

Hockey Tigers face heavy schedule

When the Dalhousie Tigers come back after the Christmas break, they will have played an additional four exhibition games. December the eighteenth, they play Bishop's and then a day later they travel to Laval to meet the Quebec club. Both teams play in the Quebec College League. The question foremost in the minds of most associates of the team is certainly the idea of a drastic change in the team's performance. As was mentioned last week the club has fallen on the short end of four close games.

In speaking with the two coaches in an interview, both were not at all hesitant to mention that there has to be an improvement in team play. When asked about the most important need of the club Dr. Bill Shannon replied, "We need a big January in that we play the first four games at home and we need the wins if we are to make the playoffs. The rookies have to mature and in doing so their play has to be consistent." Head coach Pierre Page noted that the club has to be more consistent. "This has been the most inconsistent year for this league. Anyone can beat anyone else and we just have to be more consistent for three periods". This inconsistency was clearly evident in that Mount Allison Mounties defeated St. Francis Xavier X-Men in Antigonish, something that is done everyday.

One thing the Tigers can look for is the return of John Gillis, who has been side-lined since October with an ankle injury. Coach Page was very enthusiastic about the return of his veteran defenceman. "John has really helped the Tigers in the last few years. He has experience and a great attitude and is able to

move the puck well. He knows the league and he will add to the team defensively. He will stabilize the defence." One key point to look at, though, is will the time away from the game impede Gillis's performance? With John's attitude, it is quite reasonable to suggest that his hard work in recent practices will certainly prepare the Moncton native for a fine return.

Although the club is showing signs of weakness defensively the coaching staff has moved rear-guard Don MacGregor up front. This seemed puzzling, however, the mentors had great praise for MacGregor's transition. Page noted that "Don is playing well. He is big and strong and can dig in the corners. He played extremely well in the SMU-DAL game; he was the best player on the ice. If we could get all the team to play like Donny in that he is able to play a two way game."

To date the club has earned only one game in league play and although the record isn't impressive, coach was quick to reply: "Last year I wasn't here but from the statistics one can see that the club won seven games by one goal. This year they have lost four games by the same score. The Law of Averages is beginning to catch up on us. When we come back in January we have to play each game as a playoff game -- we have no easy games."

When asked to comment on the statement that the goal-tending is not up to par, coach Page was quick to support his netminders: "Our goalies are just as good as last year's and they can certainly become the best pair in the league." If the goaltenders are to become the best in the league, one thing is for

certain, the club's defensive game must improve. "The players must begin to move the puck and play a two-way game."

When questioned about the performance of the veterans both coaches showed some concern. Coach Shannon added that "the team is made up of fourteen rookies and eight veterans. Every line has a rookie on it and where there is a rookie, there is a potential error." (This was referring to the lack of experience.) To date a few rookies have shown some signs of production "but every line has its night -- there is no consistency established" added Shannon. Page was more philosophical in that he suggested that "the players must soul-search. It must come from within."

All in all, the Tigers must sit back over the break and individually examine the season. To date the nightly practices, the time away from the books, the lack of a complete social life is quite a price. It is a price that not many students are willing to pay. The returns have been small. It only suggests that the dedication and the interest that each of the club members has is very very strong and that regardless of the stress and strain, they are willing to support their University and such support is truly appreciated.

As the pre-Christmas schedule winds up at all universities, an evaluation of the league was examined. This was in terms of seeing what changes have occurred over the past four months. For Dalhousie Tigers the scene was frustrating but one bright spot was the addition of Dr. Bill Shannon, assistant coach of the club. Bill Shannon reigns from Lakehead University where he played his

college hockey. On two occasions, he was selected "Athlete of the Year". Later he was appointed to the respectable position of Athletic Director and he held that position for ten years. Shannon (who has his doctorate in Health Education) does not teach Physical Education. He is a Health Educator and teaches courses in Health Education.

The assistant coach came up through the Minor ranks in Thunder Bay playing in the Detroit chain until he suffered an injury which kept him from going much further. His involvement in hockey has been intense, to say the least. He has run somewhere in the vicinity of seventy hockey clinics in Ontario and he has done his research on movements pertaining to hockey. He was affiliated with Hockey Canada as a protegee coach. He coached Lakehead University and has certainly been involved in a number of smaller hockey groups, a list that has no end!!!

His in-put at Dalhousie is on the fringes. He is supporting the philosophy of Coach Page and as Page's more than able assistant he works on the outside to improve the fundamentals of hockey. In short, his involvement is just out of interest of the game. He does not teach hockey, nor does he offer coaching courses. His involvement is on a personal level rather than a professional level. He has an interest in hockey and athletics. This academic Health Educator is nothing short of one of the finest gentlemen in Athletics. His is certainly an open-minded, respectable individual and his outstanding ability has certainly added to the quality of Dalhousie teaching staff. Welcome Bill to Dalhousie and good luck in the future.

Wrestlers win many

by Bob Thayer

The Dal wrestlers travelled to Wolfville Friday evening for a scrimmage against Acadia. The scrimmage marked the first real competition of the year for the Dal wrestlers. There were several outstanding performances. Dave Carter in the 142 lbs. class wrestled three matches winning each by a pin. Dave faced 3 Quebec wrestlers and entirely dominated the matches. Mike Soares in the 177 lbs. class wrestled Acadia's tough Dan McClusky and pinned him in the last round. McClusky is a former Canada Games and Junior Nationals competitor. Tom Murtagh in the 158 lbs. division defeated the very tough Dez Murphy, a former P.E.I. Canada Games wrestler. In the light division, Dartmouths Darrel Reed a Dal P.E. student lost a tough match to Norm Koubaichi a Quebecer who is nationally ranked. However, Reed atoned for the loss by defeating his heavier opponent, also from Quebec by a pin in the 2nd round. In the heavyweight division 2 Quebecers from Acadia were pinned by George Fieber. Fieber demonstrating his superior strength and speed pinned both opponents in the 1st round. Greg Wilson (168) and Murray Davis (158) two freshmen at Dal demonstrated their skills which made them top wrestlers in their respective provinces by pinning their opponents in the 2nd round. As well first year wrestlers Bill Sanfield (142), and Ray Simmins (145) wrestled ex-

tremely well in the 1st matches of their wrestling careers.

This past weekend the Dal wrestling team travelled to University of Moncton to face Moncton and last years AUAA champions UNB. The Dal Tigers were led by Dave Carter (142) who defeated 3 very tough opponents by pins. As well Tom Murtagh in the 158 lb. class defeated his 3 opponents by pins. In perhaps the toughest division Darrel Reed outclassed 2 of UNB's outstanding wrestlers in George Pineau, a competitor in both the Canada Winter Games and the Junior Nationals and Tom McLeod a wrestler with similar experience. The heavy weight division finals saw two Dal wrestlers George Fieber and Terry Young fighting for the honours. Young, the more experienced of the two, won by a pin in the second round. In the 168 lb. class Greg Wilson, a freshman defeated last years runner up in the AUAA Championships in a very tough match. Finally in the 190 lb. division Dal's Mike Soares wrestled to an easy win by pinning UNB's MacMillan in the finals.

The next meet for Dal will be in the New Year where they will host a Quadrangular meet. Visiting at that time will be Hofstra University of Long Island, N.Y.

DAL'S 1ST PLACE FINISHERS
118 lbs. class - Darrel Reed
142 lbs. class - Dave Carter
158 lbs. class - Tom Murtagh

168 lbs. class - Greg Wilson
190 lbs. class - Mike Soares
HWT lbs. class - Terry Young
2ND PLACE
158 lbs. class - Murray Davis

HWT lbs. class - George Fieber
TEAM STANDING
1st Dalhousie 45
2nd UNB 20
3rd U de Moncton 12

Tigerettes win Moncton tournament

Dalhousie University defeated University of New Brunswick two games, one in the final to win the University of Moncton Open Women's Volleyball Championship on December 6th.

Dalhousie won the final match 15-11, 8-15, 15-12 after beating Universite de Moncton in the semifinals 14-16, 15-8, 15-1.

The Tigerettes finished second in their division winning against Acadia and UPEI Seniors and losing

to UNB.

Next home game: Tuesday January 13th.

Only seven of the Tigerettes were able to attend this tournament and each one worked very hard as a team:

Congratulations to: Margot Nugent #1 Capt.; Norma Hogg #2; Becky Dobson #4; Helen MacGregor #9; Anne Gormley #10; Bonnie McNamara #11; Judy Reardon #12.

MURPHY'S LAW presents
for your listening pleasure
music from the 20's, 30's & 40's

Marvin and the Moonlighters

Wednesday, December 17, 8:00 p.m.
Sir James Dunn Theatre
Dalhousie Arts Centre **FREE ADMISSION**