



Dalhousie hockey season ends early

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The hockey season has come to a halt for the Dalhousie Tigers. After a three game struggle, the Tigers bowed out to the Acadia Axemen who were ranked as high as #1 in the nation this season.

The Axemen were in town over a week ago to open the best of three Kelly Divison finals. Game One saw Dal take control of the tempo as coach Darrell Young had planned.

The Tigers never relinquished the lead in the contest.

Kelly Bradley and Keifer House notched first period goals to put the home team up 2-0.

Mike Arthur and Norm Batherson responded for Acadia and erased the Tigers lead, evening things up at 2-2.

The teams traded goals in the second period. Trent Gleason had the marker for the Tigers.

George Wilcox went to work in the third frame as he scored a pair of

goals to lead Dal to a 5-3 triumph. Wilcox walked away with the Player of the Game award.

Winning the opening game was an accomplishment in itself, but the true test for the Tigers still lay ahead in Wolfville where the Axemen have yet to be defeated this season.

In Saturday's match-up Dal got on the board first on Gleason's first period tally.

Things turned sour from that point as Duane Dennis' hat trick

powered an Axemen's rally. An additional goal by Mark MacFarlane had the Tigers trailing 4-1 at the intermission.

The Tigers staged a comeback of their own in the second period when Corey MacIntyre and Ken MacDermid each scored to make it a 4-3 game.

The next goal of the contest belonged to Acadia's Colin Gregor. It turned out to be the game winner as Dal could only manage to close the

gap to 5-4 on MacDermid's second tally.

A critical third and final encounter was set for Sunday night. The Acadian arena was packed by a capacity crowd for a second time, and the home team was not disappointing.

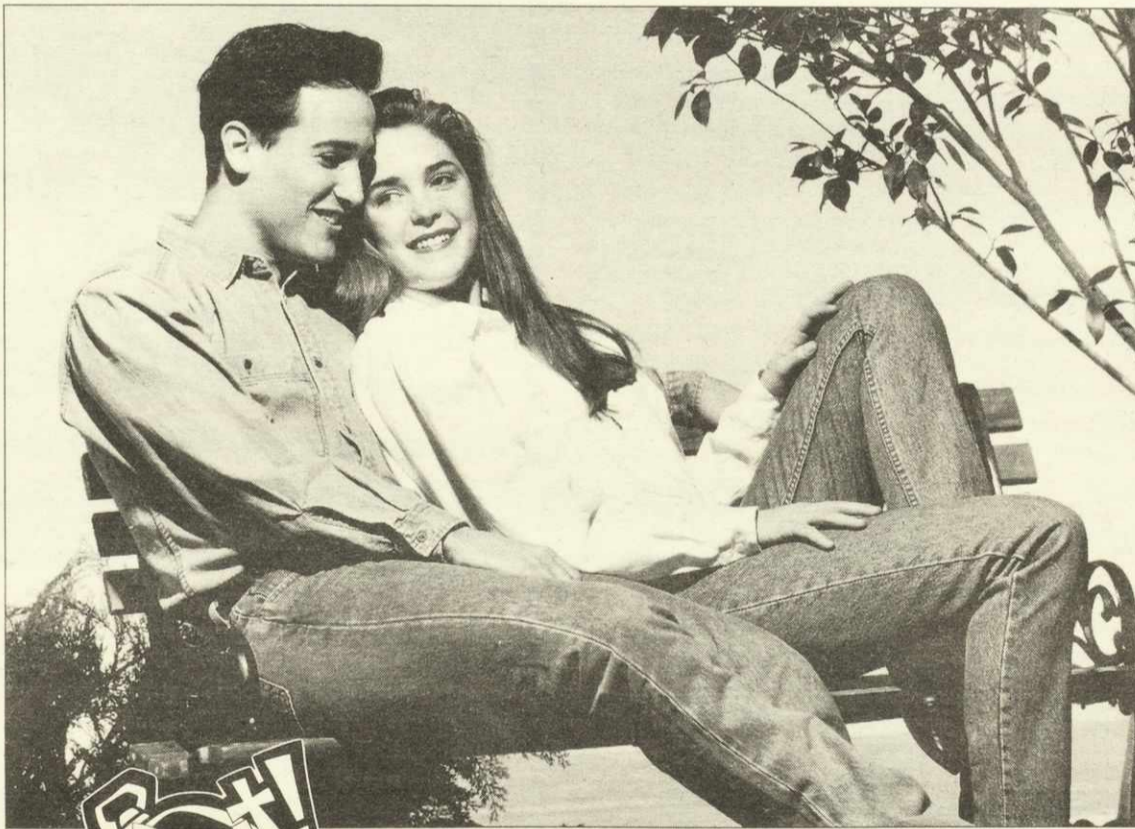
The Axemen held the lead throughout the final match and when the final buzzer sounded they had scored a 6-3 victory. MacDermid, MacIntyre and House accounted for the Tigers' offensive output, but it wasn't enough as Acadia had picked their performance up a notch.

The Tigers will lose fifth year man Gord Reid from their line-up next season.

The Axemen will hold home ice advantage as they advance to face the P.E.I. Panthers in the AUHC finals. The Panthers swept the U.N.B. Red Devils in the MacAdam Division.

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