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3rd annual sports festival a big success

(Ed's note: Joel Jacobson is Manager of Marketing and Public Relations of the Dalplex. He was also Sports Editor of the Gazette in 1960-61 and '62-63.)

by Joel Jacobson

There was competition. There was fun. There was noise. There was colour. There was even some athletic ability.

There was the Third Annual President's Sports Festival. The scene was Dalplex. The

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scene was Studley Field. The Festival brought together 20 teams from all areas of Dalhousie's campus in friendly competition in events as varied as a road race, a flutterboard swim relay and a cannonball competition to a bike race and wheelchair obstacle course.

When the dust had cleared, the Swim Team retained its title (won last year) by topping SAHPER (the winner in year one) by 14.5 points. Commerce was third

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another 11.5 points back.

But the spirit was the main thrust. In the first Festival, six teams answered the starting gun. Last year, the count reached 14 and this time around, 20 teams arrived for opening ceremonies. That's more than 200 students, faculty and staff in all sorts of attire, 200 different shapes (some great, others just good and none less than all right) but with tons of enthusiasm.



Neat but never natty, President MacKay in action at the sports festival this weekend.

More than 20 volunteers were recruited by the Campus Recreation Office to officiate and had the events moving more efficiently than ever before.

SAHPER, with lungs like leather, won the Team Spirit Award. Their enthusiasm was infectious, particularly in the Saturday field house events when no more than a few minutes went by without a boisterous, coordinated cheer.

Pharmacy, last year's Spirit winner, was runner-up this time while Clash, Cameron/Shirreff and the Pres' Corps (President's Office) were also considered for the award. The latter team boasted President Andrew MacKay, Vice President Robbie Shaw, Vice President David Cameron and a strong support staff among its combatants.

A special "Keener's" Award was claimed by the Information Office whose cheering, costume design and fan participation were only underscored by athletic prowess shown in a 16th place finish. It was gratifying to the organizers to see so many staff persons in the competition from the Information Office, A/V Services, President's Office, Dental Clinic and Dalplex.

Nila Ipson, Coordinator of Campus Recreation, has words of praise for everyone participating. "The teams were great. Everything ran smoothly with no problems at all. The teams participated. There were no hassles. The officials were outstanding. They were organized and efficient. The Intramural Supervisor Heather Shute did all the coordinating of the event. She worked hard to put together interesting events and really deserves much of the credit."

For the record, the Swim Team had four firsts (innertube relay, flutterboard, novelty swim race and car push and pull). They added a second in bike race and high placings in several other events for a total of 253 points.

SAHPER won the three-legged race and basketball shoot and had seconds in novelty swim, over and under, wheelchair race and President's Strut for a total of 238.5.

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Full-speed killers top superstars volleyball tournament

by Andrew Lorimer

Dalhousie teams placed second and fourth in the 4th Annual Superstar Volleyball Tournament held Sunday at the Dalplex.

In the final the "Full-speed Killers" upset Dal's "Black" squad 30-21. Both teams fought a tough fight defensively but it was play at the net which was the deciding factor in the second half.

Full-speed Killers is the new, improved version of the Half-speed Killers, a local senior team comprised of Dal alumni. Original members are Cindy Moore, John MacGregor, John Cassidy, and Jamie Fraser. Karin Maesson and Karen Fraser, both starters for the Canadian Olympic team and former co-captains at Dalhousie, have joined the team, fresh from international play in Peru. Team captain Beth Maclean and husband Sandy completed the roster.

Meeting them in the final was the Dalhousie "Black" squad. Representing one third of Dalhousie's volleyball power, they were Terry Blanchard, Ria MacGillivray, and Orville Dunn (all first year) and Bev Audet, Kathy Cox, Leander Turner and Jamie Naugler (all returning players).

Dalhousie started the tournament claiming three of the eight teams in the tournament - the Black, the White and the Gold. The Gold squad lost their first match to Full-speed but won their second to finish 6th. White won one and lost two to finish 4th overall and Black won its first two to advance to the finals.

As Lois MacGregor, coach of the women's team and co-organiser of the competition, explained, the Dal tournament is based on the "superstars" format originated in the U.S. Each team fields three men and three women in fixed positions. Play is divided into two ten-minute halves, in one of which the women play forward on a women's heighth net and in the other of which the men play forward on a men's heighth net. The idea behind this is to show the individual player's strengths and heighten the intensity of the competition.

Al Scott, Dalhousie's men's coach, said the tournament was set up mostly for the enjoyment and benefit of the players. The event is of value also as a season opener and introduces teams to intensely competitive play prior to the start of the AUAA season.

All around, the tournament was very much a success, exhibiting exciting, high-level performance,