

TIGER TALES

by Joel Jacobson



THE BULLET SPEAKS

Granville "Bullet" Kelly, rotund defenseman of the Dal Tigers, was reflecting on the Tigers' performances over the just completed season last Saturday on the return bus jaunt from Wolfville. Kelly, who tore some knee cartilages during Saturday's loss to the Axemen, commented, "This team doesn't really go until it has to. At the start of the year, they were hungry but then slacked off and let things fall as they may until they had to go out and do something themselves. But when they had to, they sure could go."

This was seen in the last four games the Tigers played. In the finale of the semi-final set against Stad, the Bengals fell behind 3-2 in the first period, saw possible defeat and proceeded to bomb the tars. In the opener of the finals against Tech, Dal trailed 3-1 at the end of two periods before taking command. In the second game of the finals, the Tigers trailed 3-0 in the first period before they became aware of the possibility of defeat and then outplayed their opponents over the final 55 minutes. Against Acadia, the Bengals had a first-period let-down, trailed 4-1 in the second and then fought uphill only to be robbed of a tie by a quick whistle.

AHC CHAMPS

Our prediction of last week came true Thursday night (although any idiot could have predicted victory for the Tiger team we have this year.) In one of the real spine-tinglers in Dal's long hockey history, the Bengals roared from a 3-0 deficit midway through the first period to beat Tech 4-3 in overtime and take the best-of-three series in straight games.

Dal Rink could have been re-named Cardiac Corner the way both teams had the fans on their feet for almost the full 70 minutes. With the score 3-0 many fans were checking their schedules to make sure Tuesday night, time of the deciding game, was free. However, the Tigers finally realized they had to "go" and started to roll. If it weren't for Lyle Bryson, Tech goaler, the score would have been tied in the first period. As it turned out, Wayne Keddy, later to wear the hero's mantle, gave Dal their first goal late in the period.

Frank Sim put Dal one back in the second period on a fine play with Bill Buntain. Steve Brown tied the game in the third session with his second of the year and probably the most important in his 18 year history. This goal came at 17:02 after Brown had circled the net and jammed at the short side. Bryson was there but a split second too late. This goal fired the Bengals and they buzzed around Bryson for the last three minutes coming close on a couple of occasions.

The overtime was all Dal. Keddy, who started to fly in the play-offs, soloed in on Bryson after stealing the puck from a Tech defenceman just outside Dal's blue line. As Keddy tells it: "I knew I was in front of everybody and thus I didn't want to shoot right away. I was afraid I might fire right at the goalie or shoot wide. I did this when I was in a juvenile final a few years ago and we lost the championship by one goal. I looked back quickly to see if anyone was close and then figured that I'd try to draw him out before shooting." As upwards of 1200 fans in the Dal Rink saw, Keddy made it look extremely easy as he gave the Tigers the AHC title.

Mentally and physically exhausted after two overtime thrillers, the Bengals (and 500 of their fans) travelled to Acadia and dropped a 5-4 decision in an exhibition contest. Don Bauld, flashy and usually quiet winger of the Tigers, broke up the dressing room after the game with a humorous quip, "This was the second game of a three-game total-goal series, wasn't it?" Acadia now leads the series 10-8 with the third game scheduled for March 10 in Halifax. Dal appeared to tie the game last weekend at 18:39 of the third period when Eric Parsons took a whack at the partly covered puck and put it in the net. Referee Russ Power disallowed the goal because he had blown the play down when he thought that Dave Graham, Acadia cage cop, had smothered the puck. He admitted after the game that he might have tooted his whistle too quickly.

Two Tigers who probably wanted this game more than any other were Bob Ferguson and George MacDonald. Ferg, a third-year law student, spent his undergrad years at Acadia and was a superb defenceman for the Axemen. He missed the first exhibition between the two schools this season but wanted this victory badly on his return to his old stomping grounds. He played his heart out as he and Gene Scheible almost had to go it alone on defense after Kelly was injured early in the second period. Ernie Paige played periodically during the last two periods and Dave Cameron also filled in the third session but in the final 40 minutes, it would be a fair estimate that Ferg and Geno each played 28-32 minutes. Scheible was awarded for his fine play when he was presented with the Dal MVP award of the game by the Acadia Winter Carnival Committee.

MacDonald also wanted this one badly. In the first game George let three softies get by him and wanted to avenge this mediocre performance with a victory Saturday. However, victory was not in the cards as three of the Acadia goals were scored on deflections by Axemen cruising in front of the goal. On shots such as these, the goaler has little chance. However, bespectacled George will get one more chance on March 10 when Acadia visits Dal in the first half of the Munro Weekend hockey double header.

King's Win Again Upset St. Mary's

King's College broke league-leading St. Mary's JVs winning streak in Senior C competition last week at Gorsebrook Gym, handing them their first loss of the season.

In a hotly contested game King's overcame a three-point half-time deficit to walk away with a 61-45 win. For King's it was their sixth win against as many losses.

The two big scorers for King's were Rollie Lines and Bob Hale. Versatile Lines hit for 20 points and Hale was good for 18. Lucier led the losers on the score sheet with 18.

KING'S: Morrison 5, Muttart 9, Campbell, Hale 18, Buckley, Hazen, Lines 20, Golding 9, Jones, Hale, Sigston—61.

ST. MARY'S: Lucier 18, Brown, Chandonnet 2, Costello, Lawrence 2, Murphy 6 Cloutier 4, Murray 4, Hurley 9, LaComb—45.

Acadia edge Dal

Five hundred Dal fans watched an inspired Acadia team take their first Winter Carnival exhibition tilt from Dalhousie in four years.

Fast skating and hard checking earned Acadia a four to one edge halfway through the game. The Bengals accustomed to overcoming large deficits roared back scoring three straight goals to tie the score 4-4. Play was fast and furious in the third period. At 9:30 of the final session Brown of Acadia scooped up a loose puck in front of the Dal net and blasted the winning marker over MacDonald's shoulder for a 5-4 margin.

It was an unlucky afternoon for the Dal snipers. The Acadia netminder who was given first star for the game had a good afternoon and robbed the Dal team on a number of drives. Cameron, Buntain and Parsons with two, did the Dal scoring. This was the second exhibition loss to Acadia.



Shown above are the DAL TIGERS, 1962 A.H.C. CHAMPS. From left to right in front: Gene Schieble, Bill Buntain, Reg MacDougall, Bob Ferguson, Vaughn Briggs. In the second row: Dewitt Dargie (coach), Albert Bartlett (trainer), Ernie Paige, Eric Parsons, Steve Brown, Don Bauld, Dick Drmaj, Jerry Blumenthal (manager). In the back row: Johnny MacReigan, George MacDonald, Frank Sim, Wayne Keddy, Roy Velmerovitch, Bullett Kelly, Dave Cameron. (Photo by Bissett)

Tigers winless in Intercoll. play meet Acadia in playoffs tonight

Tonight at 8:30 the Dal cagers have the unenviable task of facing the Acadia Axemen in the first game of a two out of three semi-final series of the inter-collegiate play-offs. Acadias, smarting from two straight losses, bombed St. Mary's last week to take first place and so meet the cellar dwelling Tigers in the play-offs. A Dal victory would be an upset but the team has the potential to surprise Stu Aberdeen's squad.

On the court last week Dalhousie could not handle the diversified attack and suffered a 93-60 defeat on St. Francis Xavier's home floor. Dal was never in the game trailing by 18 points at the ten minute mark and behind 46-20 at half-time. In the second half Dal played better ball scoring 40 points but the team exceeded

their first half score to walk away with an easy win. This was the last game of the Intercollegiate schedule for the Tigers and they finished with no wins and six losses.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER: MacDonald 2, Bisson 18, Bouchey 6, Napolitano 13, Chenard 25, Ashe 8, Coakley 6, Daigle 3, Turcotte, Greaney 8, Lacey 4, Bannish. Total 93.

DALHOUSIE: Blakney 3, Brown 10, Dixon 14, Fraser 2, Nicholson 4, Parker 5, Schiffman 9, Stewart 13. Total 60.

Senior B action was a little more favourable for the Team. On the Stad home court the Tigers jumped into an early 12 point lead and were never headed from that point in the game. The victory was by no means an easy one.

The Sailors using a full court press in the second period threw the Dal attack off and led by Gordie Cull of football fame, nearly snatched the game from the Bengals. Late in the game the score was 53-50 for the Dal Squad. But at that time Shoveller of the Sailors fouled out and Cull with four fouls cooled off and the Tigers took over the game. Dixon and Parker led the Tigers 17 and 12 points each. The Stad big man was Cull with 24 points.

STAD: Price 3, Cull 24, Boyle 6, Johnston 10, J. Bayliss 3, Shoveller 9, Lawrence, A. Bayliss 1. Total 56.

DALHOUSIE: Blakney 5, Brown 8, Dixon 17, Fraser 8, MacDonald 5, Parker 12, Stewart 7, Schiffman 13. Total 62.

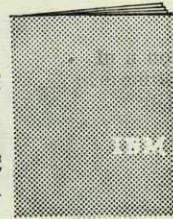
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