



Women's volleyball starts season with a loss

Rebuilding Tigers vow to be competitive

BY NATALIE MACLELLAN

The Dalhousie women's volleyball team suffered a disappointing loss to the Université de Moncton's Anges Bleues in their season opener Thursday evening.

The Tigers lost the match against the Anges Bleues at Dalplex in three straight games: 15-7, 15-10 and 15-7.

"[It was] a disappointing start for the season," said coach Christine Frail. "Moncton played a very tough match and I think we were nervous about it being the first game of the season and starting off [so tough]. We just weren't able to put anything together — it was very up and down."

Moncton finished in second place in the AUAA's last season,

taking the Tigers to five games in the finals before they were defeated.

After losing the first game Thursday, and down 13-0 in the second, Dal managed to temporarily fight back to 13-10. But

"We have a lot of things to work on, but we're still going to be a competitive team. There's a lot of promise there, a lot of potential."

they didn't have it in them to close the game, and they lost 15-10.

"It was a good comeback. I think if we had won that second game it would have turned things around for us," said Frail. "But we just dug ourselves into a hole after

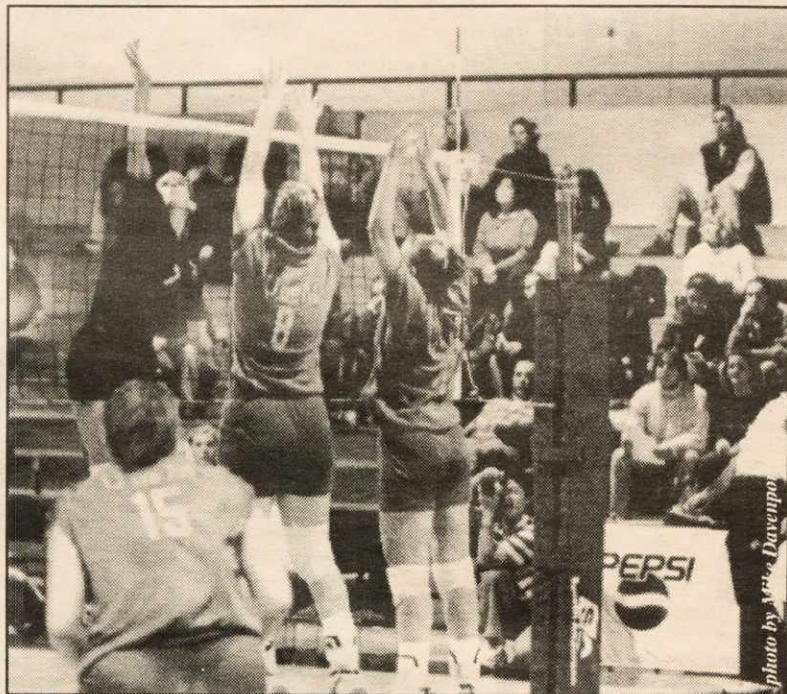
that and couldn't come back."

Tiger Melanie Hanson had an impressive match with 11 kills, 6 digs and 1 ace — more impressive as she was recovering from the flu and hadn't played in five days.

The Tigers ended last season with an eighth place finish at the CIAU National Championships. But they have lost all six members of their 1997-98 starting line-up to graduation.

It's a rebuilding year, but Frail is optimistic.

"It was only the first match. We have a lot of things to work on, but we're still going to be a competitive team. There's a lot of promise there, a lot of potential."



Dal women's volleyball struggle against les Anges Bleues.

Women's soccer team set for CIAU tournament

BY TERRY HAWES

The Dalhousie women's soccer team will seek its first national title since 1994 in Victoria, British Columbia at this year's CIAU Championships.

In total, six teams from across Canada will play in the tournament. These teams will be divided into two pools of three with the pool winners meeting for the Canadian Championship on Nov. 15.

Dalhousie won their fifth AUAA championship in six years with a 2-0 victory over the

Memorial Sea-Hawks on Nov. 1. They will be seeking their second national championship — their first was won in BC in 1994.

The Tigers stole the AUAA title, after a tough regular season, on the strength of goalkeeper Malin Wester, a 24 year old exchange student from Umea, Sweden. Wester's stellar play also garnered her the AUAA tournament MVP award. This was even more remarkable, considering she had not played competitive soccer for two years until she came to Halifax this fall

— choosing Dalhousie over other the Universities of Calgary and Saskatchewan.



Malin Wester

has benefitted me and got me ready for any action if necessary."

Wester came to school "a little out of shape" and admitted that "there are a number of practices every week but [the AUAA tournament]

Her statistics from that tournament are mind-boggling — only two goals allowed in five games, including the quarterfinal and semifinal games which went to extra time.

Wester also did the job on penalty kicks, stopping three of four shots by St. FX in the semifinal leading the team to victory.

"I like facing penalties," she said. "If it comes down to penalties again it's not as if I was not tested in the past."

If Wester continues her heroics in BC and manages to lead the Tigers to the championship, the adversity the team went through this season would make it all the more 'Swede'-er.

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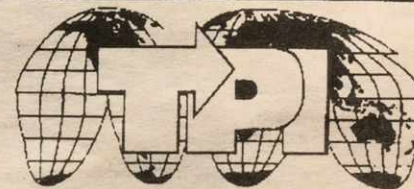
Dalhousie Athletics Upcoming Events

Men's Volleyball

Thursday, Nov. 12 Dal vs Memorial 7pm @ Dalplex
Friday, Nov. 13 Dal vs Memorial 7pm @ Dalplex

Women's Volleyball

Saturday, Nov. 14 Dal vs Mt. Allison 4pm @ Dalplex



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