

Tigers' new voice comes with years of experience

By Jake Courtepatte

Kevin Dean is no stranger to the microphone.

The new voice of the Aurora Tigers Junior A club has close to thirty years of experience in a rink broadcast booth, including time recently spent with the recent OJHL champion Trenton Golden Hawks.

"I had a great time with the team," said Dean. "One conference final and two OJHL Championship series."

Dean's experience in broadcast dates back to his time at Loyalist College in the 1980s, directing games for the OHL's Belleville Bulls for the Cablevue 4 station, before joining CKWS in Kingston after graduating as a cameraman and editor.

His career in the biz really took off in the 1990s with the creation of his company, DVP Sports, calling what he calls "grass roots sports" and selling the dvds to teams across North America.

"My business has taken me from Dallas, to Boston, Las Vegas, and all over Ontario and Quebec."

Dean's time with the Golden Hawks was cut short this year after it was announced the local radio program would begin calling games, upon which Tigers owner Jim Thomson saw the opportunity to scoop up the talent.

"Jim Thomson heard me, he reached out about coming to Aurora," said Dean. "I jumped on it in a heartbeat. I really looking forward to meeting the fans, also I want to get involved in the community."

Meanwhile the Tigers have been making moves with their on-ice talent in preparation for the upcoming season. The club recently brought in former QMJHL defenseman Matt Ferrari, as well as well as former Wellington Duke Greg Smith to add speed to the lineup.

"The Tigers' management has made some big changes," said Dean about his new team. "They have signed some outstanding players, such as Jake Bricknell, former Belleville Bull. I've got a feeling that the Tigers are going to surprise a lot of people this year."

The season opener has been set for Monday, September 11 in Cobourg against the reigning national championship Cougars, while the home opener will go Friday, September at the Aurora Community Centre as the Tigers host the Cougars.

Schedules run until mid-February with most Tigers home games played on Friday or Saturday nights.

More info can be found at www.auroratigers.pointstreak.com.