

# Dal holds Concordia to 3-3 draw

by Morley Bates

The fortunes of the Dalhousie Tigers hockey club took a turn for the better last Friday night as they held the powerful Concordia Stingers to a 3-3 draw before a small crowd at the Dal rink. As was the case in many games this year, goaltending became the predominant feature with Gino Yanire and Ken Bickerton giving outstanding performances in their respective cages.

For the first time in many games, the Tigers scored first with Rick Gaetz firing a wrist shot past Yanire high on the glove side. Immediately following Gaetz's tally, Tiger defenceman Peter Aldrich fired a blistering shot past Yanire, only to

see it carom off the goal post. The Stingers took advantage of that stroke of fortune to tie the score on the ensuing return rush. Andre Bourgeois slid a beautiful cross pass to Daniel Vinet, who merely had to direct the puck into a wide open Tiger net.

In the second period, end to end dashes became the main feature of play. The Tigers magnificently killed off a holding penalty to Rick Gaetz, however the Concordia squad connected shortly afterwards when Bill Doherty took a pass from Richard Marsh, and his screen shot eluded Bickerton to put the Stingers ahead 2-1. Undaunted, Dalhousie still pressed and Linus Fraser scored the most exciting goal of the



Allie MacDonald Captain of the Tigers—voted on both the Dalhousie and UPEI Tournament All-Star Teams

making the score 3-2 Concordia. It was then time for Yanire to perform again, stopping a breakaway, a blistering shot from Aldrich and an almost impossible glove save. His heroics were not enough, however, as the Tigers' Mike Leblanc deflected a shot off a Concordia defender to tie the score at 3-3. The Stingers pressed for the winner, and appeared to have it, only to see the quick glove of Ken Bickerton stymie Concordia once again.

Friday evening's game was by far the best performance by the Tigers this year. The forward lines displayed outstanding passing and forechecking, and were able to apply sustained pressure at times. The Dal defence, led by Allie MacDonald and Peter Aldrich showed everyone what they are capable of doing. Aldrich, in particular, played magnificent defensive hockey, breaking up a number of dangerous attacks. Along with defensive heroics, the defence showed good bursts of offensive thrust. As usual, the goaltending was superb. If the Tigers can continue this type of play, look for a spot in the play-offs come late February.

Dalhousie's next game is Saturday night against cross-town rivals, St. Mary's Huskies at the SMU rink. Remember, the Tigers were victims of a 5-0 defeat at the hands of the Huskies two weeks ago. We should be able to see if they will continue to improve. Let's send a big Dal delegation to SMU for this one. Until next week . . .

## Varsity Hockey opens

Everything is Go! The Tigers have completed their pre-season work and seem most ready to tackle the 1977-78 season. The season opener is scheduled for this Saturday, Nov. 5, at 7:00 p.m. at the SMU rink. This is one of the nine regular season games the team will play prior to the "Christmas Break". So far the Tigers have compiled 3 wins, 4 losses and a tie, had 34 goals scored for, and 39 against. Top scorer is Earl Theriault with 7 goals and 1 assist, while Jim Bottomley and Mike Leblanc total seven points each. Rick Gaetz and Mike Leblanc lead the plus and minus column with a plus 4 record. Dan Mongeon is plus 2, Linus Fraser plus 1 and Rick MacCallum plus 1. Ken Bickerton has had 27 goals scored on him in 6½ games for a 4.14 average, while Darrell Young had 12 goals scored on him in 1½ games.

This past weekend the Tigers competed in 3 demanding games which produced some very satisfying results. On Friday night, the local fans had a chance to witness one of the most exciting games in years as Dal tied the highly ranked Concordia Stingers 3-3. Then, on Saturday, the team travelled to Charlottetown to participate in the UPEI Invitational Tournament. Acadia recorded a 5-4 overtime win over Mt. Allison, while Dalhousie overcame the tournament favourites,

the UPEI Panthers, by a score of 4 to 3. Goals went to Earl Theriault (2), Allie MacDonald (1) and Daniel Mongeon (1). Ken Bickerton played an outstanding game in nets as he faced 30 shots.

In the Championship Game, the Tigers started very strong but quickly faded in the second and third periods. The tough weekend schedule seemed to take its toll as the players reverted to individualistic play. The last 3 minutes of the game were most exciting as Dalhousie recorded 2 goals when Coach Page pulled Ken Bickerton out of his net and replaced him with a sixth attacker. Rick Gaetz missed a unique opportunity with 17 seconds left in the game which would have tied the score. Goals in the game went to Earl Theriault (3), Daniel Mongeon (1) and Jim Bottomley (1). Needless to say, Earl Theriault's strong performance didn't go unnoticed, as he was selected to the Tournament All Star Team as well as being chosen the Tournament's Most Valuable Player. Allie MacDonald was also awarded an all-star position on defense. In the Consolation Game, Mt. Allison posted a 5-4 victory against the UPEI Panthers.

It's now on to the regular season opener at SMU Rink on Saturday, Nov. 5, 7:00 p.m. Come and cheer the Tigers; they deserve it!

evening, grabbing a loose puck at his own blueline, and dashing in all alone to beat Yanire at 9:25 of the period. It then became Ken Bickerton's period, stopping Yvan Disotel on a breakaway, and making a hair-raising save from close-in late in the period.

If the second period belonged to Ken Bickerton, then the third certainly belonged to Concordia netminder Gino Yanire. After making a great save from close-in, Yanire's acrobatics inspired the Stingers. It finally paid off, with Doherty and Marsh clicking again with a weird goal, that appeared to trickle in from behind the net,

## Dal Cross Country Champs

On Saturday, October 29 the Dal Cross Country team captured the senior men's title at the Nova Scotia Cross Country Championships. The race was held at the Abercrombie Golf and Country Club in New Glasgow. The men's race was 10,000 m. (6¼ miles), and consisted of a tough, hilly 5000 m loop which you ran twice.

Once again Randy Bullerwell and Paul Groarke provided the one-two punch for Dal, finishing 1st and 2nd respectively. Randy's time was 30:59 and Paul's 31:17, as these two continue to show their dominance in Atlantic Cross Country. The team just missed gaining a sweep of the first 3 positions as Bob Book, Coach of the team, ran a strong second half of the race to finish 4th. The next Dal finisher was Alvin Brien, who ran his best race of the season to finish 7th. Jim Balcom, who has been running very consistently all fall, ran another strong race to finish 9th. Tom Evans and John Blanchard rounded out the Dal team, finishing 12th and 15th respectively. Richard Brooke,

running as a junior, captured the provincial championship in this age group. Dal's low team score of 23 points easily captured the team championship.

This Saturday, Groarke and Bullerwell, will be in Kingston, Ont. for the CIAU Cross Country Championships. Coach Bob Book feels the 2 runners have an excellent chance of both finishing in the top ten, with a shot at winning the race. We know they will represent Dal well. Good luck, guys!!

On Sunday, the remainder of the Dal team will be in Amherst for the Atlantic Open Cross Country Championships. From this meet, selections will be made for the Canadian Open Championships in Hull, Quebec on November 12th. The Atlantic Provinces will be sending a 16 member team to this meet. This will consist of 7 senior men, 5 senior women and 4 junior men. We hope to have at least 5 runners from Dal represented on this team. As well as the individual accomplishments, Coach Book hopes the team can win the Jr. and Sr. Men's titles.

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