find themselves graduating with a degree they didn't really want in the first place; or worse still, to find that the amount of time spent on sport has meant they don't graduate at all, or with such poor marks that their degree doesn't really mean much, that the real abuse aspect of recruitment comes in.

In this respect, Underwood's words of 1980 are equally applicable to Canadian and American schools: *"Ultimately, the solution to the problem is caring. Caring about young people, caring about their being educated, caring about the contribution they will be able to make to society."* □

Women's soccer team has good showing

By SALLY THOMAS

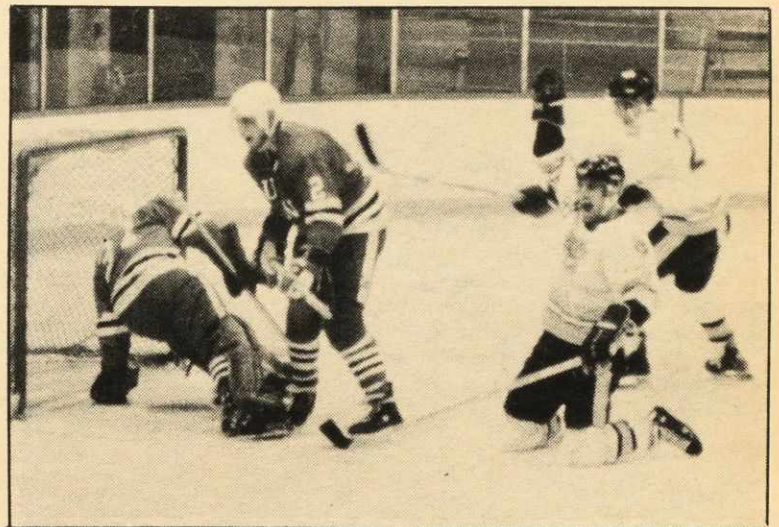
Dalhousie's women's soccer team went west for the first time and finished second at the Concordia Invitational tournament.

Dal defeated McGill 2-1 in their first game. Donna Lamb scored both Dal goals.

In their second game, Dal lost a hard-fought battle with Queen's University, 3-2. Susan Collicutt scored both Dal goals. Lisa Chan and Lesley Cherry had strong games on defence.

In Dal's final game of the tournament, they defeated Concordia 3-1. Collicutt, Lamb, and Heather Kaulbach each had singles for Dal.

Dalhousie's overall record for the 1984 season was ten wins and two losses. □



The Hockey Tigers skated to wins over UNB (above) and St. Thomas in weekend hockey action. Photo: Ellen D. McKenzie, Dal Photo

Hockey Tigers win two

By MARK ALBERSTAT

The men's hockey team was in action over the weekend, meeting UNB on Saturday and St. Thomas University on Sunday. Dal had a field day with UNB getting a win over the defending AUSA Champions with a score of 10-4. The much-improved St. Thomas Tommies were a harder nut to crack but the Tigers prevailed 3-2.

The bright star for the Tigers in the UNB game was unquestionably number 11, Kevin Quartermain, who had three goals and one assist. Two of Quartermain's goals came in the first period at 14:21 and 17:49 respectively. These two goals were the second and fourth goals for the Tigers in this game.

The first goal of the match came off the stick of Dal's Shawn O'Brien at the 9:18 mark. It was O'Brien's first goal of the season. The third Dal goal of the period came from number 18, Stephen Johnson. Fifty seconds later UNB replied with a goal of their own from Robbie Forbes. Dal's fifth and last goal of the period came with three seconds left on the clock as Paul Herron put it past UNB's netminder David Lutes for a 5-1 first period score.

In the second period UNB changed their goalie to number 31, Jamie Frizzell, but still had troubles stopping the Tiger rampage. Dal got three more goals this period compared with UNB's two.

Dal's first goal of the period was at the 6:06 mark and came from Dan D'Amico. It was his first goal as a Tiger.

Thirty-five seconds later Al Lewis of UNB got the puck in the

net. UNB's next goal came about ten minutes later from Robbie Forbes, who got his second goal of the game.

The next two goals were for the Tigers as Neal Megannety and Paul Herron put the puck in the net.

The second period also had UNB's Scott Clements hopping mad over a slashing call (his second of the period). In total there were ten penalties given out over this period for a grand total of 23 minutes.

The third period raised the Tiger's goal total by two to ten and UNB's by one, for four. The two Tiger goals were from Kevin Quartermain and Tony Greco, his first goal as a Tiger. UNB's goal was from John Leblanc.

The St. Thomas team, in stark contrast to UNB, put up a tough battle and led through much of the game.

The first goal was from St. Thomas' Gary Bedryk, assisted by Gene Milton and Dennis Vringer, 5:03 into the game. About three minutes later John Cossar answered back for the Tigers for his fourth goal of the season.

The Tommies' second goal for the period came off the stick of center Scott MacKenzie at the 11:35 mark. It was an unassisted goal. This closed the scoring for the first period at 2-1 for St. Thomas. The teams skated through a scoreless second period even though Dal outshot the visitors 11-9.

In the third period the Tigers came out shooting. Their first two goals came only two and a half minutes into the period as Royce Baker assisted by Stephen Johnson and Shawn O'Brien put the puck past the Tommies netminder for the tying goal.

Eight minutes later Dal had a chance for the go-ahead goal only to be stopped in their effort by a brilliant stop by St. Thomas' goalie. A minute after this Tigers' Paul Herron scored unassisted in what would turn out to be the winning goal.

The Tigers' next home game is on Saturday, Nov. 10 in an exhibition match against the University of Moncton. □

TIGER SPORTS THIS WEEK

Nov. 8	Men's volleyball	Winnipeg	Away	
Nov. 10	Men's volleyball	Bison Invitational	Away	
Nov. 9-10	Men's hockey	Memorial	Home	1:30 pm
Nov. 9-10	Women's vball	Schooner Classic	Away	
Nov. 9-10	Men's bball	X-tourney	Away	
Nov. 9-10	Women's vball	Acadia Tip-off	Away	