



jock talk mickey place

Seldom have we seen a hockey coach as mad as the usually imperturbable Jack Hynes appeared to be on Sunday night as he argued, in vain, to get his team and the two vans under his charge on the ferry at Caribou, returning home after a tiring road trip. Jack THOUGHT he had confirmed reservations but the man in the booth claimed he knew nothing about the matter and, as the coming 6:30 ferry, as well as the last 8:00 p.m. ferry, would be filled by the vehicles already in the enclosure, Jack and the vans had little choice but to make the long and arduous trek via the hilly and winding Sunset Trail to Tormentine in pelting rain. We left the car in which we were travelling with John Neville and Gus Gaudet and took our chance by going on the ferry as a pedestrian, hoping to find a kind soul who would drive us to Charlottetown. Most of the already exhausted hockey players did the same and all were successful in finding good Samaritans who understood their predicament. Great credit should go to Wayne Squarebriggs, Shane Turner and Philip Clayborne who, going far beyond the call of duty, decided to stick with Jack and Everett Stewart just to keep them company! We can certainly sympathize with Jack and we think it is a situation that should NEVER arise as there seems to be a lack of communication between the

PANTHERS KEEP FIGHTING

Charlottetown office and the two terminals. We were caught in a similar bind a few years ago when we were escorting a bus to a football game in Halifax. In that case, however, we were able to get on the next ferry and made the game just in time. Quite honestly, as an oldtime Island-Mainland traveller we are never upset over difficulty encountered in crossing the Strait but, on the contrary, we are always AMAZED when a return trip is accomplished without difficulty! It does not happen very often!

It was a sad ending to a difficult weekend in which, oddly enough, we could take great satisfaction in coming home with one point out of a potential of four. In Halifax, on Saturday night, we thought our boys lost the game in the first ten minutes when they outplayed Dalhousie by a wide margin and scored one goal (Brian Cameron's) when four or five would have seemed reasonable on the balance of play. Dal evened it up with but two minutes to go in the opening stanza and then exploded with no less than FIVE goals in the first ten minutes of the second period. A succession of two-on-one plays gave our goalkeeper Pierre Lavallee but little chance to foil the fast-skating Tiger front line. The closing minutes of the session were greatly enlivened by a rough and tumble match between our Terry Devine and their Ray Off. It seemed to us that it was a case of Off asking for treatment and then getting more than he had requested. In the somewhat spectacular imbroglio Terry performed prodigies

of terpsichorean endeavour as he and Off waltzed, sans music, around and around the ice in one another's embrace...Off, at the same time, systematically disrobing Terry until all of the above-the-waist equipment littered the ice and Terry was left with just his undershirt over his head. It was reminiscent of Gypsy Rose Lee (Oldtime stripper) and the final moments of "Slap Shot". Unfortunately, the referee was devoid of a sense of art appreciation and Terry had to depart the scene. Later he was made to leave the Panther Bench although arrayed in street clothes. Our boys closed the gap, late in the third, to one goal but a closing Dal counter put the match beyond reach and we lost our second start by a 7-5 score. Goals, besides Cameron's, were scored by Danny Kinnear, who had a brace, Val Mitchell and Terry Devine.

After the game, the two panel trucks with the players and some of us fans, travelling in our own vehicles, essayed the 130 mile trip to Antigonish through heavy rain, darkness and fog. With Gus Gaudet at the controls we certainly did NOT enjoy the trip, flying blind, in a Toyota! Even the Rabbi was scared and we suspect was busy saying his prayers most of the way. However, the next day's game was worth the worry and discomfort. St. F.X., fresh off a 9-2 trummelling of Mount Allison may have expected our travel-weary and shorthanded warriors to roll over and play dead but, if so, they were very much surprised. Against the hometown nationally ranked X-men we came up with one of our better games as we quickly assumed a 2-0 lead in the first period only to have them tie it up 4-4 in the middle of the third. Although outshot by a wide margin, we managed to hang on for the tie and almost put the game away in the closing minutes of overtime as Louis Lortie, Val Mitchell and Wayne Squarebriggs were all foiled by spectacular saves. Beyond a doubt, Snags McInnis was the outstanding player on the ice as he made miraculous stops all through the match.

The understandably partisan, but sportsmanlike, spectators in the stadium gave him a resounding cheer as he left the ice after the game. Scorers for the Panthers were Louis Lortie with two, while Mike Selleck and Danny Kinnear chipped in with singles. The short-handed defence deserve particular credit as this was the second game the THREE of them had to play in 18 hours! We might also mention that the Panthers played the seventy minute contest without a penalty! This weekend our heroes again travel "Away" and will play in Sackville and Moncton. If you don't make the trip you can listen to the action on CIMN, "Radio 700", as well as on Channel 12 on your cable TV.

In basketball, George Birger took the wraps off of this year's edition of the Basketball Panthers and we feel they made an impressive debut albeit it a losing cause. Opening Acadia's Tip Off Tournament against strong Husson College of Bangor, Maine, and coming from well behind they tied the score with but three minutes to go, only to have the New Englanders rally to a closing 85-75 count. Our Dave Arsenault, with 32 points, was the high scorer and it was quite probably this outstanding performance that earned him a place on the Tournament All Star Team. In the consolation round, the Panthers thrashed Concordia in a game in which our boys dominated play throughout the action. Dave Arsenault again led the way with 24 while the Flatbush flash (we love alliteration) Vince Murray had 20 and Dennis High 16. Acadia, by the way, won their own tournament by topping Husson 85-76 in the final. Our next action will pit the Panthers against Dal in Halifax on the 19th and 20th. They will be at home to Mount A. on the 25th and U.N.B. on the 26th.

The Panther Ladies open their season on Friday night in our gym, playing hostess to Mount A. on Friday at 7:00. Good luck, girls.

In case you are interested we got our ballpoint back. The borrower found it in his pocket and was wondering where in Hell he acquired such a nice pen. IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE SUN!!!!

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