

# Hockey suffers déjà vu

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

History repeated itself for the sixth year in a row as the Tigers finished second to the Acadia Axemen in the Kelly Division final last weekend. The defending National Champions swept Dal 2-0 in games of 4-1 and 5-4, and advanced to the AUHC final versus the UNB Varsity Reds.

"I'm pissed off that we had to end the season this way after having the lead three times during the game," said Tiger forward Marc Warner after the loss which crushed Dal's hopes of advancing any further in the playoffs.

At Wolfville, the second and final game in the best 2-of-3 series saw a slow start for both teams. Tiger Craig Whyntot opened the scoring at 5:33 with a power play slapshot from inside the blue-line, assisted by Jan Melichercik and Tim Hill. Greg Clancy evened out the score for the Axemen with a wristshot deflection from the slot at 9:39. Luke Naylor deflected the puck through the five hole at 17:57 to give Dal the lead. The Tigers outshot the home team 10-5 during the first frame.

The Tigers came out stronger in the second period and were quick to test Axeman goaltender George Dourian, however it was Acadia's Chad Schraeder who scored the frame's only goal.

The Axemen sustained a couple of injuries during the period as a result of their somewhat desperate style of play. Kevin Powell went in for the check only to break his nose against the boards, while Christian Skoryna dived to block an attempt by Carson and ended up leaving the ice with a bleeding ear. Both returned for the third period.

Acadia scored their go-ahead goal at 2:40 of the third frame, a lead which they kept for just 30

seconds. Warner took a long pass from Shane Gibbs and went one-on-one with Dourian, netting the puck from the slot. At 3:54, Luke Naylor scored unassisted to put Dal up 4-3, a lead which Axeman Peter Robertson killed at 7:48 with a slapshot from the slot.

With under eight minutes left in the game, Skoryna went one-on-one with Savary but was unable to score. However, Powell netted the game-winner at 13:50 when he deked past Savary to net a wristshot from the crease. Acadia held out for the final few minutes of the game despite repeated attacks from the Tigers, including a slapshot from the blue-line by Martin LaPointe in the final few seconds which went wide of the net.

"There are parts of the game which could have gone either way," commented blue-liner Richard Ujvary. "Having the lead three times in a game just showed you how much potential we had to prove that we can beat them — we already did it three times this year. We definitely proved that we're a competitive team and that no one can write us off. We also proved it in the series against St. FX when everyone was saying that St. FX was going to beat us." Yet Ujvary reflects the sentiments of the entire team when he says, "I took it pretty hard because I wanted to win really badly."

In previous playoff action, the Tigers swept St. FX 8-3 in the first game of the AUHC quarter finals. At the time, Warner noted, "We're taking it one day at a time. It's playoff hockey and X will come out with a lot of momentum on Friday."

The X-Men did just that and shutout the Tigers 5-0. Blue-liner Jeff Letourneau commented, "We basically got away from our game plan, from what makes us a good



Dal's David Carson was a force on the wing, but Acadia bounced the Tigers in the Kelly Division finals.

team which is hard work and playing tight defensively. We got a lot of shots but we just weren't going to the net and getting traffic in front of that goalie [X-Man Tony Clark] and that's why we didn't get any goals."

He added, "We got a little frustrated after not scoring in the first period when we had so many chances and we basically opened up too much and they buried us and ended up winning 5-0."

The Tigers rebounded to a 5-4 win over St. FX the following evening.

"Everybody came out strong," said Ujvary. "We finally got a strong unit together. Everybody was going 100 per cent if not 150 per cent."

"We won because we played as a team," explained Tiger forward Jan Melichercik. "We didn't quit when we were losing 4-2, we just kept playing."

Head coach Darrell Young added, "Tonight's game was a true reflection of a team. We played against a team with greater talent, greater skill and we overcame

Cont'd on p.20: "Hockey"

## Track bests AUSA field

BY GAZETTE STAFF

There were a few tense moments but by the end of the meet Dalhousie had captured both the men's and women's AUSA championship banners for the third straight year.

Dalhousie's jump star Rachele Beaton was named Female Athlete of the Meet. Beaton placed first in the long, triple and high jump, becoming the first woman in AUSA history to sweep all three leaping events. Beaton is ranked 7th nationally in the high jump.

Richard Menzies' quadruple gold medal performance earned him Male Athlete of the Meet honors. Menzies used his devastating kick to win the 600m and 1000m races, and to anchor the 4x400m and 4x800m teams.

Terri Baker also recorded an amazing four firsts. Baker dominated every one of her events winning the 60m hurdles and 300m race, and anchoring the 4x200m and 4x400m teams. When Baker took the baton in the final leg of the 4x200m, even a member of one of the opposing teams regretfully admitted, "Well, there goes our chances".

The clincher for the men's title did not come till midway through the second day of com-

petition. With only a few events remaining there were only two points separating SMU and Dal. The 4x200m had traditionally been SMU's domain but a fast start by Nick Soh and smooth pass to Derek Crocker gave the Tigers a two meter lead the Huskies were never able to overcome.

Jessica Fraser scored valuable points in the women's distance events. Fraser recorded her best ever performances in both the 1500m and 3000m. In the 3000m she lapped the entire field, passing some competitors more than once. Fraser also competed on Dalhousie's gold medal winning 4x800m team.

Dalhousie qualified twelve athletes for the CIAU championships this weekend (March 7th and 8th) in Windsor, Ontario. The women's 4x400m team, despite having lost three key members from last year's gold medal winning team, will be defending their title. Dan Hennigar, last year's 1500m gold medalist, will be attempting to repeat his 1996 victory. Two Dalhousie men's relay squads also qualified. The men's 4x400m and the 4x800m relays will both enter the meet ranked 6th. Rachele Beaton will represent Dalhousie in the high jump.

Congratulations and good luck to all team members.

## Volleyball heads to Calgary

BY CARMEN TAM

The Tigers won the right to make their 17th straight appearance at the National Championships in Calgary by winning their 17th AUSA crown in 18 years over the Spring Break at Dalplex.

Dalhousie dumped their opponents in the final when they topped the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds 15-3, 15-4, 15-10 for the title. The Tigers were led by captain Eric Villeneuve who had 17 kills and 7 digs. Jason Trepanier and middle Terry Martin added 16 and 15 kills respectively to the Dalhousie win. Fifth year veteran Jamie Mallon provided offence and defensive action with 10 kills and 10 digs. Jayson Stewart had 12 kills and 2 digs for the Reds.

Dal opened the best-of-three series last Thursday with a resounding 3-0 sweep of the Varsity Reds with game scores of 15-2, 15-7 and 15-10. Much like last year's finals, UNB were unable to penetrate the Tigers' superb blocking and aggressive offence that virtually immobilized the Reds. Top performances came from Martin who had 22 kills while teammate Trepanier had 13 kills and 2 service aces. The Reds' Jeff Byrne had 12 kills in the UNB loss.

Dal's Jason Trepanier, a 6'5" power-hitter who had 29 kills and 18 digs in the series, noted the victories were the result of a complete team endeavour: "It was a real focused effort from everyone from the bench and the coaching staff to the starters."

Dal captain Villeneuve, John Hobin and Mallon captured AUSA all-star honours. UNB's Jeff Byrne and Darcy Harris, and Memorial University's Floyd Davis rounded off the all-star team while MUN's Russell Jackson was named AUSA rookie of the year.

Villeneuve dominated the hardwood as well as the awards ceremonies; he was named AUSA Playoff MVP in addition to being named the AUSA selection for the CIAU TSN nominee, an award won by his brother Paul in 1994 in its inaugural year. The annual TSN award is given to the Canadian male volleyball player who best exemplifies academic achievement, athletic skill and citizenship.

Martin, a member of the national Junior B team, was selected as the conference's MVP while head coach Al Scott was named AUSA Coach of the Year.

Dalhousie entered the finals undefeated in this season's conference action. The Tigers earned their 10-0 record by humbling the



Jason Trepanier helped the Tigers overwhelm AUSA competition and head to the CIAUs.

Memorial Sea-Hawks with a 15-2, 15-3, 15-1 win, and outclassing UNB 3-0 as well in a season-ending AUSA tournament the weekend before.

The National Championships are being held in Calgary again this year. The Tigers, seeded sixth, hope to improve on their fifth place finish from last year and will meet the third-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies in their all important first match.

In regards to the Huskies,

Cont'd on p.19: "Volleyball"

## this week's games:

### Friday, March 7th

Basketball(m) vs. St. FX @ 8 p.m.  
Volleyball(m) CIAUs @ Calgary (until Saturday)  
Track & Field CIAUs @ Windsor (until Sunday)  
Basketball(w) AUSAAs @ UNB (until Sunday)

### Saturday, March 8th

Residence Hockey: IWK Charity Cup 1997,  
8 p.m. @ Memorial Arena

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