Carrie Fair keeps on truckin'

Sports

BY ROSS CHAPMAN

On July 9, 1999, at 10:30 a.m. in Tent city, Yukon Territory, Carrie Fair, a member of the Dalhousie Tigers women's basketball team, was attacked and mauled by a grizzly bear.

The bear, presumably unable to find food in the wild due to a rash of recent forest fires in the area, was forced to search dangerously close to the community in Dawson City. Officials site this as the probable cause of the attack, as there was no provocation by Fair.

On November 5, 1999, A ceremony was held for Fair prior to one of her former team's games. She was awarded a cheque for \$2000 to help pay for travel expenses — her parents had to fly to Vancouver to be with her for the six weeks she spent in the hospital following the attack — and other related medical costs. The donation came courtesy of Dalhousie University and the Referee Association.

In a short interview with the Gazette, Fair gave some vivid details of the assault.

"A friend and I were just walking around that morning.

In fact we had just left our tent, when this big bear just came over the hill and headed straight for us. I didn't know what to do. I just froze," she explained. "It was the sort of thing you read about in magazines. Not something that you think actually happens...it was the most scared I have ever been in my life."

Injured and in shock, Fair was rushed to hospital where doctors assessed her condition.

Her injuries were so severe that at one point it was feared that one of her legs may have to be amputated. However, following one of several operations, Carrie was able to regain some feeling in her toes, convincing the physicians that her limb could be saved. She still requires a brace on her leg as part of her long and painful road to recovery.

Hopefully her team will have number seven back on the court with them soon. But for now, there's still a long way to go for Carrie. Considering her positive attitude and the support of her friends and family, the speed of her recovery is sure to surprise.

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Tigers sweep Reds Men's Volleyball improves to 4-0

BY MIKE HARTLEY

After starting the season 3-0, the Tigers faced their biggest challenge to date. In a rematch of last year's AUAA championship, the University of New Brunswick Varsity Reds came to Halifax with something to prove.

The home team worked over the Reds, taking all five sets in front of 200 less-than enthusiastic fans.

"The match was never really in doubt," team captain Dave Cox said afterwards. "We didn't want to let them think that they could get a set off us."

Aaron Nutting was the player of the match and was deadly-accurate with his spin serve, recording four aces.

Overall, Dal's serving has improved from earlier in the season, when it was sub-par.

Nutting warned that "with the number of jump servers we have on this team, there are going to be times where we can dominate from behind the serving line, but there are also times where it can get ugly."

Chris Wolfenden continued his steady play with an unspectacular 17 kill and 11 dig performance. Ryan Andrews, fresh off of his one-year hiatus, continued to hit the ball well for the Black and Gold, recording 16 kills. Eastern Shore's Josh Muise continued to impress this season.

Even though the scores — 25-20, 25-19, 25-19, 25-19 and 25-19 — may have dictated that the match was close, it wasn't. It is an unfortunate fact of life for the Tigers that they dominate what is by far the weakest division in CIAU volleyball.

"This lack of intensity during the regular season can hurt us later on in the big games," said the team's sport psychiatric consultant, Colin Guthrie after the win. "You look at teams that come from out west who are playing big games every week. Those guys are used playing in intense matches, something we don't get all the time in the AUAA."

Next weekend the Tigers go on the road to the Sherbroke Vert et Or Tournament. The Tigers landed themselves in a tough pool with Laval and Montreal. This will be the competition the boys need to see what they are really made of. This will also mark the first real test for rookie middle Sean Wormsbecker. He has been thrown into the fire because of the sudden departure of team leader Scott Bishop and the rotator cuff injury suffered by Bruce Carruthers. Wormsbecker, 19, has shown signs that he will be a very good asset to the Dal team. On the other hand, he is still a rookie, and makes the "rookie mistakes" that teams like Laval, Montreal and Sherbroke will exploit.

The Tigers aren't back in action at home until the New Year at the annual Dalhousie Volleyball Classic. The event will run from January 21 to 23.

Dal in second at ECWC

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The Eastern Canadian Wrestling Championships were held at UNB this past weekend and the Dalhousie was keen to put on a good show. The event ended up being the team's best performance in the last four years. Dal finished second overall behind UNB. Two or three more wins would have tipped the balance in favour of the visitors from Halifax.

Dal's best athlete of the meet was Brett Leblanc, who dominated the heavyweight division to win gold. He will be competing in Olympic Trials in three weeks and is expected to do

Dalhousie Coach, Scott
Aldridge, placed second in the
90kg class, showing that an old
guy can still kick ass. Scott
Malcolm showed some of his best
wrestling with a hard-earned
fourth place finish. Malcom's
victory is quite substantial as his
pursuit of a Medical Degree has
limited him to three practises all
term. Benji Parks, a veteran of the
Dal squad, placed third in his

weight class. In his last year of competition, Logan Ward placed third, missing second by only two points.

Newcomers Norm Nahas and Taryn Deering also showed excellent skills this past weekend. Nahas garnered a bronze medal at his first tournament in the heavyweight juniors division. Deering placed fifth.

Rookie Rob Doyle finished fifth out of 24 wrestlers in his weight class. American Andrew Ward placed fifth in the 90kg division.

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CIAU qualifiers lead Tigers

BY SCOTT SANCTON

The Dalhousie Tigers swimming teams continued their dominance in the AUAA this past weekend. At the Annual AUAA Invitational held at Dalplex, both the men and women's teams picked up convincing wins over UNB, Mount Allison University, and Memorial University.

The Tigers qualified four athletes for nationals and Dalhousie now has a team of eight women and one lone male to send to the CIAU Championships. Although at mid-season, the Tigers hope to add to the growing list. New qualifiers include Lindsay Eller in the 50m freestyle event, Amber Mather making the cut in the 200m butterfly, and Caitlin Peterson in the 200m backstroke. Peterson also won the 100m backstroke. Another multiple winner was Sandi MacLean, who swept the breaststroke events and also took top spot in the 200m butterfly. McLean rewrote the history books as she set two new Dal records in the 100 and 200m breaststroke

Other CIAU qualifiers also

helped lead the way to victory. Co-Captain Angela MacAlpine won the 400m freestyle as well as the 50m butterfly. Fourth year veteran, Amy Woodworth, turned the hat trick, winning the 200 IM, 800 freestyle, and 400m IM. Rookie Gail Whittaker took the 50m backstroke.

On the men's side, lone CIAU qualifier, Chris Stewart, had three top finishes. Stewart won the 200 IM, 100 backstroke, and broke his own Dal record en-route to a win in the 50m breaststroke. Supporting Stewart with first place finishes were Oscar Stachowiak in the 200 and 400m freestyle events, Mike Lockett in the 50 and 100m butterfly, and Rob Harrison's win in the 50m freestyle.

Now at mid-season, the Tigers will split up the coming weekend with half of the team set to compete at the Ontario Senior Championships and the rest staying home to either compete at the Dartmouth Invitational or to take a well deserved rest.

The Tigers' next home meet will be held at 5:30 p.m. on December 3 against the Eastern Alliance Swim Team.