page 18 sports the Gazette September 12, 1996 Dal V-Baller works on game at the beach

BY CARMEN TAM

Dal Tiger Tim Pellerine and CIAU All-Canadian Brian Johnstone placed 17th out of the top 32 teams in the country at the Microsoft National Beach Volleyball Tournament over the Labour Day Weekend. The duo were originally ranked 26th in the tournament - held at Mooney's Bay in Ottawa — which boasted 20 professional teams as well as 12 regional teams.

Pellerine and Johnstone won the Nova Scotia Beach Volleyball Championships earlier this summer with a 15-13 win over fellow Dalhousie player John Hobin and his partner Joel D'eon. The

winning duo, ranked fourth in Nova Scotia, outlasted the number two team of Hobin and D'eon in the hour and a half long match.

The national tournament saw Pellerine and Johnstone - playing in their second year together - compete against professionals from Ontario and Quebec, including the number one and two pairs. The Nova Scotia pair won one and lost two

Former Dal Tiger Jody Holden was in the final with his partner Conrad Letterman the duo won the tourney last year - but saw defeat at



the hands of Mark Heese and John Child. This pair went on to win a bronze medal in beach volleyball at the Atlanta Olympics.

Pellerine, a third year Commerce student, is playing the classic game this fall for his third year with the Dalhousie Men's Team. He is looking forward to the season.

"We have a good crop of guys with good altitude," said Pellerine, "especially with the return of Eric Villeneuve and Terry Martin who played for the Canada B team this summer."

Commenting on his sum-

mer activities he said, "In beach volleyball you play for yourself. It's interesting to note that the indoor and outdoor games are starting to adapt to each other. It was a good experience, especially seeing Mark and John."

With a well-organized provincial committee and coordinator, Pellerine says the beach competitions over the summer have raised the level of his game.

"There is an overall emphasis on all positions since you have to be able play them all," he noted. " You may be able to cover a bad pass indoors, but on the beach, you can't hide."



The Dalhousie Men's and Women's Cross Country teams will be competing this Saturday at Point Pleasant Park in Halifax. The meet, which starts at noon for the women's team and 45 minutes later for the men's, will be the only competition at home for the Tigers. The squads, both ranked last year in sixth place, will defend their AUAA titles in Moncton next month as they vie to qualify for the National championships