

# Women take fourth at nationals

BY DAVID FINLAYSON

The Dal women started the CIAU national championships hoping that an entire season of preparation could lead them to a place among the country's soccer elite. Instead, one crucial mistake cost them a chance at the gold medal. Despite allowing only two goals in three games, they ended up in fourth.

Dal played their first match against the University of Ottawa. Sue Hunter and Amy Harding were very solid in the back while Karen Hood filled the middle of the field well. The Tigers were playing the confident soccer that fans like to watch.

Leanne Turner was her usual commanding self at the back and had to come up with some good saves. The first two were punches from corner kicks, and after the second one, she fell on an Ottawa player and pinned her to the ground, a move that would have made Hulk Hogan proud.

The first half was a good display of soccer as the play raged from end to end. Both teams had some good chances, but Ottawa seemed to have the best as even-

tual tournament MVP Danielle Vella made penetrating excursions into the Tiger's defense.

Dal's Nathalie Lindthaler made some good runs, but squandered two great scoring chances. The second was on a breakaway in the thirty-sixth minute which she rolled just wide of the post.

The team played better in the second half as Amy Dunphy came in and promptly set up two scoring chances. At the fourteen minute mark, Andrea Foreman recovered a ball misplayed by the Ottawa keeper, and passed to Lindthaler who lobbed it into the open goal. Lindthaler's celebration was fantastic, however it would prove a little too fantastic.

As the Tigers were congratulating each other, the referee blew for kickoff and Ottawa plunged down the right side and scored less than thirty seconds later to tie the game 1-1. The game ended in a draw.

This set up a must win over Laval on Saturday. The Tigers needed to score three goals to ensure a berth in the final.

The Black and Gold came out sluggishly early — Laval had two good chances on scrambles in the

box — but recovered soon after with three great chances that missed the net, or were saved by the keeper.

Laval had very speedy wingers, but Dal's Carolyn Campbell and Carolyn Fairburn were no slouches either. They battled tremendously hard in this game, and Campbell saw a lot more of the ball than she had against Ottawa.

At the end of the half, Dal fans had a scare as Campbell was caught in possession and an Ottawa winger left Foreman lying on the ground. Turner did well to save the shot.

In the second half, Lindthaler seemed to have half the field to run into but forward Sarah Rush was unable to get the ball to her. This could have been the crucial moment in the match. Another draw wasn't enough to qualify for the gold medal game. Ottawa went on to win the tournament.

Turner conveyed her feelings after the game. "We were pretty disappointed because we did not play as well as we had to. We had a very good chance to go to the final again and we blew it."

So Dal played Laurier, in a re-



Sara Rush beating a Laval defender in CIAU Championship play.

match of last year's final, to decide who would take home third place. The Tigers played well, but the game again highlighted Dal's goal scoring woes. Unfortunately, in the 88th minute, a Laurier substitution scored on a floating volley from 25 yards out. Turner was not really tested except for the goal.

On the bright side, Andrea Gillespie had a solid weekend. In fact, she was named a CIAU all-star after the tournament.

Next year the Tigers will only

lose three players, Turner, Hood and Foreman. With the way that backup Roxanne Murphy played this year, Dal should be in good hands in the net. Hopefully they will be able to remedy their goal scoring problems.

The girls entertained the crowds very well and proved that Dal was a very good choice to host the nationals this year. We look for another medal next year as the team returns many key players, and this year's rookies come back after a year of experience.

# Cross Country battles CIAU muck

## Women meet stiff competition

BY DAN HENNIGAR

Cross country running is about taking risks, finding one's mental and physical limits and trying to exceed them. Sometimes the runner will succeed beyond expectation, but sometimes, if the runner is truly testing herself, she will fail. That risk is what makes cross country exciting.

At the national CIAU championships in Montreal, the Dalhousie Tigers experienced both defeat and success. The team, ranked seventh entering the five kilometre event, took chances and finished twelfth against the strongest field ever assembled at a CIAU championship. The event was so strong that the University of Windsor's two-time defending champion, Missy McCleary, did not even finish in the medals.

To make matters even more challenging, the Tigers, who had competed under blue skies all season, were forced to run on a course drenched by thirty-six hours of nonstop rain. Four foot wide rivers tore down Mount Royal and across the race course. The grass fields were transformed into a soup of mud and leaves.

Cindy Foley confronted the adverse conditions and world class competition. Undeclared in the AUAA, Foley opted to run with the leaders, deciding it was better to try and fail than not to try at all. At the top of the first long hill Foley was in third, just behind the

two leading runners, and an impressive thirty meters ahead of the rest of the pack. The pace was just too fast. Working together the main pack caught the lead trio and by the half way mark Foley had dropped to twentieth in the field of one hundred. Exhausted by her courageous start Foley was unable to finish the race.

Her disappointment was balanced by other team members' successes. Krista Wuerr efficiently and relentlessly forced her way through the mud to be the first Tiger across the line in thirty-seventh place. Marnie Dickens, demonstrating her rugged determination, finished only fourteen seconds and thirteen positions behind Wuerr. An inspired Cindy Toner also completed her

best race of the year, defeating athletes she had never beaten before. Rookie Andrea McNeven, co-team captain Jessica Fraser, and Eva Stalstad also scored for the Dalhousie squad.

Although the championship was bitter sweet, the season as a whole was a success. The Tigers completed their eleventh straight AUAA season undefeated. They won the team and individual conference titles and tested themselves against the best in the nation. With most of the team returning, Dalhousie should be ready to compete with the nation's elite next year.

## Men place fifth

BY JESSICA FRASER

Last weekend's big news in Quebec was of rivers flooding and towns being washed away. But the 72 hours of rain also hit Mount Royal, Montreal, the site of the 1996 CIAU Cross Country Championships.

The 2.5 kilometre loop course, which snaked its way up the mountain, appeared already to be sufficiently challenging, but drainage off the mountain added icy rushing rivers and waist deep trenches to the mix.

However, the Dalhousie men welcomed the conditions like true

Maritimers. Entering the race ranked 3rd, the men had nothing to lose.

Dan Hennigar, Dal's top hopeful and this year's AUAA champion quickly made his way to the front of an outstanding field of 90 runners. Neil Manson, who sat out last season due to eligibility rules, was in close contact. The Black and Gold were taking control.

Hennigar continued to push the lead pack for the first three loops. Spectators knew it was anyone's race, and Tiger fans bit their nails anxiously each time Hennigar cruised by, a smile on his face.

With one loop to go, an amazing break away occurred. Sherbrooke's Eric Jobin sprinted to a 13 second lead over the next closest runner. Hennigar finished 5th.

Sackville, Nova Scotia's Brian Yorke was Dal's second runner, finishing 23rd, an outstanding performance for the young rookie. Completing the field from Dal were Chris Evers, 47th, Jamie Blanchard, 48th, Tim Ellis, 60th, and Trevor Boudreau, 76th. The team finished 5th out of the eleven competing teams.


The Tigers once again led the way in post race mud sliding, and displayed more Maritime spirit at the evening's Awards Banquet. Coach Yarr was pleased with the successful season, but is already under way with next year's game plan.

Who, what, where, when, why...

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### athletes of the week


**Patti Hutchison, Women's Basketball**



When the Dalhousie Tigers whipped the UPEI Panthers 92-70 in their home opener, Guard Patti Hutchison recorded the CIAU's first ever quadruple double with 10 points, 11 rebounds, 12 assists and 10 steals. This is an amazing feat, as most basketball players rarely manage double digits in two or three categories. Patti is returning to the Tigers lineup after a seventeen year leave of absence from the squad. She is a 38-year-old Lockport native, standing 5'5" tall. She is in her 4th year of eligibility and studies Public Relations.

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**Maciek Gawlick, Men's Swimming**



Maciek is a first year swimmer originating from Halifax. In a set of dual meets, Maciek won the 400IM against UNB, and the 200 Back and the 800 Free against Mt. Allison. In his 200m Backstroke win, Maciek set a meet record with a time of 2:15.16. He is 18 years of age, 6'0" tall and studying in the Commerce program at Dalhousie.