Interview– Olympic Hockey Coach - continued

generous scholarship. We've got some excellent young players here that're now combining a pretty high level of hockey with their education, so it's an excellent program for a young player who wants to both go to school and play a high level of hockey.

Bruns: Do you actively compete with the American Colleges for recurits or are you after different players?

DK: We're after the best young players and so the competition really is quite heavy. You've got the major U.S. universities trying to recruit those players, you've got major junior hockey after those players as well, so you've got a lot of people competing for the best young players. We're in that competition as well and our program offers a couple of advantages; one, we have a very good scholarship program; and secondly, we offer the highest level of hockey maybe outside the National Hockey League. As far as our schedule goes we're playing against some excellent teams in Europe and it's a tremendous schedule.

Bruns: After the current tour of exhibitions against professional teams, there is a series against a USSR team. Who are the Soviets sending over for the December series?

DK: This four game series in December will be with the four Moscow teams and they'll be very, very good teams. They'll be players that are not members of their national team but right next to that, so it'll be an excellent team. They'll be called the Moscow Selects and they are a very, very strong team.

Bruns: Will Team Canada be involved in any tournaments this year? And if so, when and against whom will they be playing?

DK: We're involved in a number of tournaments internationally. First of all we go over in the middle of December to the Izvestia tournament in Moscow which has the national teams from Czechoslovakia, Russia, Sweden, Finland, and Canada. That's a national tournament. We then go from Moscow to the Spengler Cup in Switzerland which is a very good tournament. We play against five European teams there as well. Then later in the year we're playing a tournament in Japan against a Soviet club and the Japanese National team. Then, in March we've got another tournament in Lenningrad called the Pravda Cup which is the national 'B' team of the five major countries. So we have about five major tournaments this year beside our other schedule that we play in and these are highlights for the players because the tournaments really give the games importance and they really are excelent competiton for us.

Bruns: Will there be any changes to the team yuou have assembled right now before this season is over?

DK: Yes, there will be. I wouldn't think very many changes. Right now we only really have 17 players in camp and so we're going to add 4 or 5 players from National Hockey League as they move along. Now they're probably a week or 10 days now from making any changes at the NHL camps and we do expect 4 or 5 players to join us from those camps, and so will give us a stronger team.

Bruns: Are you looking to have help from the NHL before the Olympics, in that professional players that are 23 or under have been declared eligible for the Calgary games?

DK: Well, that rule has not gone through. You're right, there's a rule being discussed — under 23 they are eligible to play for any country in the Olympic Games — but that rule has not been passed by the IOC so it's stillnot a definite. If that were to go through we might try to utilize it, but in some terms I kon't know how much that rule will be of help to us. The NHL must look after themselves first and I really can't see an NHL team giving us their best young player for six or seven weeks for the Olympic Games in '88 when there's all kinds of risks involved. So, the rule may help us a little bit but I don't think its's going to make a great deal of change to our program.

Bruns: Craig McTavish, now with the Edmonton Oilers, trained with your team before Edmonton's camp opened. Did it help your team to have the presence of a professional player?

DK: Well, Craig's a very mature guy and of course he's gone through a very trying sime since his misfortune down in Boston and he spoke to the players about it.(Ed. Note: Craig McTavish was sent to jail for one year for killing a Massachusattes woman while driving under the influence of alcohol.) I think we utilized Craig in one way — he got a chance to get in shape and secondly he was able to talk to our players and tell them that when you're playing professional hockey, if that's where you want to go, you've got to look after yourself and live properly. He was an excellent example to our players, and we appreciate his talking to them.

Bruns: Your team is based in Calgary's Olympic Saddledome, site of the '88 Games hockey tournament. What does this mean in terms of game performance for the upcoming Olympics?

for the answer to this question and many more, be here next week,

