

Basketball Tigers hope for playoff berth



by Al Yarr

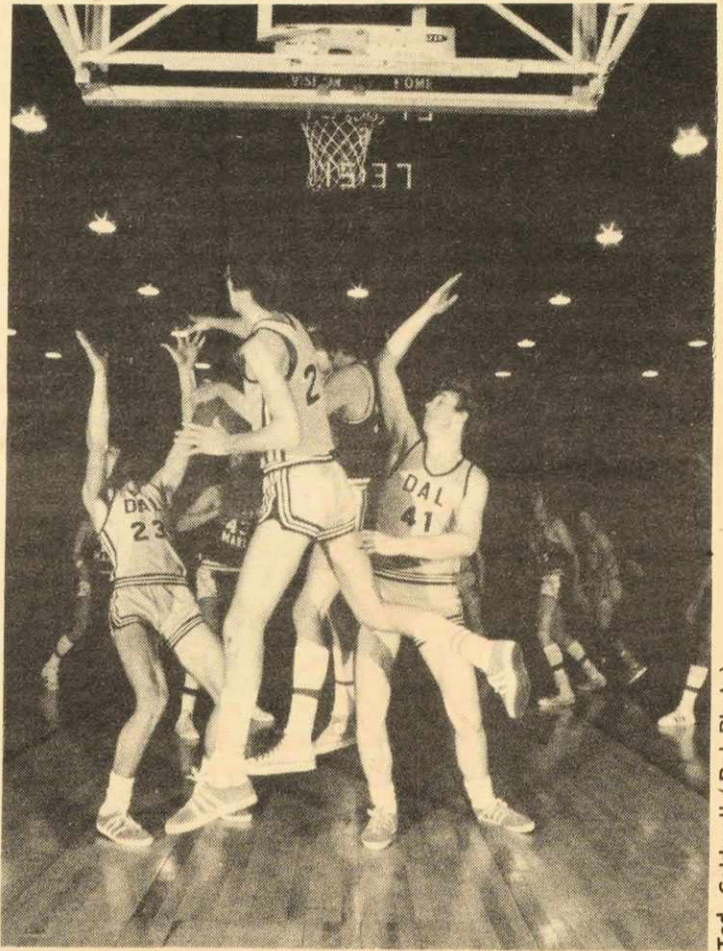
The recent losses to league powers Acadia and SMU show that the young Tigers still have to improve significantly to be a threat in the play-offs. The game with St. F.X. on Friday, February 16, at 8:00 p.m., in the Dal gym will be a big one in insuring a finish in the league's

top four. Dal split with St. F.X. at Antigonish and came back to tie, after a 26-point deficit in the second half, only to lose by two on a last second shot by Colin Craig. The friendly confines of Dalhousie's gym may provide an edge in this key contest.

Good news, bad news. The recent rapid improvement of Paul Coste, who is showing signs of harnessing his hustle to produce points and rebounds, has been a bright spot in Dal's recent games. However, the elbow injury to Bruce Cassidy has weakened the front line as Bruce's rebounding and passing make him a key man in the

Tiger attack. He was sorely missed at Acadia. Bob Blount is also suffering elbow pains so the depth at guard has been weakened considerably.

The remaining home games have been brought back to the Dal gym to allow Tiger faithfuls to get involved with the spirit that is possible in an exciting pressing basketball game. Dalhousie is playing an aggressive full court defense that can be aided by the enthusiastic support of the fans. The youth and the spirit of this team looks well for the future. Your support now will start the ball rolling.



(Ted Coldwell / Dal Photo)

Action gets rough on boards as SMU player tries for lay up.

Women's volleyball:

An interview with Ken Bellemare

What Dalhousie team has won two consecutive Atlantic Intercollegiate Championships and will probably win again next year? Which Dal team was second intercollegiate last year? Which Dalhousie team has competed in 10 national competitions and has travelled 44,000 miles in four seasons.

The team: The Dalhousie Tigerettes Women's Volleyball Team.

The *Gazette* recently conducted an interview with the coach of the Tigerettes, Ken Bellemare.

GAZETTE: To what do you attribute the success of the team?

BELLEMARE: That is quite a difficult question to answer. Basically I guess the success of the team is really a result of having had a nucleus of fine female athletes on the team.

GAZETTE: Who forms this nucleus?

BELLEMARE: Three of the girls have been with the team for four years and their experience and maturity has been the stabilizing influence. Cathy Ross has been the captain of the team for the past two seasons. Last year she was named MVP. This is quite unusual because setters generally do not receive this recognition. She has been considered by many as one of the best setters in the Atlantic Provinces including the male players as well. Jody Myers, has twice been named MVP of the team and in 1970-71 she was co-winner of Woman Athlete of the Year Award. She has been a strong offensive and defensive player for four years. The third member of this triumvirate is Wendy Marryatt. She is also a 4th year player. Last summer, Wendy was invited to try out for Canada's National Women's Team in Vancouver. This was the first time that a female athlete from the Atlantic area has been invited to a volleyball camp. Wendy is the most versatile player on the team.

GAZETTE: The credentials are impressive. Who are the other members of the team?

BELLEMARE: Five freshettes round out the rest of the team — Cindi Rice, Mary Miller, Margot Nugent, Karen

George and Becky Dobson. Their enthusiasm and hustle blends in well with the experience of the other five players.

No team can function without a manager and we have an excellent one in Brenda Bailey. Joan Kelly is probably our best defensive player and her fierce block is very effective in stopping opposing attackers. This is Joan's second year with the team.

Sharon Naugler also a sophomore is the team's other outstanding setter. With a year's experience in this league she has become one of the outstanding players on the team. She is versatile and she has the desire to succeed and both these qualities make her a fine team player.

GAZETTE: How did you do last year?

BELLEMARE: 1971-72 was our best year. We won the AWIAA Volleyball Championship and we qualified to play in the finals of the Canadian Championship against the University of Western Ontario. They defeated us 3 to 1 thus placing us second in Canada.

GAZETTE: What does the picture look like for this year?

BELLEMARE: I feel we have a better team this year and we feel confident that we can win the AWIAA Championship again this weekend at Acadia.

The National Intercollegiate Women's Championship will also be held at Acadia during the first weekend in March. We

plan on being there gunning for the championship.

GAZETTE: Who will be in this championship tournament?

BELLEMARE: We don't know at this stage but it looks like the University of Sherbrooke from Quebec, the University of Western Ontario from Ontario, the University of Manitoba from the Plains and probably the University of British Columbia from the Far West and hopefully Dal from the Atlantic area.

GAZETTE: What have been the highlights of the Tigerettes over the last four years?

BELLEMARE: We've had the opportunity to attend 3 national intercollegiate championships at Waterloo, Calgary and Sudbury. We've also competed in open competition at the Nationals in Fredericton, Quebec City and Edmonton. We have not lost during the past two seasons to any team in the Atlantic Provinces. Last year to get more competition we competed in the men's senior B league and we placed second by the men's rules (net height women 7'4", men 8').

GAZETTE: Where can Dalhousie fans see the Tigerettes in action?

BELLEMARE: On February 17, the Intercollegiate Championship will be played at Acadia. Two weeks later we plan to be at Acadia for the National Intercollegiate Championship and we'd love to see as many Dalhousie people there as possible.

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ATHLETIC EVENTS ON CAMPUS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16
 8:30 — Basketball — St. F.X. at Dal. (men) (Halifax Forum)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17
 2:00 — Hockey — Acadia at Dal.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
 8:00 — Basketball — Dal. at SMU (men) (SMU Gym)
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23
 8:00 — Hockey — Dal. at SMU
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24
 8:00 — Hockey — St. F.X. at Dal.

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