

Sports ... Sports ... Sports ... Sports ...



"Grey Owl" maintains ...

Dal athletics misunderstood

by Joel Fournier

Those readers who took the time to peruse this column in last week's GAZETTE will recall that a definition of

university policy with regard to sport on campus was desired, and in fact, needed.

In this issue, the first, of what is hoped to be a four part series,

makes its debut. The contributor of this initial exposition is Mr. Doug Hargreaves, co-ordinator of Men's Athletics, Head Varsity Football coach and teacher with the Dalhousie Physical Education Department.

by Doug Hargreaves

As a relative stranger to Dalhousie, I have been consistently deluged with conflicting opinions from participants, students, alumni and the public media regarding the objectives of our athletic program. In an age which has been labelled "apathetic," a title bestowed upon successive generations by their forefathers, I am encouraged by this overwhelming display of interest. In order to provide a sound basis for future discussion, I'll attempt to explain my concept of athletics at Dalhousie.

The function of the men's Intercollegiate Athletic Division is to provide a service to those students who are mentally and physically equipped to compete at the highest skill level available in the university environment. Included in the definition of "service" are the mundane, essential activities of arranging for travel and accommodation, equipment purchasing, maintenance of facilities and a multitude of other administrative details which form the basis upon which a suc-

cessful athletic program is constructed. If there is a single most important ingredient in this role, it is to provide the quality of leadership — morally, philosophically, technically and professionally — which will ensure that Dalhousie students have every opportunity to achieve their potential as athletes and individuals in society. The integration of the Athletic Division with the School of Physical Education enhances that fundamental obligation.

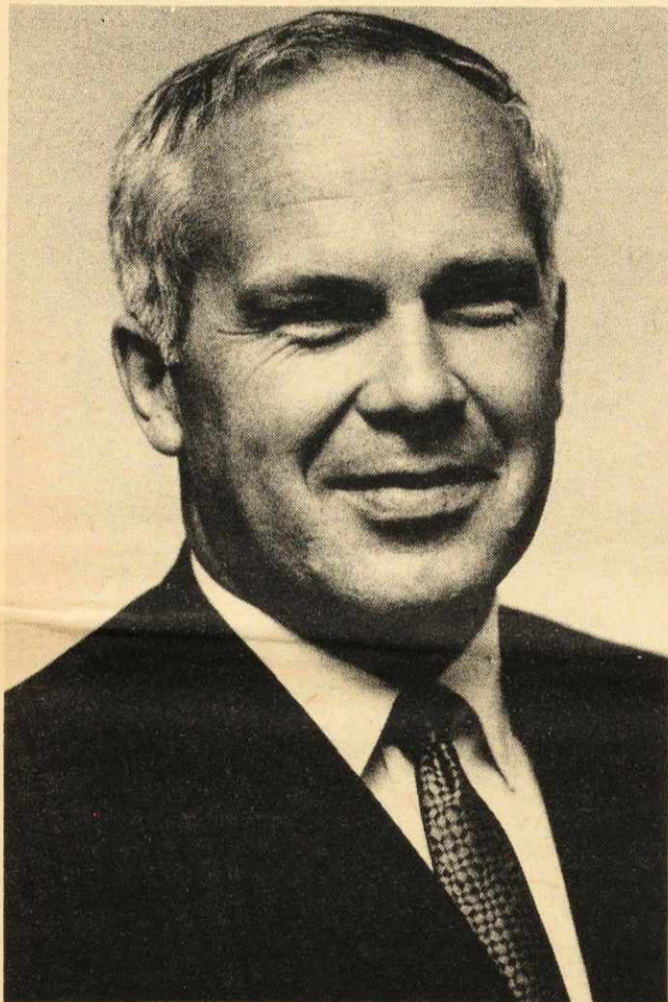
Dalhousie has a broader allegiance to Nova Scotia and to the people of the province who form the tax basis which supports the university — reason enough to ensure that Nova Scotians receive every benefit of the expertise available within the Athletic Division. It does not follow that we must become "provincial" in our philosophy, but we do recognize the obligation, and place priority in that direction.

With those objectives in mind, it should be possible for you to interpret the reasons for the de-emphasis on "athletic scholarships and heavy recruiting." Unfortunately misplaced logic by a large number of critics concludes that we are not interested in winning; that we cannot win without those two "essentials." In my opinion anyone who echoes those sentiments is completely unaware of the situation in Dalhousie athletics. Our teams

have been at the top of the winning cycle in the majority of activities for a number of years, and in a select few, students representing the university have been among the best in Canada. Unfortunately, at the moment, some of our more readily identifiable teams are in the losing portion of the cycle, and in one or two cases, have been at the bottom of the cycle for an extended period.

Fortunately for all of us, participation in athletics cannot be justified solely on a win/loss or economic basis. If these were the only criteria, we would join the rush to import out-of-province talent and eliminate every activity which surpassed an arbitrarily fixed budget limitation, or drop out of competition when we could not win. In both alternatives, we would fail to attain the objectives of the Division.

I believe, in the strongest terms possible, that Dalhousie can compete equitably in every field of athletic endeavor in which it is presently occupied; that our coaching staff is the equal of any in Canada; that Dal student athletes bring to the program the physical and mental ability to excel in their chosen fields; that there is nothing wrong with the present situation that a few victories wouldn't turn around. If that sounds like a pledge to the flag and country in a Girl Guide swearing-in-ceremony, it is... and I am "Grey Owl."



Mr. Doug Hargreaves

Football clinic opens

For ten days in September, 1972, Dalhousie conducted a twice daily football camp for those students at the university with the desire to play varsity football, but who had never been exposed to the game. The only prerequisite was the desire to learn.

Because the 1973/74 schedule has been advanced one week, this type of camp does not

appear to be practical again. To partially overcome this loss, the Men's Athletic Division is conducting a series of Skill Sessions during this term and invites anyone interested in playing the game to attend.

Any further information may be obtained by calling 424-3372 or dropping into the Divisional Offices in the gym.

LOCATION: Dal Gym
TIME: 4:30-5:30
DRESS: Gym Gear
DATES & TOPICS:

- 26 Jan. — Offensive Line (end to end)
- 1. Shoulder block
- 2. Double team
- 3. Trap blocking
- 2 Feb. — Linebackers
- 1. Keying
- 2. Versus run
- 3. Versus pass
- 16 Feb. — Quarterbacks
- 1. Ball handling
 - a) Handoff
 - b) Faking
 - c) Bootlegging

Hockey rejuvenated

by Joel Fournier

The emphasis on this year's edition of the Dalhousie Hockey Tigers is on youth. With the departure of many of last year's stalwarts, Tom MacDonald, Pierre Gagné and Ron Naud, to name only a few, the team, under new head coach Pierre Pagé, has embarked on a rebuilding program that is destined to prove fruitful in the years ahead.

Hockey fans who have been turning up to see the Tigers' home games have noticed the obvious improvement from week to week. While results on the score board have not always been as favorable as the coach had hoped for, it is easy to see the potential is there and requires only hard work and

seasoning to see it fully develop.

Perennial all-star Greg McCullough along with veterans Eric Cameron, Sean Boyd and Randy Sears provide much of the scoring power for the club. Serge Lavalée, another "old timer", heads a hard-working, albeit not always successful defensive squad as they try to protect the busy Dal goalies.

While these players comprise what might be termed the nucleus, the overall success of the team must ultimately depend on the performance of the newcomers. The ardent fan might play a little game called "watch the rookies" using his or her hockey knowledge combined with analytic capabilities to pick the Dal stars of the future. With such a wide range

of unproven talent to choose from, this could prove to be a difficult task. But as the season progresses and the young speedsters develop hockey sense and confidence, the game becomes so easy that even the casual fan can join in.

What the team lacks in experience and finesse, they are determined to make up in dedication and pride. With only nine games remaining hopes for a play-off berth are dwindling. Your vocal support at the games could mean the difference.

These hard-working players are your representatives. They need and deserve your support. Watch these pages for news of the next Tiger home game and plan to make it a packed house.