

'97-'98 review: the year in varsity sports

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

The **men's basketball** Tigers had a shaky season, finishing in seventh place with a disappointing 7-13 record that was not reflective of the team's strength. Dal fared better at exhibitions — including a win at the prestigious Ryerson Tournament, where they went undefeated.

At the AUAU Championships, the Tigers posted a couple of major upsets to wind up in the final. They defeated second-ranked SMU 77-66 in overtime and third-ranked UCCB 70-60 before losing the Championship title 73-66 to top-ranked Acadia.

Brian Parker was Tournament MVP and named an AUAU First Team All-Star, but was not selected as the AUBC's MVP, raising questions about conference politics. Parker, who played out his eligibility this year, was selected an All-Canadian for the third-consecutive year as he was named to the Second Team.

The young **women's basketball** team opened their year with two impressive back-to-back exhibition wins over Acadia and UNB before settling into their season. They finished at 9-11-0 and in sixth place of the AUBC.



In AUAU Championship play, the Tigers defeated third-ranked SMU before losing 59-62 to Memorial in semi-final action. Angelia Crealock was the AUAU Rookie of the Year.

The team loses Alana Coffin and Angela Thistle to graduation this year.

Dal's **men's cross country** team had a strong season, finishing a close second to Memorial in the AUAU Championships. Scott Simpson was the AUAU's Rookie of the Year and was named to the All-Star team along with Jamie Blanchard and Trevor Boudreau.

The team finished 11th overall at the national championships and will be losing Chris Evers, Pat McGrath and co-captains Boudreau and Tim Lindsay this season.

Kristen Lewis had an impressive first season with the **women's cross country** team as she was undefeated in AUAU competition, leading Dal to an easy first-place finish. She earned Rookie of the Year and Athlete of the Year awards, and was named to the AUAU All-Star team along with Kelly MacKean, Julie Thornton, Amy Higgins and Dal captain Jessica Fraser. Long-time head coach Al Yarr was the AUAU's

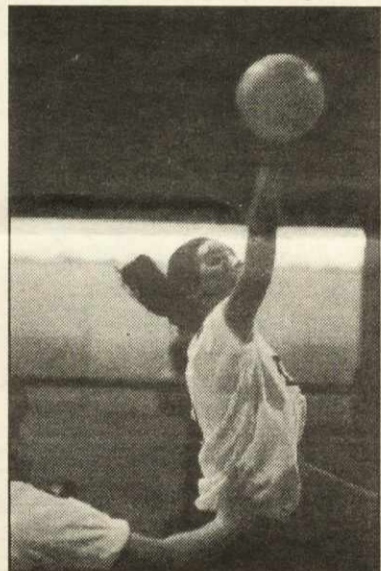
Coach of the Year.

The Tigers finished in 14th place overall at the national championships. Fraser has used up all her eligibility and will be Dal's only loss.

The **hockey** Tigers lacked consistency throughout the season, yet their fits of inspiration showed that they could take on any team in the AUHC. They finished their season at 11-16-1 in third place of the Kelly Division, a result which reflected neither their strength nor their depth. Defending Kelly champions Acadia swept Dal 2-0 (4-0, 2-1) in the playoffs to ensure that the championship banner remained a midsummer night's dream for the Tigers.

Martin LaPointe was named both an AUAU All-Star and a CIAU All-Canadian, and he will once again represent Canada in the World University Championship. He was a member of the Kelly Division Tim Horton's Cup All-Star team along with teammates Chad Kalmakoff, Jan Melichercik and Ted Naylor. Mark Alexander captured the AUAU's prestigious Dr. Bill Godfrey Award for outstanding achievement in athletics, academics and community service.

Jody Shelley left the Tigers at



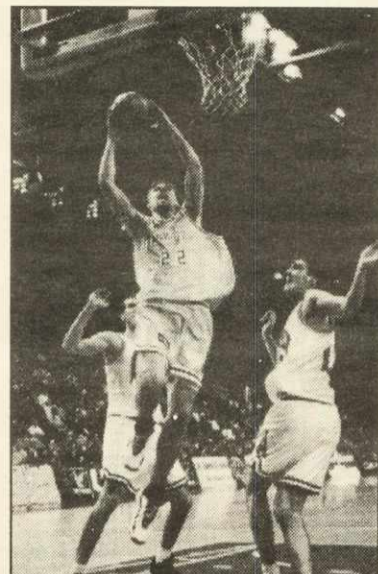
the end of the season and is currently playing for the AHL's St. John Flames. As well as Alexander and Naylor, Dal will also be losing Tim Hill, Luke Naylor, Pat Russell, Richard Ujvary and Marc Warner to graduation.

Men's soccer finished second behind St.FX in the Eastern Division with an 8-3-2 record. The team swept competition at AUAUs, including a 2-0 shutout of Western Division winners UPEI, who failed to show any class in semi-final action as they resorted to shouting racist remarks which prompted a brawl. Dal kept their respective tempers in check and went on to beat St.FX in double overtime to bring the Championship banner home and *earn* their place at CIAUs. Co-captains Marc Rainford and Paul English were named to the All-Star team while Tomas Ernst took Rookie of the Year honours. English was also named the AUAU Tournament MVP.

Dal hosted CIAUs at Wickwire Field and bombed nationally second-ranked Western 4-0 in their opener. The Tigers fell 1-0 to UBC to wind up in the bronze medal game and beat York 2-0 for third place. Rainford, English and newcomer Stuart Cochran were

named to the CIAU Tournament All-Star team. English was the Tournament MVP and was named a First Team All-Canadian.

Next season, the team will be without Rainford, Cochran, Dave MacFarlane, Richie Tobin and Tim Maloney.



Despite a young team that included a new coach (Dara Moore), ten rookies and started off with a loss, **women's soccer** pulled together to go undefeated in their last seven games, finishing first in their division with a 10-2-1 record. The team went undefeated in AUAU Championship play, beating Memorial 4-1 to be crowned AUAU Champions. Freshman Mary-Beth Bowie's incredible scoring touch earned her Rookie of the Year honours as she scored 10 of the Tigers' 30 season goals, while Amy Harding and captain Andrea Gillespie were named to the All-Star team.

At the CIAU tournament, the Tigers fell 3-1 to Ottawa and tied hosts Laval at 1-1 to finish out of medal contention. Bowie was named the CIAU Rookie of the Year, a Tournament All-Star and a First Team All-Canadian.

The Tigers are losing Harding, Carolyn Campbell, Sue Hunter and Tara MacNeil to graduation.

The **men's swimming** team combined a solid core of veterans with a handful of promising rookies to have a strong showing at the AUAUs after a good season. 54 of the team's 62 individual swims were personal and/or lifetime bests. Chris Stewart was the AUAU's Rookie of the Year and was named to the All-Star team with teammates Stuart Kemp, Mike Ritcey and Steve Indig. All four swimmers qualified for CIAUs. Long-time head coach Nigel Kemp was honoured with the CIAU Swim Coaches Association's Distinguished Coaching Award.

At the CIAUs, Stewart led the Tigers to a 15th-place finish, including a new AUAU record for the 50m breaststroke (29.87).

The **women's swimming** team had another strong season, showing well at all meets. At the AUAU Championships, 54 of Dal's 70 individual swims were season and/or lifetime bests. The team finished second overall with seven individual titles and one relay (800m freestyle) title. Sarah Woodworth was the AUAU's Female Swimmer of the Year and was named to the All-Star team along with teammates Lindsay Eller, Megan Hannam, Angela MacAlpine, Gail Seipp and Amy

Woodworth. All qualified for the CIAU Championships. Nigel Kemp was the AUAU Women's Coach of the Year.

At CIAUs, Sarah Woodworth once again led the Tigers to an overall 11th-place finish. Most notably, Woodworth combined



with sister Amy, MacAlpine and Eller to set new AUAU records in the 400m and 800m freestyle relays (3:58.69 and 8:35.14, respectively).

After an incredible performance at AUAUs where the team finished first in 11 of 15 events, the **men's track and field** team had a good showing at the CIAU Championships. The 4x800m relay team of sophomores Scott Fowler, Matt Richardson, Jamie Blanchard and Richard Menzies granted Dal its first ever national relay medal. Sprinter Mike Manuel was the AUAU's Rookie of the Year.

The young **women's track and field** Tigers faced little competition from AUAU rivals SMU and Moncton. Veteran Terri Baker contributed an extraordinary 30 points in both track and field events to be named the AUAU's Tournament MVP.

The Tigers lost Baker and Jessica Fraser at the end of the season.

The **men's volleyball** team remained relatively intact for the '97-'98 season, and started off strong with a couple of exhibition wins including a first-place finish at the Sherbrooke Tournoi Vert et Or. Despite a couple of season upsets by UNB, Dal went on to win their 17th consecutive AUAU title. Team captain John Hobin, Terry Martin, Jason Trepanier and rookie Chris Wolfenden were named to the All-Star team. Hobin was the Tournament MVP and the AUAU TSN Award nominee, while Martin shared AUAU MVP honours with UNB's Darcy Harris.

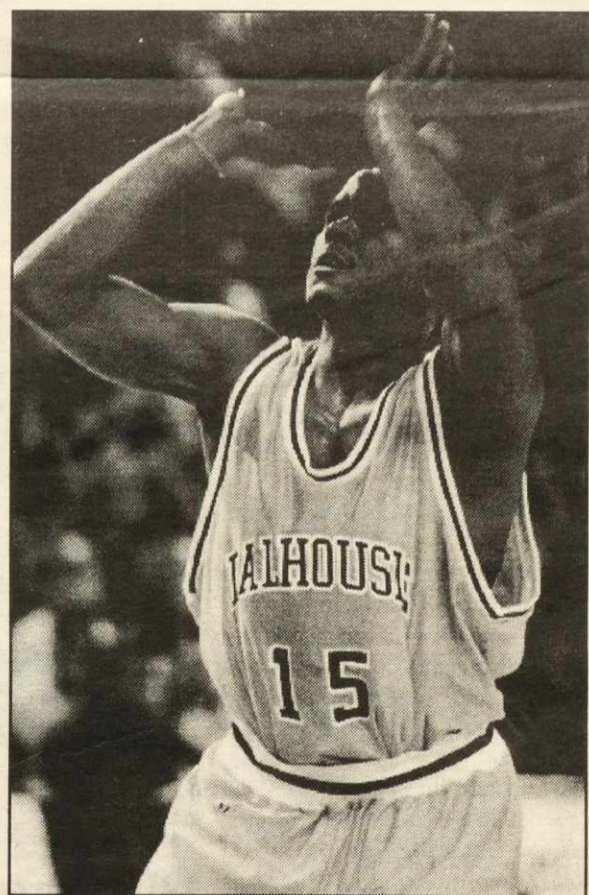
At the CIAU Championships,

Dal fell to Saskatchewan in the first round and lost all chances of advancing to the gold medal final. The team swept Sherbrooke and Western to win the consolation final for fifth place. Martin was named to the Tournament All-Star team and was selected a First



Team All-Canadian for the second consecutive year. Trepanier received an All-Canadian Honourable Mention.

The **women's volleyball** team combined a solid core of returning starters with a promising group of rookies — including head coach Lori Welsh-Hawley — to finish at the top of their league with a 17-1 (52-6) record. Dal then went on to win the AUAU Championship banner, despite losing team captain Jen



Parke early in the final.

AUAU All-Stars for the Tigers were Michelle Aucoin (First Team) and Cara MacKenzie (Second Team). MacKenzie was the AUAU Playoff MVP and was the AUAU's TSN Award nominee. Parkes was the AUVC's MVP.

The team had a poor showing at the CIAU Championships, where they were swept in all their matches to finish eighth, a result which was not indicative of the team's capabilities.

The Tigers are losing their entire starting line-up of Parkes, MacKenzie, Aucoin, Denise Chapman, Melanie Hopper and Alicia MacFarlane.