

Tigers shine in Forum forays

by Brian Miller

After escaping the pouring rain Saturday evening, I expected, entering the confines of the Forum, a couple of minutes after game time, to be exposed to a large enthusiastic crowd. Instead, the few hundred spectators had been swallowed up in the large seating capacity of the Forum as if by some monster ending a seven day feast.

Throughout the game the silence was broken only by the unceasing background rumble created by the players running over the impressive new playing surface. There was little fan reaction, either because of the dull game or the physical barrier imposed by the distance of the spectators from the floor.

The play of the game was generally sloppy with inaccurate shooting prevailing on the part of both teams. Dalhousie was obviously the better of the two teams and this was most evident in their aggressive defensive style.

Coach Al Yarr has decided to utilize an unstructured offensive style, particularly using the fastbreak. It might not be the pattern for the upcoming season, but against Hawthorne College, the Tigers substituted frequently and it showed in the scoring as Mike Flinn, Steve Bezanson, Albert Slaunwhite and Brock Savage ranged in the area of 10 to 13 points for the evening's work. The final score — Dal 64, Hawthorne College of New Hampshire 54.

The atmosphere for the second night's play reversed as the spectators became participants. In the consolation game the St. Francis Xavier X-men held on to win 73 - 71 over Hawthorne College.

The second game of the evening began as emotionally as the first game finished. As both the players and crowd settled down SMU maintained a 5 to 10 point advantage for the better part of the game.

It became "obvious" that the Tigers would succumb during this game to the Saint Mary's version of naturalized Canadians. The die was cast about five minutes into the second half. The end result was a 84 - 70 win for the Huskies. Steve Bezanson led the Tigers in scoring with 15 points.

For the reasons behind the defeat, close consideration of the first five minutes of the game probably gives the best clue. The Tigers missed several chances at making "sure" points as their shooting failed them. This inaccurate shooting was a carry-over from the first game. It was the biggest, and possibly the only difference between Dal and SMU.

If one is conscious of the typical "image" of athletes, Joe Leichman certainly has struck a blow against the stereotype. The slightly pudgy number 25 with his beads and long fuzzy hair played an excellent game. Along with Joe, Albert Slaunwhite and Steve Bezanson did more than their share of maintaining the pressure on the Huskies. Slaunwhite was consistently good in both the games of the tournament. As a result, he was chosen for the All-Star team.

On the whole, the weekend provided a good base for basketball in the Forum. Many new basketball spectators were acquired from outside the university community.

Kidd at APHPERA

Philosophy of sport

by Pete Harvison

"The image of sport is that it is often dead against social change," says Bruce Kidd, twice Canada's athlete of the year and now a political candidate for the N.D.P.

"If students were interested in social change," it was always the physical educational

"If students were interested in social change, it was always the physical educator and the captains of teams who took action against them."

Speaking to physical educators and students at the Atlantic Provinces Health, Physical Education and Recreation Association (APHPERA) Conference, November 23, he attacked the "win-at-all-cost" attitude of sportsmen instilled, in part, by "commercial professional teams".

"But I wouldn't go as far as to say that sport isn't affected by society at large," he added. "These win-at-all-cost values are symptomatic of similar values in society."

Kidd told an audience of 400 that "We know that sport doesn't have to be so bitterly aggressive," nor does it "have to be a mindless drill either, but too often this is the image it portrays."

He called on high schools to completely re-evaluate the role and practice of athletics in the school.

In the past, being an athlete was the "in" thing, but now, "the power of the peer groups is directed against all sport." He pointed out that this could also be said of university athletics and added that "parents and adults have rejected sport for the most part."

"The reason so many people are indifferent to sports is that they have had an unfavorable experience with it. Sports tends to be equated with competition — not the healthy kind, but the Darwinian type — the survival of the fittest," said Kidd.

In order to overcome this image, he advised educators to emphasize the "play" aspect of sports in both school and community programs. He noted that athletes who are allowed to be a part of the decision and strategy-making aspects of sports are better motivated than those who



photo by Elio Dolente

are treated like automatons.

Kidd felt that athletes should organize to rid themselves of oppressive and authoritarian coaches, while noting that the imposition of outer-directed goals by other people is very costly to the individual.

Organizing, he realized, is not without its problems. "The people who are hardest to mobilize out of a dependent situation are those who are most dependent."

Winner of the six mile run at the 1962 British Commonwealth Games, Kidd severely criticized the use of drugs in sports. "Drugs are so widespread in professional sports, that if there is a drug epidemic in North American society, it's at its worst in sports."

He also hit at Canadian attitudes towards female athletes. "I think the reason why women feel that sports activity is unladylike is that men have

dictated that sweat and violent activity is unladylike," he said.

Neither did the class orientation of sports evade his review. "Sports for many people is just too costly," he said. He also pointed out that athletic facilities were primarily used by members of the middle class who know of the opportunities, and use them, while those in lower economic groups are less likely to know about them. He blamed that on the failure of media to reach the less affluent.

Kidd said the educator interested in changing the philosophy of sports may encounter serious difficulties. "The parents in a community often have expectations counter to those which you wish to implant," he said.

He warned, however, "if we don't act shortly, sports will be very much underplayed in the institutions in which we work and live."

Women's sports now underway

Dalhousie Women's Recreation Association began on a shaky foot this year, but is now on to bigger and better things.

Football was scheduled during October, but had a very poor

turn-out, probably because of Varsity Football games taking priority. Soccer, managed by Beryl English, gained a little more interest and a few games actually got underway on a Sunday afternoon.

Volleyball seems to be everyone's favorite sport, and participation rose to seven teams. The program, managed by Miriam Frances and Audrey Howie, was judged a success.

Currently underway are indoor soccer and novelty skating. An ice hockey team is also being organized. Soccer is held on Tuesdays, and skating in the rink on Mondays, from 12-2 p.m.

DWRA will also sponsor a Christmas party December 15, from 6-9 p.m. All Dalhousie women students are invited to take part in these events.

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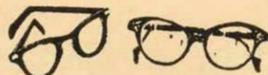
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