

A New Hockey Coach for Dalhousie

Pierre Page who played a few games for Dalhousie Tigers last year, before being declared ineligible, is the Dalhousie hockey coach this season replacing Gerry Walford who is attending Ohio State as coach and doctoral candidate. Pierre has never coached hockey before but he offered his services to Dalhousie and was accepted.

Page readily admits "I always dreamed of being a coach." When he was a player he would often say "If I was the coach I would do it this way..." Now he has his chance.

He enjoyed his playing years greatly and thus wished to continue his association with hockey. Page played several years for St. Francis Xavier in Antigonish under Gelle Leger. He considers Leger his greatest influence in hockey.

Before St. F.X. he attended Rigaud College in Quebec where he was entered in a classical degree program. At Rigaud College the hockey was taught by very dedicated priests in much the same way

as Father David Bauer of Hockey Canada fame. These priests developed their own plays and had a patterned style of hockey comparable to the Russian mode.

Veterans Needed

Page tried some recruiting for this year's team but it proved unsuccessful, to put it mildly. According to Page the recruits were always looking for scholarships and money which Dalhousie doesn't provide to any extent.

Thirty-two players came out to the two week off ice training camp, after which there was a week of on-ice practice followed by the first player cuts. Page has seven returnees from last year. They are: goalie Doug Farquhar; defencemen Serge Lavallée and Mike Leberge and forwards Greg McCullough, Eric Cameron, Randy Sears, and Lynn Carriere.

In addition Sean Boyd who played for the Tigers two years ago is back. Boyd is considered the biggest addition as he played last for a top amateur team in Holland.

The line-up is not final for the remaining varsity players as yet and will probably not be until December 11 when the varsity team can no longer draw players from junior varsity.

The High-school recruits for this year include; Paul Findlay and Tom Collen from St. Pats, Bob Richardson of Queen Elizabeth and Jeff Cadegan from Glace Bay, all forwards. The four new defensive prospects are Mike Fench up from the Dal J.V.'s, Mike Gardine of North Sydney, Peter Fisher of Halifax, St. Andrews native, Bob Hines, and Don McGregor of Halifax. There are two other forwards from the Metro-Valley Junior Hockey League in Harry Nichols of the Dartmouth Arrows, and Mike Hicks of the Halifax Blazers.

Jeff Dickey joins the Tigers from S.M.U. Goaltending prospects are Peter MacDonald of New Glasgow and Sydney's Tom Plumridge. There maybe a few players joining the team from the Football Tigers namely Gary Hurshman and

Burns MacMillan as additional from the junior varsity before the roster is finalized on December 1. With the obvious lack of experience on this year's edition of the hockey Tigers the team will most likely look to the veterans for the stabilizing influence and leadership.

Individual Counts

What Pierre Page has to do now is establish a system to work his team around. The players cut previously didn't fit this system. What Page is looking for in a player is good skating ability, puck control, speed, size, and aggressive drive. Obviously each player does not contain all five

qualities; if they did we would be watching the Montreal Canadiens, not the Dalhousie Tigers. Each player does contain a portion of the five, however, and he must use his ability to the utmost.

In establishing a system Page says, "We are trying to provide interesting hockey and a definite system in which individuals are to know what is going on at all times." The system puts a responsibility on each player since each must perform certain tasks. In the end it is hoped a good product will develop. Last year's team was always two steps behind, it is hoped that this year the Tigers will be a paw ahead.

Hockey Aids Big Brothers

This weekend Dalhousie plays host to yet another sports attraction; this time in the form of the season-opening Hockey Canada tournament. This, of course, follows hot on the heels of the Lobster Bowl Octoberfest celebrations. Although the tournament is sponsored by Hockey Canada, proceeds will go to The Halifax-Dartmouth Big Brother Organization. Profits should be good but in case a loss should occur, Hockey Canada will take the financial responsibility. The tourney will follow the single knock-out format with following schedule:

Friday, November 3 at 5:00 — Game A

St. Marys vs Memorial
Friday, November 3 at 8:00 — Game B

Acadia vs Dalhousie
Saturday, November 4 at 2:00 — Game C

St. F.X. vs Game A Winner
Sunday, November 5 at 2:00 — Championship Final

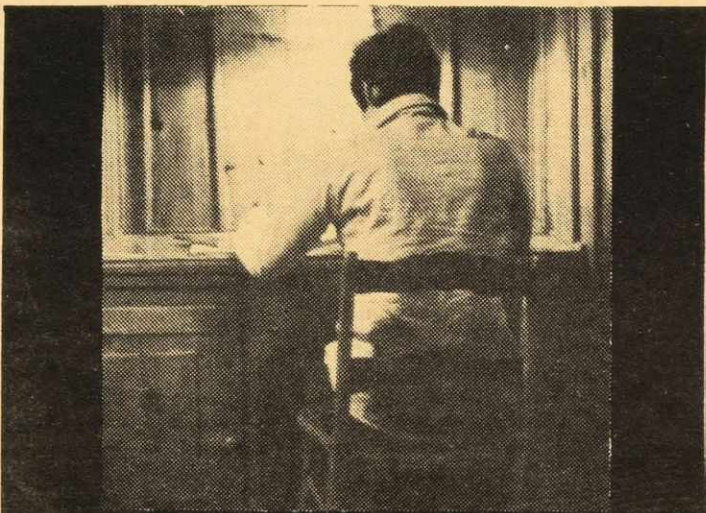
Winners Game B and C
Saint Mary's would have to be rated as the tournament favorites, being league champions, but really all teams are unknown quantities at this early stage in the season. The Hockey Canada Series will be a welcome substitute for the annual A A A tip-off tournament.

This tournament is one of nine regional playoffs with the

winners of each series going to McMaster University on December 16, 17, and 18th for a Christmas playoff to decide the overall Champion.

Ticket prices, as most of you know by now, are \$2 for Friday games and \$1 for each remaining game. There are 1,000 tickets available per game. Dalhousie will receive 350 tickets, with the rest distributed evenly among the four other institutions. Very few tickets will be available at the door.

In the past the Hockey Canada Tournaments have been held on the invitational basis, but this year any universities wishing to participate could do just that. These games should carry a more prestigious air than similar contests of the A.I.A.A. tournament, due to the fact that the winner does receive the right to go west. As Pierre Page says, the players are enthusiastic and "it would be nice to go to McMaster at Christmas."



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