

# Championship weekend at Wickwire

## Dal humiliates SMU to clinch home field advantage

BY DAVID FINLAYSON

It was a really difficult game to watch. Well, for the SMU fans that is.

Last Friday, at Saint Mary's, the Dalhousie Tigers men's soccer team thumped SMU 5-0 to earn the right to host the AUSA championships this coming weekend. Trevor Chisholm recorded the shutout, and was only really tested once in the match.

Dalhousie really seemed to peak in this game, which was probably their best of the season. At the five minute mark, Danny Burns beat SMU keeper Brian Demone from twenty yards out. Most of the spectators felt that the keeper should have made the stop — instead he merely watched the ball sail into the far corner.

The onslaught continued with Burns and Paul English destroying the SMU midfield. Mark Ellis and Mike Ayyash also had strong

games, both beating SMU defenders seemingly at will. Dalhousie played a more direct attacking game on Friday, and really punished the Huskies when they made any mistakes.

Dal's second goal came from an English header after a good cross by Burns. Again the keeper was left standing and shaking his head. One of the best plays of the half occurred when Ellis was being held by two SMU defenders and still managed to sneak through and beat the last defender, although the defender did well to recover.

The second half started off pretty much the same as the first, with English missing just over the bar from a MacFarlane cross. At 53 minutes, Ellis converted a cross which everybody missed at the far post.

Vinnie Mert had the Husky's best chance but missed just over the bar. The Dal defence was solid, as usual, with Marc Rainford making one of his first fouls of



Mike Ayyash gets last minute instruction from coach Ian Kent.

the year. MacFarlane came out soon after to be replaced by Mike Kwak who played well.

Dal had only ten or twelve quality chances, but did very well in converting them. English scored the fourth goal in the 70th minute by beating a defender and coolly slipping it by the charging Husky goaltender, who seemed intent on hitting English. Jeff Hibberts rounded out the scoring in the 73rd minute by finishing on a goalmouth scramble.

According to SMU alumni

Marty Shannon, SMU's best play came late in the game when a frustrated Kevin O'Carroll kicked a ball that was already out of bounds, out of the Stadium. He narrowly missed the nearby residence and earned a yellow card for his half-hearted effort.

Dal has put together an all-around great effort this year. Although the defence was great, allowing only three goals all year, the scoring might have been more impressive. Jeff Hibberts scored a personal best ten goals to lead the

league, while English and Ellis had eight each. Burns finished with six goals and MacFarlane had three. Rainford, however, did not manage to capitalize this year. But there is still the playoffs.

Coincidentally, the Huskies tied Acadia on Sunday, but still did not make the playoffs. The Tigers, clinched homefield with their win, and will play in the tournament next Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Wickwire field. They play on Saturday against the lowest seed that wins on Friday.

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts	men	women						
Dalhousie (2)	10	1	2	37	3	29	<b>A t l a n t i c U n i v e r s i t i e s S o c c e r C o n f e r e n c e</b>	Acadia (2)	9	0	4	27	0	31
St. F.X. (9)	8	3	2	25	8	27		St. F.X.	9	3	1	23	7	27
Acadia	5	3	5	19	11	22		New Brunswick	7	2	4	30	7	25
U.P.E.I.	5	3	5	16	11	20		Dalhousie (9) 4	3	6	11	6	20	
New Brunswick	5	4	4	13	9	18		Memorial	7	3	3	24	11	20
Moncton	4	5	4	17	24	17		St. Mary's	5	5	3	13	10	19
Mt. Allison	4	5	4	15	16	16		U.P.E.I.	6	7	0	15	23	18
Saint Mary's	3	5	5	16	16	16		Mt. Allison	2	7	4	5	19	11
Memorial	2	6	5	11	16	13		Moncton	1	10	2	4	34	5
U.C.C.B.	1	12	0	3	58	2		U.C.C.B.	0	10	3	2	37	5

## Women's soccer stumbles into playoffs

BY AMIT BATRA AND AARON BLEASDALE

The Dalhousie Tigers women's soccer team lost their last game of the season 1-0 to the Saint Mary's Huskies on Sunday.

For the Tigers the game was meaningless as to their placing in the final standings but the loss still stung. The Huskies needed the victory to capture the sixth and final playoff spot.

SMU's desperation showed early as they attacked the always tough Dal defense from the opening whistle. Early in the first half, Saint Mary's striker Marie Rasmussen was able to beat keeper Leanne Turner but not the far post, and the game remained tied. Turner quickly proved to be the story of the game, thwarting the Huskies on several occasions.

On the other end of the field the Tigers did not create as many scoring chances — they seemed happy to absorb the pressure and counterattack. It looked like the Tigers might be headed for another 0-0 tie.

Unfortunately, the Huskies went up 1-0 in the 64th minute when Husky Tara Timms crossed a ball into the Dalhousie six yard box. Rasmussen scored with a

shot that hit the inside crossbar twice before the referee counted it in.

Turner looked as though she may have reinjured her knee during the play, but was able to continue the game. She initially hurt her Anterior Cruciate Ligament in training for the Women's National Team and will require surgery again after the season. "For now I'm just hoping it'll last for another seven games," said Turner, referring to the upcoming AUSA's and CIAU's at Dal's Wickwire Field.

Heather Richards was able to preserve the shutout for SMU despite the counterattack spearheaded by Dal rookie Nathalie Lindthaler.

Despite the loss, Coach Turnbull remains objective about the Tigers' playoff chances. When asked whether motivation was a problem for the team since they automatically qualify for CIAU's, Turnbull stated, "We've had a bit of a rough season with young players and a host of injuries but any team can do well this weekend if they put it together. These aren't excuses — at the end of the day we still have to go out and play."

Dalhousie will be hosting the AUSA soccer championships this



Turner to the rescue

weekend despite finishing fourth overall. League coaches agreed prior to the season to play the tournament at Dal to allow the other Atlantic team that qualifies for CIAU's to be more familiar with the turf than their opponents from across the country.

So come out and support the Tigers as they begin the drive for their fourth straight AUSA Title with a game against Memorial at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow. Good luck Tigers!

## AUSA soccer league championship weekend

(at Dal's Wickwire Field)

### MEN

#### Friday

Acadia vs. Moncton, 3 p.m.  
P.E.I. vs. New Brunswick, 5:30 p.m.

#### Saturday (Semifinals)

Dalhousie vs. lowest seed, 3 p.m.  
St. F.X. vs. highest seed, 5:30 p.m.

#### Sunday

Championship game, 3 p.m.

### WOMEN

#### Friday

New Brunswick vs. Saint Mary's, 10 a.m.  
Dalhousie vs. Memorial, 12:30 p.m.

#### Saturday (Semifinals)

St. F.X. vs. highest seed, 10 a.m.  
Acadia vs. lowest seed, 12:30 p.m.

#### Sunday

Championship game, 12:30 p.m.