

# Dal overcomes Husky challenge

BY AARON BLEASDALE

A somewhat unmotivated Tigers basketball team went in against the 4-8 Saint Mary's Huskies last Tuesday night, a team which they'd beaten in both their earlier matchups this season, and ran into some stiff competition.

Dal stormed out to an early 20-10 lead, but seemed to be forcing their passes. The combination of Patty Hutchinson to Carolyn Wares wasn't clicking. They were trying to exploit their advantage in post strength.

"We just started pounding it inside," explains Hutchinson, "but they weren't giving it to us. They were giving us the shot and we weren't taking it."

The Tigers went into the locker room with a comfortable 26-17 lead, but in the second half, the Huskies came out on fire. Only six minutes in, Dal's lead had been shaved to three points.

The Tiger defense looked soft, and often confused. In past meetings, the Huskies' Jadranka Crnogorac and Toni MacAfee had shot well off the screen; Dal was trying a new system of switching

with the pick to try to contain SMU's perimeter shooting. It wasn't going smoothly, but head coach Carolyn Savoy isn't concerned.

"It's something we have to experiment with," says Savoy. With AUAA's coming up, she says, "Now's the time to try these things."

With 3:13 left in the game, impact post-player Carolyn Wares fouled out on what was perhaps a questionable call. Dal had been in foul trouble for a good part of the game. "Our fouls weren't very smart," states Savoy, "We were getting fouls in the backcourt, ninety-feet from the hoop. There's no point!"

Soon after, a long Crnogorac field goal pulled the Huskies to within two points. Wares was out, Sue Parke had four fouls, and Sara Henneberry's flu had kept her out the entire second half. The stage looked set for a dazzling Saint Mary's comeback. But guard Patty Hutchinson came in and took control late.

"She was the difference," explains Savoy. "She really stepped up big for us. She made her free throws and scored our last six

points. She was very, very clutch."

The flu/foul trouble gave the Tigers a little bit of a hard time, but it also allowed the bench a chance to do their own stepping up. The reserves played well in keeping the Huskies from outrunning the Tigers in the dying minutes of the contest.

Jody Euloth played a solid 28 minutes for the Tigers, marking 10 points and grabbing 4 rebounds. Coming off a good rookie season, a knee injury and then a sprained ankle limited her to only two games in first term. Frustrated with her time spent off the court, Euloth admitted her shooting was a bit rusty, but that during the game she "felt better on the court...and was starting to come around."

The Tigers obviously had a hard time getting up for the Huskies but their next matchup, against 8-5 UNB, should be easier to get excited for. The win would put the Tigers in first place atop the AUAA.

"It's tough to win in New Brunswick," explains Hutchinson, "and it's a four-point game [because it's out of province.] It's hugely important for us."



Jody Euloth looks for a pass last Tuesday in Dal's 63-56 win over the Huskies.

DANIELLE BOUDREAU

# Volleyball stumbles past Axettes

BY NATALIE MACLELLAN

The Dalhousie women's volleyball team travelled to Acadia Saturday afternoon to take on the 8th place Axettes. What should have been an easy game for the Tigers turned into a struggle, as Acadia decided they weren't going down without a fight. All five sets were played before Dal managed a 3-2 win.

Dalhousie won the first two sets 15-11, 15-11, and were comfortably poised for a three game

sweep — perhaps too comfortably. The next two sets saw the Tigers running all over the court, struggling just to keep up. They fell to the Axettes 2-15 and 8-15.

The match went to a final "ping-pong" set to break the tie. Dal, getting on the scoreboard first, seemed to regain a bit of their lost poise and to the disappointment of the Acadia fans, they won the set 15-11.

The Tigers were playing without starting setter Michelle AuCoin, who was reported to be suffering

from a back problem at last weekend's Dal Classic tournament. They were relying on the versatility of hitters Cara MacKenzie and Alicia MacFarlane to cover her position.

"We ran a simple offense to get Cara and Alicia some passes," said coach Leslie Irie. "Everyone helped out in terms of controlling and keeping our composure."

Also absent from the court for the third week in a row was Kia Johanssen.

Dalhousie will be at home to UNB this weekend at the Dalplex.

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Saint Mary's	6	6	930	940	18
UNB	6	6	937	938	14
Cape Breton	4	8	998	1039	10
Acadia	3	10	960	995	8
UPEI	2	10	928	1046	6

	Women				
	W	L	F	A	Pts
St. F.X.	8	3	836	636	24
Dalhousie	9	4	798	787	24
UNB	8	5	893	863	24
Memorial	8	4	783	736	20
UPEI	8	6	980	921	18
Acadia	5	8	777	832	14
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