

Overtime

Baseball a year-round sport

By MARK ALBERSTAT

THE GURUS OF BASEBALL are not as dim as they often make themselves out to be.

I say this because of their artful play with the media and baseball fans alike. There are few professional sports that are in the headlines twelve months a year, especially a completely spring- and summer-oriented sport such as baseball.

You don't see too many hockey headlines in August, other than those of Gretzky opening another shopping mall. You also don't often hear of alpine skiing in July.

What you do hear of is baseball talks and trades in December, free agents signing in January and veteran players working hard to stay in shape over the off season in February. All this coming after the media blitz of the World Series, former World Serieses and stars of the past season who may play in future World Series.

I am almost certain that this is a carefully calculated, well-thought out plan by the baseball owners and establishment.

We all know that the owners and players are often vain and enjoy seeing their name and

photographs in the paper. If you don't believe this just ask George Stienbrenner or Tedd Turner and they will call a news conference to give you their answer.

No, baseball owners are not ignorant of the fact that names in the paper will often recalculate to dollars in the bank. Nor are they oblivious to the fact that by starting spring training camps earlier and earlier each year they make your rabid baseball fans, such as the author of this piece, more and more willing to fork over bucks to find out what's going on and where.

Media hype has always been and always will be a big part of baseball. This past year, however, the owners scored a coup de grace, they picked a new commissioner of baseball.

These brainy little devils not only picked a new commissioner, they picked Pete Ueberoth. Ueberoth has got to be the king of media hype and also how to make good money out of losing ventures. This of course comes from his experience with the 1984 Summer Olympics.

It will be interesting to see what he can do when he starts out with a venture that is already in the black.

Aftermath of the Classic

By MARK ALBERSTAT

AFTER THE FINAL STATS had been tabulated, awards given out, and nets taken down, one thing remained to be known; how the sixth annual Dalhousie Volleyball Classic affected the Dalhousie teams in the CIAU rankings and how it should affect the AUAA.

When the weekly rankings were released, they showed that the Tiger men, who had taken the silver medal at the Classic, moved up the ladder from 11th place to seventh. The women, who placed fourth at the Classic, moved from tenth to seventh.

Other teams on the men's side who participated in the Classic and ranked in the top ten are Saskatchewan, York, and Winnipeg. Both York and Winnipeg dropped one notch, while Saskatchewan stayed the same.

In the women's division, other teams that were at the Classic and ranked in the top ten were Winnipeg, Saskatchewan, York, Ottawa, Manitoba, and Laval. Winnipeg stayed the same, while York went from fourth to third, Saskatchewan went from third to fourth spot, Manitoba was dropped from seventh to ninth, and Ottawa went down four

went from eighth to seventh.

Karen Fraser, head coach of the Dalhousie women's team, said that "it (the Classic) was a chance to play the top competition in Canada and was a good preparation for the Nationals. It showed us what to look for in tough competition."

In regards to the AUAA, Fraser commented that "the teams are definitely improving. UPEI is starting to play better, but we still don't have too many worries."

Men's coach Al Scott said that it "was very interesting playing against York and being down two to one and coming back to win it."

Scott went on to say that "the western teams were surprised with the AUAA and one of the real surprises was Moncton when they took Winnipeg to five games."

If the standings stay the same, the men's team would have a very hard draw at the Nationals, and coach Scott is hoping the Tigers will move up one more spot.

The AUAA Championships for men are at Mt. Allison this year on February 23 and 24, while the women's championship is also at Mt. A., but on February 22 and 23. The CIAU's are on March 8, 9, and 10 at York University.

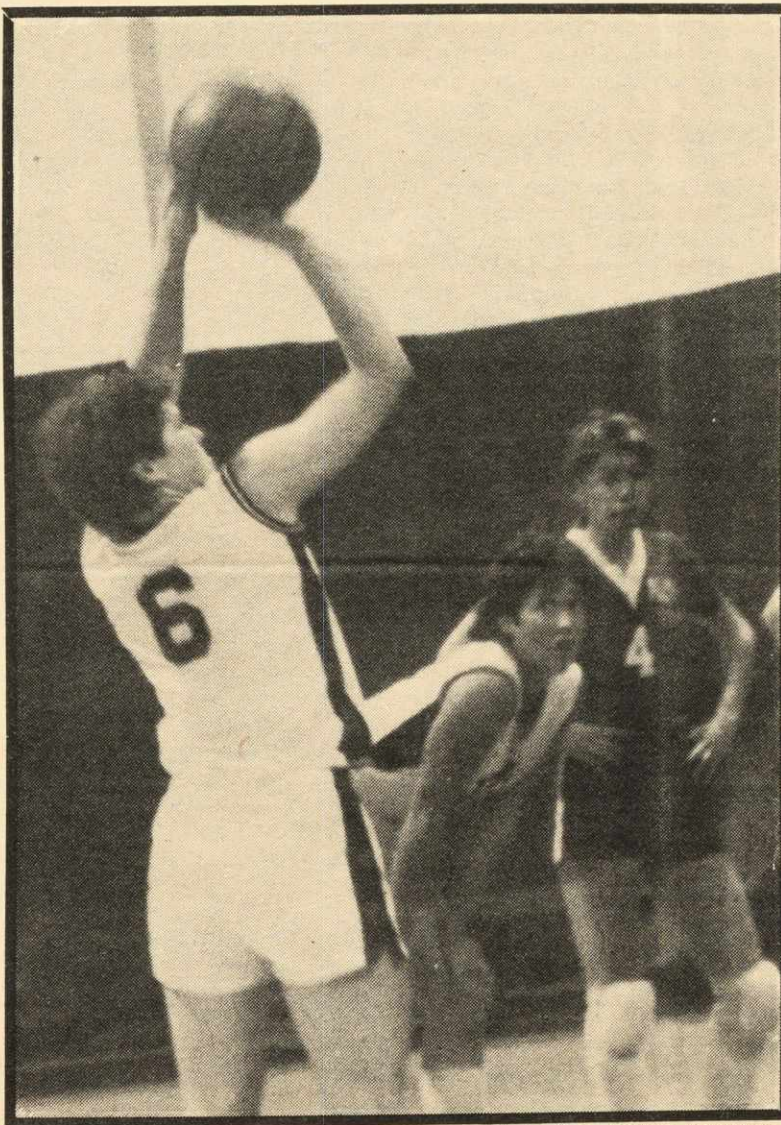


Photo: Sean Forbes, Dal Photo

Women's team undefeated at home

By LISA TIMPF

AFTER A TRIO OF GAMES last week, the Dal women's basketball team remains undefeated at home in AUAA play.

Lifeguard champs

THE NOVA SCOTIA LIFE-guard Championships were held at the Dalplex this past weekend.

Aqua Trol won the two-day event with about 85 points, while Dalplex came in second with 79, and the Sportsplex crew came third. There were seven teams competing.

The National Championships will be held at Dalplex in May.

Last Tuesday, the Tigers hosted Acadia and came away with a 74-60 win. Lisa Briggs, who earned player of the game honours, led the scoring parade with 26 points. Peggy MacLean notched 16 and Angela Colley

added 10 for the Tigers, while Sheeley Bolivar scored 19 for Acadia.

Saturday saw the first of a pair of weekend home games against Memorial University of Newfoundland. The Saturday matchup was a shootout, with Dal rolling to a 92-57 win. MacLean led the way with 18 points, with Briggs adding 17. Shelley Slater, who scored 16 points and hauled down 11 rebounds, was named player of the game.

Diane Cashin led Memorial with 25 points.

The second game against Memorial, on Sunday, ended 64-44 in Dal's favour. MacLean was player of the game in this encounter, notching 14 points to lead the Tigers on the scoreboard. Briggs added 12, with Colley scoring 10.

Coach Carolyn Savoy was pleased with the team's defensive efforts in Sunday's game. "We played some of our best defense this year," she said. "Also, we used a contro offense, holding onto the ball and looking for the good shots."

"I was pleased with all three games," she added. "The games allowed the team to experiment and take risks with their defense. They now have confidence in their ability to play a pressing defense and make it work."

The Dal squad, who played St. Mary's at SMU on Tuesday, will host Mt. Allison Friday and UPEI Saturday.

"Saturday's game should be one of our most exciting home games this year," said Savoy, noting that the UPEI team employs a rugged, aggressive style of play.

The Dal team will be looking to avenge a loss to UPEI earlier this season.

Tiger sports this week

Feb 1	Women's Basketball	MT. A	Home	6:30 pm
Feb 1	Men's Basketball	MT. A	Home	8:30 pm
Feb 1	Swim	MT. A/MUN	Home	
Feb 1	Hockey	MT. A	Away	
Feb 2	Women's Basketball	UPEI	Home	1 pm
Feb 2	Men's Basketball	MT. A	Home	3 pm
Feb 2	Hockey	UPEI	Away	
Feb 5	Women's Basketball	ST. F.X.	Home	8:30 pm
Feb 6	Women's Volleyball	ST. F.X.	Home	8:30 pm

