



## On The Sidelines

BY DON HARRIS

Spring is just around the corner and so are the Dal hockey and basketball seasons in intercollegiate play, which reminds us of many things, with special reference to student support for their varsity representatives.

This year, the intercollegiate schedules call for games in hockey and basketball for Dal almost every week-end, which means that lots of student vocal encouragement can be used. In the past few years this support has been sporadic at best, and, keeping in tune with the times, it is about time for Dal to turn over a new leaf and give constant backing to their representatives.

Dal students, like those of most other universities, are always quick to criticize. Let us hope that this year they will be just as quick and just as fervent, in their support for their teams.

Particular sections of the campus have been guilty of non-support for Dal teams throughout the year, discovering a sudden interest in their activities just around campus election time, although even then, they sometimes have difficulty recognizing their own players, which gives one the impression that they might possibly be cheering for the other side. While this is a noble attitude and one to be highly recommended, we hope they will manage to save a wee bit of support for Dal squads.

### WHERE ARE ARTS & SCIENCE?

This, too, is in the \$64 category? For years and years, Dal student societies (and they say at times, even faculty members) have inquired as to the whereabouts of this mysterious, almost invisible body. Professors cast surly looks at student heads, accusing them of luring the innocent lambs to the proverbial extra-curricular execution while the student heads rant and rave at the injustice of a university curriculum which requires the students to attend classes instead of outside activities. The result—no sign of Arts and Science students, in any numbers (except in the GAZETTE office) around the campus, or even under the odd stone, gathering moss.

If any of these rare characters are seen wandering in the environs of Dal, all other students are requested to direct them to the nearest rink or basketball floor, where they might be persuaded to witness an athletic encounter of one sort or another, the like of which they have probably never seen. (P.S.—The Dal colors are GOLD and BLACK).

As for the Engineers—you are pretty good sport fans, boys. Keep 'em coming to our games as you have in the past. Ditto for Commerce.

### SPORTS EQUIPMENT FOR THE STUDENT BODY

The two sports in which Dal students are most active are badminton and ping pong, as far as active participation goes, yet these sports receive the least attention on the Council budget.

While there has been some improvement in the supply of Badminton birds this year, the Council should urge the university authorities to look into the lighting system in the Gym. In the western end of the Gym it is very difficult to follow the path of the bird, due to the bad lighting, and a similar difficulty is experienced in basketball in both side courts and in the main one.

The lighting problem is also a dominant factor in ping pong in the men's locker room. A great many students derive pleasure from this activity and steps should be taken to provide better facilities for them, since it is one of the few sports in which a large portion of the student body actively participates. At a small expense, the lighting over each table could be improved so as to eliminate the glare thrown on the tables under the present system.

### JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Since the last issue of the GAZETTE, a meeting of the D. A. A. C. was held to clear up the muddled junior basketball situation, with members of the Sukaroks in attendance. After considerable discussion, the D. A. A. C. executive decided that it would not try to keep the junior squad from using the Dal floor for practices, although they deplored the attitude taken by the junior players in meeting the troublesome problem.

Thus there will be two junior teams at Dal this year, for better or for worse, and there is a strong possibility that both teams will be entered in regular competition.

# Clean Junior Basketball, D. A. A. C. Report

(By BERNEY CREIGHTON)



CHURCHILL-SMITH

The smooth-working Varsity centre from last year's first string attacking unit, who is again showing his wares to the Dal hockey fans. This nifty playmaker should do well this year, as he is rapidly rounding into shape.

## College News In Maritime Basketball

There has been a considerable wave of activity on the campi of the various Maritime colleges during the Christmas vacation, with several intercollegiate squads showing their wares in exhibition contests. These games give some indication of the comparative strength of the different teams, and show promise of making the 1947 intercollegiate basketball league in the Maritimes a real struggle between three or four teams, instead of the domination of play by any one team, as has been the situation during the past few years.

The biggest change this year will be shown by U.N.B. hoopsters who have dominated the Maritime loop for the past few years. They have tasted defeat five times in exhibition encounters this year, their first losses in four years, and are a much weaker squad than last year. Missing from that team are Ted Owen and Dave Stohart, who is ineligible for intercollegiate play, although he can play in other contests. With his key men gone, Howie Ryan has yet to come up with competent replacements and it looks as if U. N. B. will have to relinquish its stronghold on Maritime honors, unless they come up with some unexpected strength.

### Strong Contenders

One of the strongest contenders for Maritime laurels in basketball this year will be Mt. A, who have come up with a very strong squad, as shown so far. They soundly defeated Saint John Trojans, who in turn took the measure of U. N. B. Back from last year are Robinson, Keefe and Ketchum, while a bright new prospect has shown up in the person of their 6' 2" freshman centre from south of the border, who will prove a real threat in intercollegiate play, if he lives up to advance notices.

Down St. F. X. way, the Xaverians have come up with much the same team which defeated Dal last year, although they may miss Frank Mooney and Kyte, neither of whom will be playing this year. Led by Lorne Whalen, Fraser

On December 8, 1946, the D. A. A. C. Managing Committee met with the Sukarok Junior Basketball team and the Dal coach and managers, to hear all sides of the basketball question, as explained in the last issue, and to make any necessary decisions. It was a stormy gathering, with many heated arguments heard from all sides. Towards the end of the session the Sukaroks and the Dal coach and manager were asked to leave while the Managing Committee straightened the issue.

After more discussion, it was agreed to put a clause in the constitution to guard against any such event in the future. This new clause would prohibit Dal students from playing with outside teams, except with the permission of the Managing Committee. This question will be discussed at the next meeting of the D. A. A. C. Forum.

The D.A.A.C. strongly disapproves the action of the Sukaroks, but as there is no existing clause in the constitution governing such circumstances, no action will be taken against their players.

One other item was introduced at the meeting, the matter of Squash at Dalhousie. The university has kindly allowed the use of the faculty squash court to the students for mornings only, and anyone interested in the game should get in touch with John MacCormack, Physical Director.

### Badminton

Badminton has taken a high seat at Dalhousie. Under the able leadership of John MacCormack, an exhibition tournament has been arranged with Truro this Saturday, and a selected team, paying their own expenses, will make the trip.

The intercollegiate Badminton tournament is scheduled to take place sometime in February, and trials for the team will start in the near future. Those wishing to try for a place on the Dal squad and who are interested in the college tournament, should attend the Monday night sessions and find out particulars from the physical director.

Mooney and Bill Ritchie, the Xaverians will provide stiff competition for all comers, and seem to be the team to beat in Nova Scotia. At present they are on a road trip but little can be judged from these exhibitions, since they are not playing their regular squad at all times.

Acadia is the unknown quantity in this year's loop, but, unless they have come up with some very good men this year, they should not be serious contenders for Maritime honors, since their last year's squad was quite weak. It should take them a couple of years more before they can provide a dangerous contender, although Kelly's boys come through when least expected to by the opposition.

### Local Squads

Tech are now playing in the Halifax senior loop, but find their chances for intercollegiate honors limited due to lack of practices. They are not playing against good competition, thus have little opportunity to round into shape for the much stiffer competition likely to be encountered in intercollegiate contests. Lack of practice has been the Tech nemesis for many years and again seems destined to take its toll.

Dalhousie should provide one of the major threats for the Maritime title, along with Mt. A. and St. F. X., if their recent performances are any indication. The Dal team is stronger than last year's aggregation, with Giffen, Dunlop and Farquhar back from last year's squad and promising newcomers high-scoring Scott Morrison, the freshman left forward and Rug Pritchard, the flashy new guard, available to pace the Tiger attack. Dal's second stringers have not yet shown much scoring power, but may develop into a potent attacking unit with a little more experience.

Boxing is coming along under the coaching of Jack McKenna, and Manager Jim Cruikshanks reports satisfactory progress and a good opportunity of regaining the championship captured two years ago. Training periods are held in the Lower Gym every Wednesday evening, with additional periods for conditioning being planned, and there is still an opportunity to gain a position on the team.

Swimming practices have been held regularly at the Stad pool. Manager Kingsly Churchill has again secured Jules Stein to coach the Dal team, and from early reports there is much promise shown with such stars as Seaman, Reade and Trump. There is still opportunity to secure a place on this team provided that ability is demonstrated, but any further participants should show up immediately.

### Major Sports

The most promising Dal team at the present time, is the basketball squad, which has already proven its ability by copping its first two starts. The league schedule will continue with games every Saturday night at the Dal Gym, with wholehearted student support requested. The intercollegiate intermediate basketball tournament will be held March 7th and 8th to round off the playing season and the senior team will make trips to St. F. X., Acadia and maybe U. N. B.

Hockey has shown a new burst of life suddenly, under the able assistance of capable "Windy" O'Neil, who really puts everything he has into college activity. Windy deserves much credit for his timely assistance in the practices, and the D.A.A.C. takes this opportunity of thanking him for his aid. The hockey team will begin its schedule on the 25th of this month when they journey to Antigonish to take on the champion St. F. X. outfit, which will be a great test of the strength of the Dal team.

This report pretty well covers all D.A.A.C. activities except ping-pong. Poor little ping-pong seems to be left out in the cold although there is a lot of interest in the game. If some ambitious student is willing to run a table tennis tournament, the D.A.A.C. will gladly co-operate in handling the affair.

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