

Tiger momentum dies at AUAA Final

by Angel Figueroa

The men's soccer team was robbed of their first Atlantic

championship in more than a decade by losing 2-1 in a nail-biting squeaker against Mount Allison held on November 5 at Studley

field. The title match was highlighted by the tension and quality of play that befit two teams of champion-

ship calibre. Dal was ranked 6th in the country and Mount Allison 9th. Their last meeting, only 14 days ago, had ended in a 3-1 victory for Dal. The quality of play for both teams was both fierce and immaculate; this final game simply proved an amplification of their last encounter.

Mount Allison scored first with a headed goal from a cornerkick in the 8th minute. But Dal was not to be taken aback, as their equalizer came shortly after. From midfield, John Amis fed a well-placed cross to Andy Wheeler, who took the ball down the left wing. After beating a defender, he crossed the ball in front of the crease, where a diving John Richmond nailed it past the keeper into the net. It was a beautiful goal which complemented the many great plays of the afternoon for both teams.

Following their goal, Dal succeeded in keeping the pressure on Mount Allison, as they kept the ball in their opponent's half. The ferocity of Dal's playwork had an aura of come-from-behind victory, but they were denied. Out of nowhere Mount Allison came back with a great goal of their own to go 2-1. From just outside the penalty box, a blistering shot went over keeper Sean Pederson and into the upper corner of the net. Although only in the 33rd minute of play, it proved to be the deciding goal of the game.

For the remainder of the match, both teams provided solid entertainment for the 400 fans who came out to watch. The style of play made the championship game

a satisfying way to culminate a great soccer season for the AUAA and Dal.

The rights for entry into the final battle began the day before in the semi-finals. While Dal's 2-1 victory over PEI was auspicious, Mount Allison's convincing 3-1 victory against St. Mary's foreshadowed their tenacious and powerful playwork which eventually granted them the title crown.

Like most championship matches, the hand of controversy played its part. Shortly after a Dal cornerkick in the second half, Jamie Sawler picked up the ball at midfield and lobbed a perfect shot from just outside the penalty box. It was misjudged by the Mount Allison keeper and went into the net. Just as the bleachers rejoiced in the apparent equalizer, it was disallowed by a judgmental off-side call.

At the beginning of the men's soccer season, head coach Tony Richards boldly prophesized that his team would make it to the playoffs. He was more than right; while his coaching capabilities achieved the best AUAA record of 8-1-4, they won the East division title and the right to host the Atlantic championship playoffs. Throughout their season, their talent, confidence, and experience accumulated momentum. Unfortunately it ended over the weekend. But if next year's roster includes the likes of John Richmond, Rob Adams, Ian Clark, Tim Hall, John Amis and the others, then maybe it's just the beginning.



Dal photo: Michael Devonport

Dal striker Andy Wheeler goes up for the ball against UPEI in AUAA semi-final on Nov. 4

Swim teams cap another win

by Ian Robertson

The Dalhousie swim teams returned victorious from their first road trip of the year, defeating the UNB Beavers and Mount Allison Mounties in AUAA competition.

On Friday, the women's team sunk the Beavers 63-30, while the men raced to a 53-40 victory. Swimming different events on Saturday, both the women and men again won, posting scores of 51-28 and 50-36 respectively.

In exhibition competition both days, the women continued their winning ways, defeating Université de Sherbrooke 70-19 and 57-21. The men narrowly lost Friday to the powerful Quebec team 42-56, but bounced back Saturday 45-41.

On Sunday the women rolled over the Mounties 126-34. Since Mount Allison has no men's team, the Dal men had an opportunity to swim in events other than their specialties.

The men were led by men's captain Darryl Dutton with wins in the 400 IM and 200 IM, while the women got outstanding support from multiple winners Janet Tingley (50, 100 and 200 backstroke), Kellie Andrews (100 and 400 freestyle, 100 fly), and Sarah Hall (50 and 100 freestyle).

Other men's winners included rookie standouts Sean Andrews (100 fly) and Jason Shannon (100 backstroke). Veteran Paul Chui commanded a solid second place in the gruelling 800 freestyle.

The women added to their awesome point totals with additional wins by Katy Laycock (200 IM), Heidi Moores (100 backstroke), Ann Dodds (100 breaststroke),

Christie Gustavison (200 freestyle), and women's co-captain Susie MacDonald (400 IM). In addition the women's team combined to win four relays, with the men winning one.

"Even though it's still early in the season, the team swam well and showed a lot of promise. We

should have a fair number of CIAU qualifiers this year," said assistant coach Bill Greenlaw in assessing the team's performance.

The team returned Sunday night to resume training Monday morning at 6:45 am for their next meet Saturday, Nov. 17 against Acadia University.

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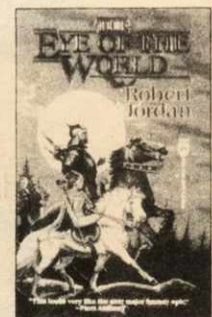
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