# **Cross-country AUAA** win

# Dal men overcome obstacles

BY JESS FRASER

When the Dalhousie cross-country team rose to coach Al Yarr's personal wake-up call on the morning of the AUAA championships in Moncton, they eagerly hauled open their drapes in anticipation of a glorious race day.

Instantaneously, their hearts sank.

They felt the chill of the winter wind and the driving rain. Such an obstacle, however, was quickly overcome. After all, the elements could only add excitement to the much criticized, monotonous, Université de Moncton course.

The day's strategy? Go out ahead and stay there. Dal had only raced Memorial University (MUN) once this year, where the men's team lost by a minute margin of points. Coach Al Yarr believed this new strategy was the only method to reverse the previous result.

After 500 meters, six black and gold Tigers made up the leading pack. Trailing about 3 meters behind was Memorial's six-man pack. Already, it was clear that this was going to be one of the closest races in AUAA history.

By the second lap of the four lap/10 kilometre course, most had found their "comfort" zones ("Comfort" might be too passive when describing the physical and mental demands being put upon their bodies at the time.). Dan Hennigar's 5'6 figure was tactically lined up just behind MUN's Scott Young, a solid 6'3 wind and sleet breaker. Chris Halfyard was smoothly keeping his ground 15 meters behind Hennigar and Young, who were well ahead of

the rest of the field.

Coming into the third lap, tension among Dalhousie spectators increased, while cheering levels became deafening. Dan Hennigar cruised by once again, and calmly asked a fellow female teammate, "How are we doing?"

One reassuring fact: Hennigar clearly had some steam left.

Sure enough, 500 meters into the fourth lap, Hennigar's legs had the turnover of a 100 meter sprinter, and he'd already put 50 meters between himself and Young. Dalhousie's Tony Roach and Tim Lindsay soon followed, pushing alongside MUN. It was clearly necessary that Trevor Boudreau and Oliver Jansen outkick the pack on their trail.

As the delirious men collapsed in the finish shoot, the word was passed along that the score was tied. Moments later, the men gathered to de-paralyze their frozen jaws. As race stories were slurred among them, word arrived that they'd won by 2 points. The final word? Dalhousie 37. Memorial 40. Fear not! In cross country, the lowest score wins.

Coach Yarr was clearly ecstatic with the double titles, as he was seen on a few occasions jumping for joy. In his moment of glory, he informed the teams that "in my 33 years at Dalhousie, this is the best combined group of athletes, male and female, that I have ever coached. They're outstanding for both their physical and mental abilities."

Best of luck to both teams this weekend at the CIAU Championships in London, Ontario. Don't forget your tuques, mittens, and Sou'westers!

# **ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

### October 30 - November 5



Leahanne Turner — Women's soccer

Leahanne stopped four penalty shots in Dal's two AUAA Championships this past weekend. She was also named to the AUAA all-star team. Dal won their third straight AUAA title and will now compete in the CIAU's at Carleton.

#### Mark Ellis — Men's soccer

Mark scored two goals against UPEI, and the game winner vs. UNB in this past weekend's AUAA Championship games. Dal won their first title in three years and now go to the CIAU's in Trois Rivieres.





Dan Hennigar — Men's cross country

Dan won this past weekend's men's cross country AUAA Championship race in Moncton. He is the first Dal athlete to win the race in over 10 years. The men's team won the championship and compete in London in the CIAU's.

## **Follow the Tigers**

# Women outclass field

# Six runners place in Atlantic top ten

BY DAN HENNIGAR

A trip to London, Ontario to compete at this weekend's CIAU championships and the Dalhousie women's ten-year-old perfect record were both at stake at last weekend's AUAA Championships in Moncton, New Brunswick.

At each of the three meets this season, Dalhousie cross country had emerged undefeated, but each time it had been close. Dal's main competitor, the University of New Brunswick (UNB), had yet to field their full team and were optimistic that Dalhousie's ten year winning streak against AUAA schools might finally come to an end.

What they had not considered was Dalhousie's team spirit and their remarkable ability to run as a unit. Right from the starting line, the Dalhousie pack took control. By the first quarter-mile, the Tigers had utterly destroyed the competition.

The rest of the race just got better.

Cindy Foley, who, due to illness, had only been able to train for one week this season, ran with front runners Julie Dupuis of the Université de Moncton (UdeM) and Lisa Dunne (1994 AUAA champion) of St. Francis Xavier (St. FX). Foley finished in an amazing third place.

Jessica Fraser and Margie Jenkins led the main Dalhousie pack. Feeding off each other's energy and pushing themselves to their limits, Fraser and Jenkins put in one of the most courageous performances of the year.

Paula Peters also ran an impressive race. Peters started hard and finished harder, sprinting in to finish only one second behind Jenkins. The ever-improving Krista Wuerr had yet another great race as she came through to finish in eighth. Wuerr was named AUAA rookie of the year for her outstanding season.

Cindy Toner finished just behind in ninth spot, consolidating Dalhousie's hold on the top ten,

while rookie Sarah McNeill, in her best race ever, finished sixteenth.

In the end, Dalhousie had successfully placed six runners in the top ten positions, five of whom finished only fourteen seconds apart. This rare ability to run as a team and push each other past old limits was the single factor that brought Dalhousie from the regional level team they have been all year to the national level team they have now become.

The final score was not even close. Dalhousie finished with 29 points, UNB had 53, while St. F.X. (73) and UdeM (88) finished well behind.

Dalhousie's next competition will be this weekend at what will be by far the largest and toughest ever CIAU championships. The meet will be held in London, Ontario on Saturday, November 11. While it is unlikely that Dalhousie will medal, the team is looking forward to testing their newfound strengths against the nation's best.

Good Luck to all the Tigers!

# **CROSS-COUNTRY RESULTS**

## Womens individual results:

Place	Name	University	Time
1	Julie Dupuis	UdeM	18:35
2	Lisa Dunn	St.F	18:52
3	Cindy Fowley	Dal	19:00
4	Jennifer Philips	UNB	19:13
5	Jessica Fraser	Dal	19:25
6	Margie Jengin	Dal	19:31
7	Paula Peters	Dal	19:32
8	Christa Werr	Dal	19:37
9	Cindy Toner	Dal	19:39
10	Joanne Buttler	Mun	19:43

### Womens team results:

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Place	University	Points total
1	Dalhousie	29
2	UNB	53
3	St. FX	73
4	UdeM	88

#### Mens individual results:

Place	Name	University	Time
1	Dan Hennigar	Dal	32:06
2	Scott Young	Mun	32:10
3	Chris Halfyard	Dal	32:19
4	James Murphy	UNB	32:47
5	Colin Fewer	MUN	32:53
6	Michel Boudreau	UdeM	33:16
7	Danny Whallen	MUN	33:29
8	Daniel Hipson	St.FX	33:37
9	Mathieu Gaudet	UdeM	33:44
10	Tony Roach	Dal	33:53

### Mens team results:

Place	University	Points total	
1	Dalhousie	37	
2	MUN	40	
3	UNB	68	
4	UdeM	86	

# Dalhousie strikes out

BY CARMEN TAM

Cold, wet, and windy describes the Dalhousie Baseball Club's weekend in Montréal at the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association (CIBA) National Championships.

Due to heavy rainfall, Saturday morning's game against the host team, McGill, was delayed for nine hours, as was the game originally scheduled for noon against Brock. That evening, Dalhousie, the only team to play two consecutive games on Saturday, lost their opening game to McGill 12-2.

Dalhousie started the game with four strong innings and were leading in the fifth on the strength of a home run by Craig Higgins and an RBI single from Chris Sperdakes before the wheels fell off.

In the next game, Dalhousie moved into a 2-0 lead in the first inning with two RBIs from Shawn Woodworth. Brock answered with two runs of their own in the bottom of the second inning. Dal doubled their score with an RBI single by Higgins and an error in the fourth. However, Brock opened up in the later innings and vanquished Dal 8-4.

"That was some of the best hitting we faced all year," said pitcher Matt Christian.

On Sunday, Dalhousie met Acadia in the consolation final. Even though the Axemen were several hours late, Dalhousie opted to play rather than win by forfeit.

When the game was finally underway, the players were treated to rain and a temperature hover-

ing around zero.

To ward off hypothermia, Acadia made a bonfire in the dugout. Before Dal could do the same, the game was called off due to darkness. Acadia was ahead by a score of 6-0; the Axemen were led by Shane Andrews, who had two RBIs in the second inning when they tallied five runs against Dal pitcher Eric Hemphill.

In the championship final, Laval catcher Jean Francois Bolduc snapped a 4-4 tie in the 9th inning with an RBI double, en route to defeating Brock 6-5.

The top performer for Dalhousie was Craig Higgins, who went 5 for 8 with in 3 doubles, 1 homerun and 2 RBIs. Teammate Shawn Woodworth went 4 for 7 with 2 doubles and 2 RBIs. As well, pitchers Dwayne Russell, Scott Stergeon, and Jerry Wetzel performed admirably.

"It is encouraging that a first-year team can go up against much longer running programs and place what I considered fifth nationally. Right now, we are trying to restructure our organization for the better so that we can come out even more productive next season," said club president Brian

The Dalhousie Baseball executive would like to thank the coaches, the members, and Shawn Fraser at the Dalplex for their assistance this season.

The club is currently accepting applications for the positions of head coach and assistant coaches for next year.

For more information, call 494-2049.