

MacGregor, Scott reflect on season

by Sandy Smith

Citing the recent strong play of her team, including a 15-7, 15-12, 15-3 win over the Universite de Moncton this past weekend, Dalhousie's Women's Volleyball head coach Lois MacGregor is confident that her Tigers will be in the final match of the CIAU national championships.

MacGregor does not accept the national rankings that place Dalhousie sixth amongst Canada's top ten teams. She pointed out that the Tigers have beaten the former number two ranked York University this season, yet the win only moved Dal from seventh to sixth where they presently stand. Despite this lack of national recognition, MacGregor feels that the Tiger's "ability to win the tough ones" will enable them to prove the ratings wrong.

The Tigers were impressive in Saturday afternoon's win over the visitors from Moncton. Karen Fraser had fourteen serving points with ten of them coming **consecutively** in game one. The ten points enabled the women to rally from a 7-5 deficit and take the game in a convincing manner. Fraser also had ten kills on the day. Karin Maessen's speed on the court throughout the match excited the crowd and she was able to accumulate thirteen serving points and six kills for the Dal cause. Kathy Andrea was tops in blocking points with four.

Coach MacGregor and the players offered their formal farewells to Susan Cox and Beth Fraser, both playing in their final regular season

home game at Dal. Susan and Beth have played the last four seasons with the Tigers and both have been MVPs in the past. Followers of the team realize what important roles must be filled next year in their absence.

Saturday's win gives the Tigers the right to host the AUA final here, February 29 and March 1. The girls will first play Friday night at 6 p.m. against UNB at Dalplex. Should the Tigers win the 6 p.m. final on Saturday they will be off to the University of Saskatchewan for the CIAU finals March 7-9. Coach MacGregor has moved the team's motto from chalkboard to court-side in order to ensure the team does not become over-confident. The motto reads, "A winning season is won one point at a time."

Saturday's results were not as rewarding for Men's coach Al Scott. He watched his forces go down to a solid Universite de Moncton squad 9-15, 12-15, 15-9, 10-15. The coach was disappointed that the team could not execute the game plan established for the match. He then reflected, "Perhaps it was too extensive a plan, after all it took us two games before we began to execute." Scott is still confident that the Dal team is the superior team but admitted that he has trouble "finding six players to do the job." The fact that Scott had few players playing well forced him to constantly substitute players in order to find those six to do the job.

The playoffs will be difficult according to Scott, as Moncton

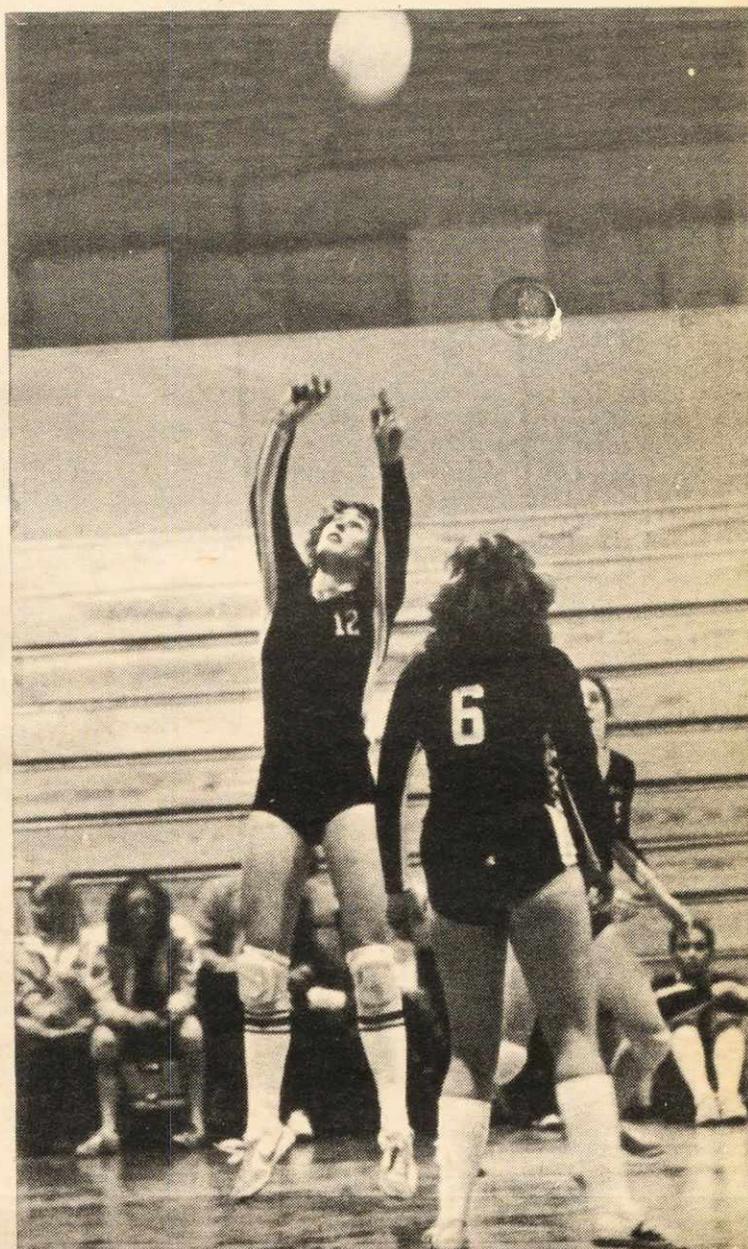
will have both home court advantage and the services of a player who missed this past weekend's match. Regarding the home court advantage Scott noted, "In the regular season their gym was so crowded I'm sure they must have turned some fans away at the door. They should no doubt fill it again for the playoffs."

Reflecting on his first season as a Dal coach, Scott had a fair amount to say. He doubted the league will return in its present form next year as there is "too much disparity between the stronger and weaker teams." Scott would perhaps favour a two tier system.

As far as the team's record is concerned he said that first place has not been as important to the Tigers as winning the playoffs. "Our goal since the start of the year has been to prepare for the playoffs and we're still aiming to peak at the right time," he said.

In reference to fan response to his promotions attempting to make volleyball a true spectator sport in this part of the country he said, "It's gratifying to see the fans coming out regularly now and we do plan to continue the promotions. We're not fully satisfied but you have to make a start. . . and I think we've made a good one."

The men complete their regular season with a weekend adventure to St. John's to face Memorial. They are then off to Moncton for the AUA final March 1 and 2.



Dal Photo / Dayal

Karin Maessen setting in Saturday's win

Dal's MacDonald tournament MVP

by Dave Simpson

The 4th Annual Dalhousie Invitational Water Polo Tournament was an immense success this past weekend. The DAL Tigers placed second to the number one nationally ranked McMaster university team. The competition was attended by Carleton1, Carleton 2, McMaster, Memorial, Halifax Metro Allstars, and the Tigers. The high calibre of play provided the fans with lots of intense excitement.

The Tigers lost to the McMaster team in the final of the tournament by a score of 9-4. The large crowd was brought to its feet when Dalhousie scored two quick goals to pull to within two in the fourth quarter. But the experienced Mac squad soon squelched this last gleam of hope for the Tigers.

The most exciting game of the tournament occurred on Friday evening when Dalhousie upset the Carleton1 team. This Carleton team was ranked second in the country so DAL's win will do much to improve its current ranking of fourth in the nation. Dalhousie played a spirited game,

spearheaded by its resilient defense and outstanding play of the goalkeeper Colin Bryson, to beat Carleton 6-5. Coach Clark was ecstatic about his team's play and their final defeat of a powerhouse Ontario team.

Dalhousie's offence was lead by Sandy MacDonald. Sandy was indeed Dal's highlight of the tournament, scoring 9 goals and receiving the M.V.P. for the tourney. The Tigers are also composed of Mike Tighe, Brian Lane, Peter Henderson, Peter Hastings, Ralph Simpson, Dave Simpson, Albert Hennen, Greg Lovely, Chris McKee, Paddy Wallend, and Colin Bryson. They are coached by Ken Clark.

Coach Clark and the Tigers would like to thank all those who gave up their free time to assist in making the tournament such a huge success. Special thanks is directed towards the staff of the Dalplex who made the entire event possible.

We'll see you next year for an even more exciting tourney. And remember the Bourgeoisie Will Be Back!

Tickets on sale for CIAU championship

Carolyn Savoy's Dalhousie basketball Tigers are beginning to anticipate the Canadian Interuniversity Women's Basketball Championships which they will host starting March 6 at Dalplex.

Word keeps filtering onto the Dalhousie campus about some of the teams that could make up their eight club field for the annual basketball festival which the Tigers will enter as host club and possibly as AUA titleholders.

Most basketball folk expect nationally number one ranked Victoria Vikettes to be in Halifax with their ace scorer Carol Turney-Loos. Loos played with Saint Mary's Huskies in 1976-77 after spending a year in Halifax training with the 1976 Olympic team.

Bishops Gaiterettes should also be in Halifax for the CIAU tourney. They will represent the Quebec Conference, having not lost this season and are

one of two teams to defeat the Tigers during the current season. They took the Tigers in the final of the Concordia Tournament prior to Christmas.

Victoria is the only other team to defeat the Tigers, winning a 70-50 decision in the final of the University of Regina Classic in December. The Tigers have taken the measure of every other team to face them this year.

Tickets for the CIAU women's championship, with the final game to be played at Metro Centre March 8 as part of the Progress Classic, are on sale at Dalplex. A tourney package is available for \$14 with a \$2 reduction to students. The package will entitle the holder to all CIAU games at Dalplex plus a lower bowl seat for the triple header Progress Classic at Metro Centre which includes the NSSAF Boys AAA title game, the CIAU final and the AUA men's championship game.

