

Acadia brawl leads to suspensions

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

The Acadia Axemen were quite literally out for blood in Wolfville last Sunday night as they hammered the Tigers 9-3 in the season's last meeting between the two teams.

The game was physical throughout, but unlike previous games, tempers got out of control. A third-period shoving match between Martin LaPointe and Craig Wright escalated when Acadia's Mike Dawson dropped his gloves by the bench and skated to assist his teammate.

Finding no crack through which to throw a punch at LaPointe, the Axeman winger skated towards Dal goaltender Neil Savary and taunted him for a good five minutes before the latter dropped his gloves, much to the delight of the Acadia crowd. The two players drifted towards the blue-line before any punches were exchanged. Tiger captain David Haynes tried to intervene, but ended up dragging the linesman who had attempted to restrain him around the ice.

Referee Willie Murphy liberally handed out suspensions under this year's AUSA "no-tolerance" policy. Savary and Haynes received three and five-game sus-

pensions, for fighting and for abuse of an official respectively. LaPointe picked up a single-game suspension for fighting. Dawson was suspended indefinitely, while Wright will sit out for one game.

The Tigers were down 1-0 going into the second period. The Axemen scored three more goals (two short-handed and one on a power play) before Fred Corkum was subbed in for Savary.

Acadia were up 6-0 when David Carson scored for the Tigers. Kevin Tucker netted another one for the Axemen before Luke Naylor tipped the puck in from the slot on a pass from LaPointe.

Jason Weaver made the score 8-2 for the home team before the third-period ugliness. Once play had resumed, Axeman Greg Clancy weaved past Dal's defence and fired a shot on goal. Corkum made the pad save, but Weaver scored off the rebound. Naylor added another goal for the Tigers before the game was over.

The Tigers dropped two other games this past week. Last Wednesday Dal gave the Saint Mary's Huskies their first win in seventeen starts when the "boys down the road" took the game 4-3. The following night, the St. FX X-Men subjected the Tigers to a 6-1 humiliation at Memorial

Arena.

Dal has played a gruelling eleven games since the beginning of the term and the past three weeks were bound to set in eventually.

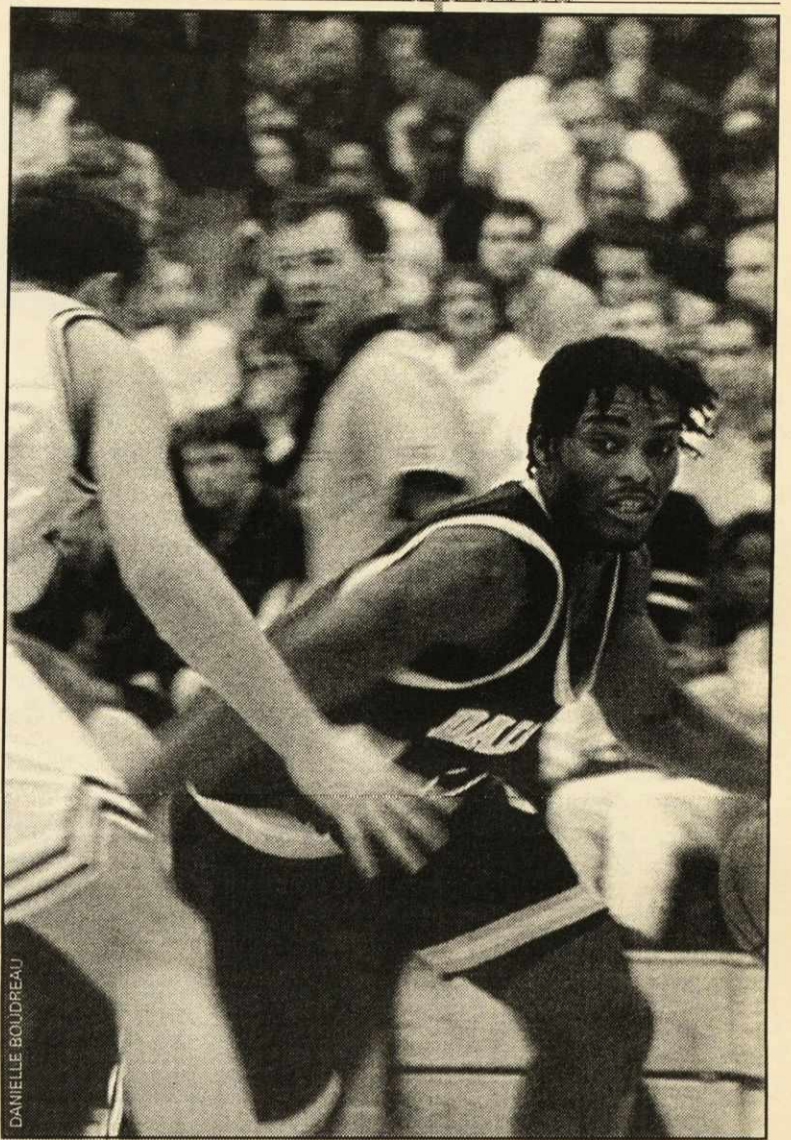
"For some of us, this was the fourth game in five nights, so maybe some of us are feeling the effects of that," commented forward Ted Naylor. He went on, "But that's no excuse really. We have to have a big effort each time we get on the ice."

The Naylor brothers are the only two players who have managed to escape injury this term. As coach Darrell Young pointed out:

"Eighty per cent of our team have been injured over the past few weeks and the flu has taken its toll on everyone. The main thing right now is to get everyone back [in the line-up] healthy."

"We had a few emotional games earlier this term in that we beat Acadia twice in one week which took its toll on us because we're not a very big team. Right now, we have a few leaks on the ship but as soon as we patch those leaks up, we should be sailing smoothly."

Despite the suspensions of Dal's captain, assistant captain and primary goaltender, the Tiger ship has most definitely not sunk yet.



Dal player works the ball into SMU defense. The Huskie's beat Dal for the first time in three years, 80-77

Basketball falls to SMU

BY TRACEY MAJOR

The Dalhousie Tigers hadn't lost to the Huskies in three years of AUSA play, until last Tuesday.

Ray Fountain blocked well, Sean Plancke rebounded, and Bryan Parker scored "pretty", but the Huskies still won 80-77, holding the lead for 98% of the game.

Dal, down by ten, came back in the last six minutes and threatened to steal the game. Plancke and Parker started to team up and score; they were followed by Fountain, Stanleigh Mitchell and Darryl Baptiste. However, SMU favourites Jason Medford, Jonah Taussig and Derek Hurdle came back with baskets of their own. The game was like a see-saw.

Then Baptiste went down with one minute left in the game. It was a scary moment for Dal fans, but he only had a cramp and was back on the court soon after.

With 35 seconds left in the game Parker hit a three-pointer and brought Dal to within one. A Tiger foul gave SMU another two points from the line, but Dal couldn't close the gap.

"I don't think that the team was bonding," said Fountain of their performance. Dal outrebounded SMU, but had twice as many turnovers.

Of little help was the play from the bench. No one outside of Dal's starting five scored any points.

Coach McGarrigle was, "not too happy," with the guys' performance. He felt the team had "poor execution" and "needs to work on their consistency."

"We didn't play a complete game. We only played hard for a

few minutes," said Parker after the match, although he had an excellent game, scoring 25 points and making some awesome "in your face" baskets.

SMU's Medford was named Player of the Game and along with the rest of the Huskies seemed very excited about the win.

The Tigers are looking forward

to the AUSA championship tournament.

"That's where it really counts," said Fountain. "We should definitely have our act together by then."

The Tigers' next game is against UNB. Let's wish them luck and be at their next home game against Acadia on February 11 to cheer them on.

Track kicks off season

BY DAN HENNIGAR

Terri Baker extended her winning streak last weekend claiming the 300m titles at track meets at the University of Toronto and York University. At U of T, Baker covered the distance one and a half seconds faster than her nearest competitor — a remarkable margin in an event usually decided by only tenths or even hundredths of a second. She was also a part of Dalhousie's gold medal-winning 4 x 400m team and silver medal-winning 4 x 200m team.

The Dalhousie men's 4 x 800m team also dominated their event last weekend. At the U of T Track Meet, the team traded the lead with na-

tionally fifth-ranked Queens for sixteen laps before Dal's rookie sensation Richard Menzies unleashed his trademark kick to come from behind with only 50m remaining and claim first place. The following day at York, the team ran away from all competitors early and cruised to an easy victory.

Other strong performances were turned in by Jason Paris, who placed sixth in the 600m at U of T; by Menzies, who won the 600m at York; and by sprinter Nick Soh, who managed to make it to the final in the highly competitive 60m with a weekend best of 7.22 seconds.

Dalhousie's next meet will be Saturday Feb. 8th at the University of Moncton.

this week's games:

Friday, February 7

Track and Field @ UdeM (until Saturday)

Saturday, February 8

Volleyball(m) vs. UNB, 4 p.m. @ Dalplex
 Volleyball(w) vs. UNB, 6 p.m. @ Dalplex
 Hockey vs. UNB, 7 p.m. @ Memorial Arena
 Basketball(w) @ UNB, 6:30 p.m.
 Basketball(m) @ UNB, 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 9

Volleyball(m) vs. UNB, 12 p.m. @ Dalplex
 Volleyball(w) vs. UNB, 2 p.m. @ Dalplex
 Hockey vs. Mount Allison, 2 p.m. @ Memorial Arena

Tuesday, February 11

Basketball(w) vs. Acadia, 6 p.m. @ Dalplex
 Basketball(m) vs. Acadia, 8 p.m. @ Dalplex

Wednesday, February 12

Volleyball(w) @ SMU, 12 p.m.

If you have an event that needs posting, call the Gazette at 494-2507 and ask for Aaron, Sports Editor and all-round nice guy. Really.