

Tigers capture tournament

by Greg Zed

Pierre Page's Ice Machine has stretched its unbeaten streak to five games by capturing two victories on route to the Dalhousie Invitational Hockey Tournament played at the Dalhousie Memorial Rink on Saturday, October 23rd. and 24th. The Tigers' first drew blood against the Universite de Quebec on Saturday by trimming the visiting team by a 4-2 margin. Earl Theriault led the Dal attack with two goals while Jim Griffin and Rick Gaetz added singles. For Quebec, it was Laurent Villeneuve and Pierre Hervieux. In the opening frame the "flying French brigade" first drew blood at 17:58 on Villeneuve's goal but scoring ace Earl Theriault dented the twines at 19:08 from Hal Davidson to take a tie into the Dalhousie dressing room.

In the middle stanza, a fired up Dalhousie club potted two goals to take a lead but the visitors answered with a key goal at 18:43 of the period to hold the Tigers to a one goal lead.

In the final frame Dal's Rick Gaetz added a goal at 2:43 of the period to round out the scoring and at the end of the game the score stood 4-2 for Dal and gave them the opportunity to play in the championship game.

In the championship game the Brandon Bobcats were determined to show the tournament participants that the title wasn't going to be easily won by the host Dal Tigers. In the opening frame the Trevor Fahey coached Bobcats opened the scoring when Ken Buchy beat Dal's Ken Bickerton on a pass from Tom Hinch and Dave Shepherd, but the Tigers evened the game on a goal by Earl Theriault. Rick Gaetz and Defenceman Hal Davidson assisted on the equalizer.

In the middle frame, Dal took advantage of Brandon's sloppy play and capitalized with three goals. Ray Off got things rolling with a goal from Glen O'Byrne and Jack Gray. Greg Thompson tied the game for the visitors before the bottom fell out of the Bobcats strategy. Theriault added his second goal of the game to put the Tigers in the lead as did rearguard John Mallowney to increase the Dal lead. At the end of two the stage was set for a good third period with the score standing 4-2.

In the final frame the Tigers tried to put the game out of reach but were given a battle right to the end. Rugged winger Gerald Dickey who toiled with Truro Bearcats last year potted the Tigers fifth goal from Sydney native John Mallowney; but Chuck Naise narrowed the Dal lead when he eluded Bickerton on a deflection at 3:58 of the period. The offensive machine for the black and gold brigade keep grinding away at the visitors and Grant Pyle added to the Dal total from Mallowney.

The Bobcats, still determined to come back added two goals to narrow the margin to one goal. The marksmen were Tom Hinch and Jeff Sheardown. At 15:50 John Mallowney who was certainly a stalwart for the Tigers blasted a drive past Dave McKinnon to round out the Dal scoring and put the fire out.

The end result was the Tigers captured the Invitational Tournament by virtue of a 7-5 win over a very enthusiastic visiting club that played a solid comeback game. For the host team it stretched their unbeaten streak to five games and it must be added that the entire weekend showed the Tigers to be a strong determined club that relies on a solid team effort.

In essence for the Tiger fans the Dal machine has shown great team work and without being too far off base, the club is showing good signs



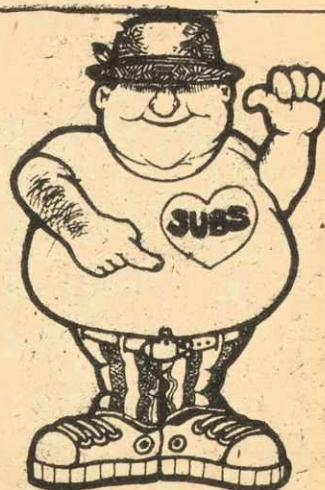
Dal Photo/Jensen

Dalhousie's John Mallowney [Number 5] puts the game away with his second goal.

Next week's Dalhousie Gazette may not have any sports coverage due to problems in arranging adequate coverage of the events.

which should land them a playoff spot if they continue their consistency.

If they continue to play their game and take each game as it comes the 1976-77 version of the hockey machine will continue on their winning ways.



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