

sports

Dal athlete grabs gold in Commonwealth Games

by Carmen Tam

Dalhousie's Andrew Haley will be adding another achievement to his current resumé — a gold medal and a Commonwealth Games record from Victoria, B.C. He dedicated his performance to his late grandfather.

Haley, a third year commerce co-op student, won his only event, the 100-metre freestyle for disabled swimmers with a time of 1:03:07. Haley competed in the most competitive category, S-9. He also holds the Commonwealth Record (1:02:31) set last March at the Commonwealth time trials.

The brushcut 20 year old swimmer was greeted at the airport on his return from the Games by teammates

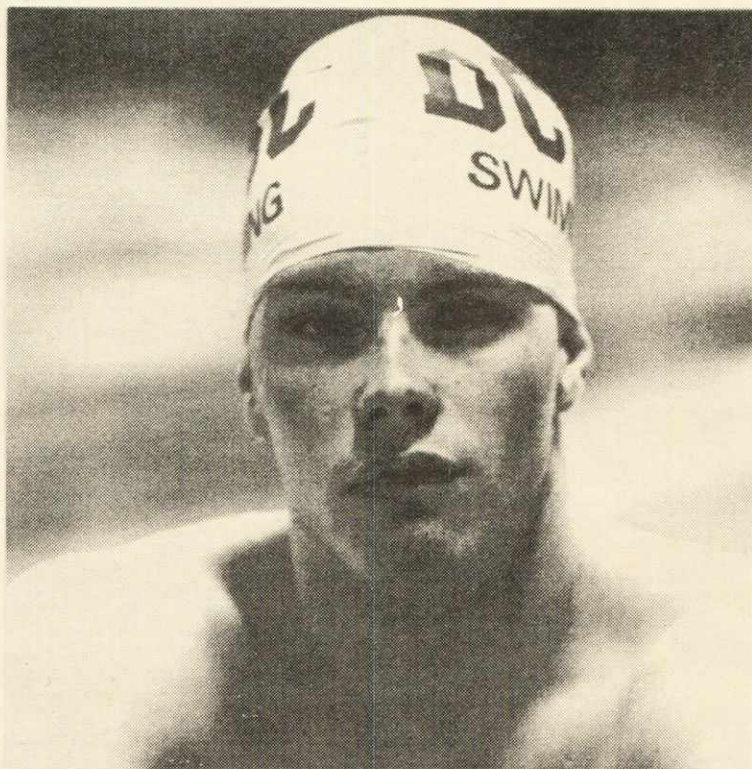
from the Dartmouth Crusaders Swim Club, his parents, and his twin brother, Brett. Haley's coach of three years, Bill Greenlaw, was also present. Haley credits his coach's great technical insight on his success.

"He (Greenlaw) knows his swimming. He know what an athlete needs to be better," said Haley.

Greenlaw praises Haley's work ethic: "Andrew is a very committed individual. He is dedicated and possess a strong desire to win."

Originally from Moncton, New Brunswick, Haley started swimming only five years ago. His swimming took off when the national coach at the time saw potential in Haley.

And he was right, in Haley's short career, he has already travelled ex-



tensively all over Canada, some parts of the States, collecting medals along the way. He went to Spain for the 1992 Paralympics where he captured a bronze in the 400-metre freestyle.

He alternates training between the Dartmouth Sportsplex and the Dalplex headed by Dalhousie Tigers Swim coach Nigel Kemp. Kemp was last season's AUAA Coach of the Year.

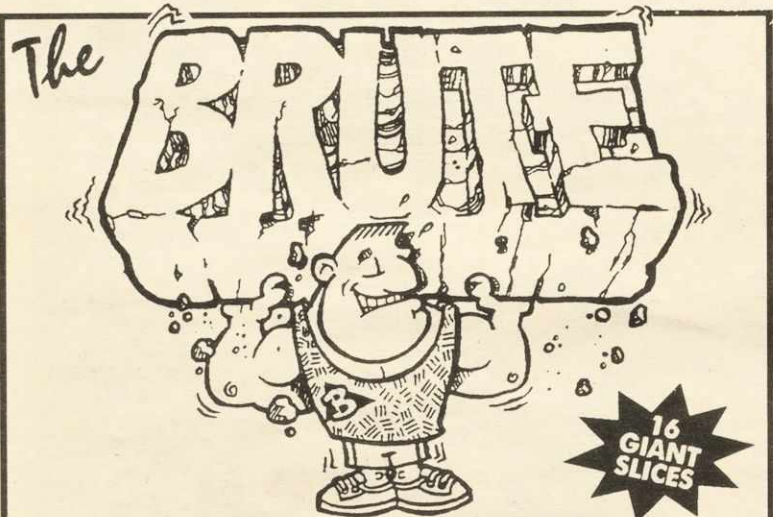
Haley believes that the 15th Commonwealth Games, which incorporated sports for people with disabilities, were really well put together.

"It was a good experience. We (Team Canada) were as one team and the coaching staff was A-1."

He believes the impact of the integration of athletes was tremendous, especially the media coverage. Haley himself got to meet Ron Maclean, a regular commentator for Hockey Night in Canada, in an interview after his victory. The medal itself was presented by Prince Edward, the head of the Games.

A "Tiger" in the pool, Haley is your average student on land. The former Cole Harbour District High graduate enjoys playing tennis when he is not training and is looking forward to starting a work term later this month.

Haley has a busy schedule planned for the next few years with the World Championships this November in Malta and has his sights firmly set on the 1996 Paralympics in Atlanta. It looks like Haley will be adding to his resume, as he took 1st place in five disciplines at the World Championship time trials last May.



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