

# Vees uninspired, uninspiring

by J.C. Hare

I am a fan of the Montreal Canadiens. If they were all struck down with the flu and had to be replaced by the Vees, I would drown in tears. In my second year of reporting I have never seen a more uninspired and flat performance by a team. The Hawks outskated, outshot and outscored the Vees on their way to an easy 6-3 win last Sunday night at the Metro Centre.

The Hawks struck early at 2:24 of the first period when Steve Larmer took a pass from the corner and fired into the open

net. For the most part the period was characterized by listless, choppy play. Fine power-play puck control and a high shot from the side by Dave Ezard gave the Hawks a 2-0 lead at 10:31. A high wrist shot by Sean Simpson went in off of Vees goalie Greg Moffett at 15:12, opening up a 3-0 margin at the close of the period.

Nova Scotia got on the board at 7:43 of the second period when Mark Hentges capped off a beautiful three-way passing play. That was all the scoring, as the period was more wide open but the Vees were still flat.

Four goals were scored in the third period. Mel Hewitt tipped a slapshot from Maple Leaf reject Dave Farrish at 8:33 to open up a 4-1 lead, Bill Kitchen beat Hawks Bob Janecyk at 12:07 to close the gap to 4-2. It was Kitchen's first goal of the season.

The Vees started to dominate play but had no good scoring opportunities. Mike Kaszycki's goal at 14:08 opened up a 5-2 lead and put the game out of reach. There was still a spark of life remaining at 15:51 as Guy Carbonneau broke in alone from the right side and cleanly beat

Janecyk. Amazingly, 19 seconds later at 16:10 the Hawks closed out the scoring as Steve Ludzik's low wrist shot eluded a weary Moffett. The Vees still attempted a late comeback by pulling the goalie, but time ran out and the Hawks won 6-3.

The absence of players like Mark Holden, Rick Wamsley, Craig Levie, Reg Thomas, Dan Metivier, Dave Gorman and Bernie Saunders from last year's club is heavily noticed. The Vees can play well but when they become uninspired, disaster looms. Their main weaknesses are in goal and up front. Unless they ship in some new players or work on a new gameplan, the future will not

yield a bright harvest. Next home game is Thursday, February 4, versus Binghamton Whalers.

## WRESTLING MEET

A Dal open freestyle wrestling tournament will take place at the Dalplex on Friday, February 5, 6:30 p.m. On Saturday, February 5 the tournament begins at 9 a.m. with the finals taking place in the afternoon. Participating are the University of Guelph, RMC Kingston, La Pocatiere University, all universities in the AUAA league as well as Dalhousie's club.

## Moosehead Export Salutes



**Ken Bickerton** - hockey - the fifth year goaltender made an outstanding effort in Dalhousie's 2-1 win at Mount Allison Friday. Bickerton kicked out 30 shots including 14 in the third period as he protected the slim lead. Bickerton is an Arts graduate, now seeking a Recreation degree and is a native of Sydney. He is a past winner of the hockey MVP Award and the University's outstanding athlete award. Bickerton has a 3.86 goals against average in AUAA play this year.

Honorable Mention: Rod Walsh -volleyball.

**Natalie Vukovich** - basketball - Natalie scored 26 points in a 90-66 win over St. F.X. last week, continuing her fine play and team leadership. The Sault Ste. Marie native and graduate of Laurentian is a second year law student at Dalhousie. She has been the top playmaker of the Tigers this season and showed her versatility last week with eight rebounds.

Honorable Mention: Bev Audet -volleyball.



- Wendy MacGregor

- An entire weekend when everything that could possibly go wrong...does.

A few members of the Dalhousie Ski Team were in Fredericton, New Brunswick, over the weekend, competing against club teams from Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Maine, as well as the University of New Brunswick team. After arriving late, getting lost everywhere possible, being stopped for speeding, finding their hotel reservations cancelled, leaving wax kits and ski boots in Halifax, and having a very short, unsatisfying sleep Friday night, the racers arrived late at the ski hill, with no time to prepare their skis for the race, and had to hurry out on to the hill.

Wendy MacGregor had the first starting position out of the one hundred and twenty-five racers and although she was late for her first run, she was allowed to race anyway. It made little difference, however, since she lost a ski at the bottom of the first pitch and got no further than that.

Penny Lewis finished her first run sufficiently out of breath to decide that she should have been going to ski training on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mike Dickey (our one success story of the weekend) skied consistently well, and astounded everyone by finishing in second place in the slalom. Peter Hoyle and Michael Vine each completed their two runs, but neither was pleased with his

showing.

The racers, after escaping unharmed from two minor car accidents on the way back into town, went out to drown their sorrows with the Dalhousie Gymnastics team, which was celebrating a second place finish in competition that day.

The next day, the racers arrived at the hill almost on time, but their luck hadn't really changed. A pair of skis was left in the hotel, new ski gloves lost, and the previous night's party was taking its toll on a few bodies. Sunday's race was giant slalom, and the course was almost as challenging as the slalom had been. All of the Dalhousie team completed the course, but not without making many costly mistakes. The men had all drawn starting positions in the one hundreds and had to brave ice and deep ruts on their way down. Lewis borrowed an oversized helmet for her second run and missed a gate when the helmet fell over her eyes.

Commenting on what good experience it had all been, the racers packed themselves (and I mean packed!) into their car, and sang their way home, staying within the speed limit.

I know you are planning to go skiing on Munro Day, in fact you have probably already bought your ticket, so I won't even bother mentioning the trip and what a good time it promises to be.

- Ski club members will be meeting Thursday night to do a snow dance.

## Athletes of the Week

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## ski tripping

- Wendy MacGregor

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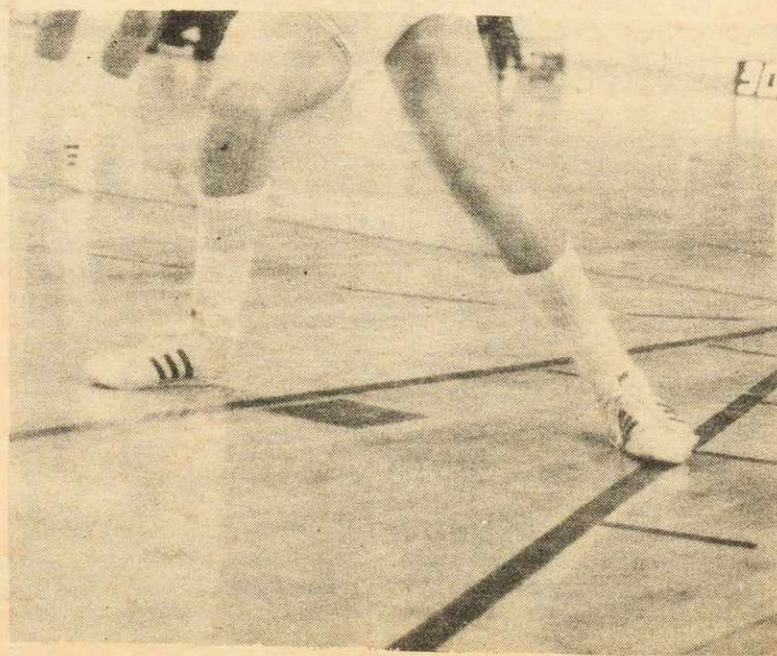
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Who's legs are these? Answer to be announced next week.