

Profile on university sport

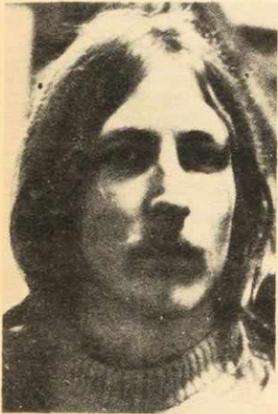
The pros invade basketball

by Glenn Wanamaker

Sports is a lot of things to a lot of people, but to Trevor Parsons, sports has a different meaning.

Now an Honours Theatre student at Dal, Parsons used to play basketball — because he liked it — and he was good. But after playing through tough training schedules in high school and university and watching professionalism creep into college basketball, Parsons decided to quit.

He feels that college sports should be played for the enjoyment rather than the money and the glory.



"I was shown ways to break an opponent's back."

Trevor Parsons

Because, as he's found out through experience, playing on a varsity team means "living and sleeping that sport".

Even though sports scholarships are "no-no's", according to the rules of the A.A.U. (the Atlantic Athletic Union), they are very much in existence throughout the Maritimes, and of course, the rest of Canada.

"I know of several individuals," says Parsons, "who received academic scholarships when their marks were certainly not high enough to even be considered

for a scholarship. They would then be given special preference in choosing their courses, and if they were not doing well someone would talk to their professors."

At the last university Parsons played for, no more than three of the members of the basketball team were Canadians. The others were recruited from U.S. institutions.

The more valuable players "would be given certain jobs like handing out towels in the locker room, for which they would be paid more than one would expect."

Training schedules were very rigorous, though more so in high school than in university. "In high school, we practiced from six to eight o'clock in the morning, had weight-lifting for an hour at noon time, and then practiced again from four until six after classes. We also had practices on Saturdays and Sundays."

Parsons became disgusted with the dictums of "win at all cost". Injuring an opponent became a part of the game.

"I was shown ways to break an opponent's back, which was fine, because all I wanted to do was get the ball."

Such policies have forced Parsons to quit organized college basketball. "Enough institutions in our society are brainwashing people into believing that competition is the only way of life. I don't think sports should do this".

"If I were to play basketball again, it would be at Dal. Coach Yarr gave me help many times in high school, and he seems to have brought more of that human element here."

Parsons believes that Dal doesn't practice 'professionalism' as much as other universities. That's probably the reason, he notes, why Dal hasn't done too well for awhile, even though they've had good players.

"I played basketball because I enjoyed it. To play it the way some people want it to be played, is a waste of time."

Interfac Roundup



After last week's interfac hockey, some of the players who sustained injuries went directly to Student Health and from there they were sent to the V. G. Hospital. If you are injured playing ANY interfac sport, report to the training room in the gymnasium and arrangements will be made there as to where you should go for treatment. This will avoid confusion, i.e. "medical excuse notes."

The D.A.A.C. Committee is cracking down on un-sportsman-like conduct in the interfac sports. One player has been suspended from interfac hockey for the rest of this year (70-71 season).

HOCKEY SCORES

Nov. 23 — Commerce 2 - Science "A" 2; Law "B" 3 - Phys. Ed. "B" 1.

Nov. 25 — Med "A" 4 - Phys. Ed. "A" 2; Science "B" - Dents - Postponed.

The following sports are not being covered yet: Floor hockey, basketball, curling, paddleball, squash, handball, badminton, volleyball, table tennis, skiing, novelty skating, broomball, bowling or swimming. If anyone is interested in writing articles on any of these, please leave article at the Gazette office, 3rd floor of S.U.B. and it will be included in the sports.

This week the interfac basketball schedule is included:

SUNDAY, DEC. 6

- 12:00 — Pharm. Ed. II 2 vs 6 Engineers II
- 1:00 — Law I 4 vs 5 Grads I
- 2:00 — Dents II 7 vs 9 Arts II
- 3:00 — Commerce II 8 vs 1 Science II
- 4:00 — Pharm. Ed. II 2 vs 5 Meds II
- 5:00 — Phys. Ed. I 1 vs 3 TYPI
- 6:00 — Engineers II 6 vs 4 Law II
- 7:00 — Dents II 7 vs 1 Science II
- 8:00 — Commerce II 8 vs 3 Phys. Ed. II

Coming EVENTS

Thursday, Dec. 3 — Basketball. Dal at Acadia, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 4 — Women's Volleyball. Dal Invitational, 6:00.
— Men's Residence Dance with Melody Fair, 9:00

Saturday, Dec. 5 — Women's Volleyball, Dal Invitational, 9:00 a.m.
— Basketball. Mt. "A" at Dal. 8:00 p.m.
— Open Dance. McInnis Rm. 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 6 — Coffee House — Sunday Purgatory. Sub caf. 9:00 p.m.

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