

# Dal Wrestling Club successful at the UNB Open

BY KATHLEEN MATTHEWS

On Jan. 24, the Dalhousie Wrestling Club (DWC) capped off another successful weekend finishing third overall out of ten teams, and winning two weight classes at the UNB Open. Competition included wrestlers from Memorial, UNB, Concordia and McGill, among others.

For the third successive year, veteran wrestler and head coach Scott Aldridge was victorious in the 90kg weight class. Aldridge went 10-0, 3-0 in three matches over the reigning AUAA champion at 90kg (UNB's Mark Chesser), and won by a pin in his final match against the reigning AUAA 82kg champion (UNB's Mike MacDonald).

"I picked him up in a double-leg take-down," says Aldridge of the final match. "I then lifted him in the

air, and pinned him to take the win."

Logan Ward won two matches by a score of 10-0 over an opponent from Memorial, and pinned his UNB opponent in his second to win 5-0 and take the 52kg weight class.

"Logan is doing well with steady improvement all the time," says Aldridge. "He's definitely peaking right now."

Andrew Moebus, "the best technical wrestler on the team" according to Aldridge, went 2-2 to finish third at 65kg. Other team members also placed well to contribute to Dal's third placing: Gavin Tweedie was 4th and Jason Schonberg 5th at 72kg; Scott Malcolm was 4th at 82kg; Paul Murchison was 4th and Chris Lewis 6th at 90kg.

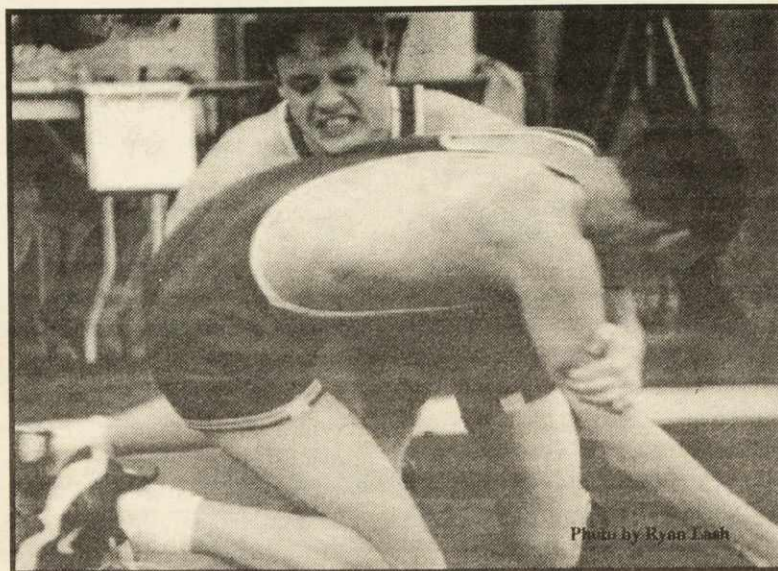
"All the guys are getting better and better all the time," Aldridge

said. "Now we have to peak for the AUAA's."

Big things can be expected of both Aldridge and Ward who are favoured to win the AUAA's at UNB later this month at 90kg and 52kg, respectively. Other team members are also expected to show well with the possibility of taking the overall team title away from UNB.

"We have some of the best guys in the conference," says Aldridge, "[and] things are well underway for the AUAA's."

For a club, the DWC is competing at a high level of athleticism, gaining a great deal of local and national exposure, equaling if not surpassing many varsity teams. No doubt, the DWC will be able to reap the benefits of their successes.



As a side note, besides giving up their weekend to represent Dal in New Brunswick, the guys can also be considered good Samaritans of sorts. While driving home late

Saturday, they spotted a car off the highway in a ditch. The driver must have thought it was his lucky day to see eight wrestlers stop to push his car out. All in a days work.

## DWC ready for AUAA's

BY KATHLEEN MATTHEWS

The second annual Dalhousie Wrestling Open was held the weekend of Jan. 16 with great success. Dal placed second as a team in both men's junior (under-18) and senior (over-19) divisions, gaining considerable confidence for the Atlantic University Championship.

The Dalhousie Wrestling Club has only been active for the last three years but has already come up with some excellent results. Head coach Scott Aldridge is the reigning two-time AUAA Champion and has placed 5th and 7th at the CIAUs in 1996 and 1997. Aldridge is currently ranked sixth nationally and came in second at the Eastern Canadian Championships (ECC) before Christmas. Logan Ward, a second-year team member, is currently ranked seventh nationally. He also placed second at the ECC and is a favourite to win at AUAA's in the 52kg category.

Andrew Moebus and Jason Schonberg are both in their first year on the wrestling squad. They are both currently ranked eighth nationally and both came second at the ECC.

Gavin Tweedie is in his third year with the club, and has participated in two AUAA championships. He is also ranked eighth nationally.

Aldridge came in first in the 130kg division and placed third at 90kg. Ward came in second in both the 57kg and 61kg weight classes. In the 72kg division, Josh Balsamo and Tweedie placed first and third, respectively. In the 68kg class, Balsamo, and Andrew Moebus placed second and third. Scott Malcolm placed third at 82kg and fourth at 90kg. Dal also had other good showings by Jason Schonberg who was fourth at 68kg and 72kg, Paul Murchison fifth at 90kg, Brett Leblanc and Chris Lewis fourth and fifth, respectively, at 130kg.

There are many new faces on the squad this year including Malcolm, Murchison and Lewis. The combination of experience and youth is sure to be an advantage.

"[This year] we have the best bunch of guys we have ever had," said coach Aldridge.

Things look good for AUAA's which are coming up Feb. 14th, and CIAUs at Brock University Feb. 27-28.

## Dalhousie Women's Hockey Club seeking varsity status

BY KENZIE TOBIN

The Dalhousie women's hockey team is fighting for varsity recognition. The team recently went to UNB for the inaugural Atlantic Universities Women's Hockey Championship. They lost to Acadia on Friday, Jan. 16. A loss to St.FX the following day put them out of medal contention.

Although the team assembled for the trip included a vast array of talent, certain problems within the Dalhousie Women's Hockey Club challenges its ability to compete against other university teams and hinders its progress towards varsity status.

Unlike SMU, Acadia, St.FX and UNB, the Dal team is comprised of 65 per cent students which meant that 35 per cent of its 'regular' team members could not attend the AUAA Tournament. By comparison, the other universities' teams are comprised entirely of students.

These universities all have a paid coach and were given a bus by their school to transport them and their gear to New Brunswick. The Dal team members were given three flats

of pop and a rented mini-van — hardly enough room for a full hockey team and their equipment. Needless to say, the surprise and shock of these other 'true' varsity hockey teams made Dal realize that, in order to be recognized as varsity, some serious changes need to be made.

Dal's head coach is a volunteer; a paid coach is needed. Secondly, more practise time is required and at a reasonable time for students. Their practise time is currently from 7 until 8:30 on Thursday mornings. This is

unrealistic since most of the women have classes at 8:30am. Thirdly, the team should consist of just Dalhousie students. Finally, the university must support this team and quickly set in motion the plans to create Dalhousie's first ever women's varsity hockey team.

These changes are necessary in order for the team to be able to compete with SMU, UNB, St.FX and Acadia as those teams are already 'there' and Dal is still so far behind, trying to obtain simple recognition.

*Kenzie Tobin is a blueliner with the Dalhousie Women's Hockey Club.*



Women's basketball in action at the Dalplex on Jan. 13 where the Tigers beat St.FX 59-53. Dal dropped two games to Memorial the following weekend, losing 62-67 on Jan. 17, and 55-72 on Jan. 18.

The team was back on top last week, taking a 62-34 win over Acadia on Jan. 21 and a 65-56 win over UNB on Sunday. (Photo by Luke Dobek)

*The Dalhousie Roman Catholic Community invites you to attend...*

### *Sunday Mass*

11:30 a.m.

S.U.B. Rm.307

Presider: Fr. John Gahan, S.J.

For more information, or for confidential assistance, contact

**Patricia Cummings,**  
**Dalhousie Roman Catholic Chaplain**  
494-2287

Chaplains' Office, 4th floor S.U.B.