

Dalhousie Tigers season had good and bad surprises

By JOANN SHERWOOD

The first half of the varsity sports season at Dalhousie had its share of disappointments. Of the four sports that wrapped up in the fall, only the women's cross country team was able to capture an AUAA title. The second half of the season looked more promising, but after Christmas, the results were still not as good as they may have been. Only the women's track and field team, men's volleyball, and men's swim teams won titles. Three teams lost in the AUAA finals.

The performance of the women's track and field team at the CIAUs was the highlight of the Tigers' season. Annick deGooyer and Lucy Smith won a medal each for Dalhousie, marking the first time a school from the Atlantic region has won two medals at the event.

Women's Field Hockey

The women's field hockey squad went through the dilemma of rebuilding this year. Rookie head coach Carolyn Merritt had only four players who were past their first or second year of eligibility, led by leading point-getter Gail Broderick. The Tigers' record of 2-5-3 put them in last place in eastern division. Dalhousie trailed St. Mary's by only two games of the final playoff position in the AUAA. Merritt felt that the pair of scoreless contests the team played on the final weekend of the regular season, could have made the difference.



Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team also just missed qualifying for the playoffs because of their performance on the final weekend of regular season play. The Tigers tied St. F.X. 2-2 in their second last game of the season. Unfortunately, the men suffered a 2-0 setback to their across town rivals from SMU to take them out of the playoff picture. The team's record placed them in third place in the eastern division tied with SMU, who qualified because they had one more point than Dalhousie.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team was the only one of the three recently reclassified athletic squads to make the playoffs but the path there was not a smooth one. They headed into the last weekend of the regular season in the unfamiliar position of third place. The Tigers picked up a win in their last two playoff games to give them the playoff berth. St. F.X. defeated Dalhousie 2-1 in the AUAA semifinals to prevent the Tigers from defending the soccer crown they had possession for the previous six years.

Cross Country

After both the men's and women's teams had captured titles at a meet in Moncton, the Dalhousie men's and women's cross country teams geared up for the AUAA championships. First year runner Annick deGooyer led the Tiger women to a gold medal performance while the men, led by Craig Parsons, fell only four points behind UNB in their quest for the men's crown.

The women's team ranked eighth in Canada, headed off to the nationals at the University of Western Ontario. Dalhousie pulled off the upset of the event by finishing fifth overall. Smith who finished fourth, and deGooyer, who finished seventh, were named All-Canadians, marking the first time that the AUAA has had two cross country women make the all-star squad.

Hockey

The hockey Tigers were solidly in command of the Kelly Division before Christmas having compiled a 9-2 record. Their only losses had been to their most fierce competitors in the league UPEI and Moncton. The second half of the season was not so bright for the hockey Tigers though they did manage to win the Kelly Division title.

The Tigers' biggest game of the season came when they defeated Moncton at the Forum. The win meant that Dalhousie's national ranking was as high as third in the weeks following the contest. They Tigers' final regular season record was 19-6.

In the AUAA semifinals, the Tigers suffered a surprise elimination to UPEI, the eventual league champions. The Panthers beat the Tigers in two straight games. The first game went into double overtime.

Women's Volleyball

Despite being a young team, the volleyball women got off to a 5-1 record over the first half of their season. Their only loss was to league-leading Moncton. At the U de M Invitational Tournament, the Tigers managed to advance to the semi-finals.

Over the holidays, the Tigers took part in the Lady Bison Invitational Tournament in Winnipeg. Though they went winless, the Dalhousie team gained valuable experience at such a highly competitive event. As the host team at the Dalhousie Volleyball Classic, the Tigers faced stiff competition, but they were able to finish seventh of the eight women's teams participating.

In their last regular season game, the Tigers managed to defeat the league-leading Moncton squad. As a result, the Tigers finished with a record of 10-3, good for third place in the standings. The women did not fair as well in the playoffs though. They were shut down in the finals by UNB.



Kathy MacCormack

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball Tigers captured the Tipoff Tournament at Acadia but for awhile, things went down hill from there. In their first four games, the Tigers only managed to rack up a .500 record.

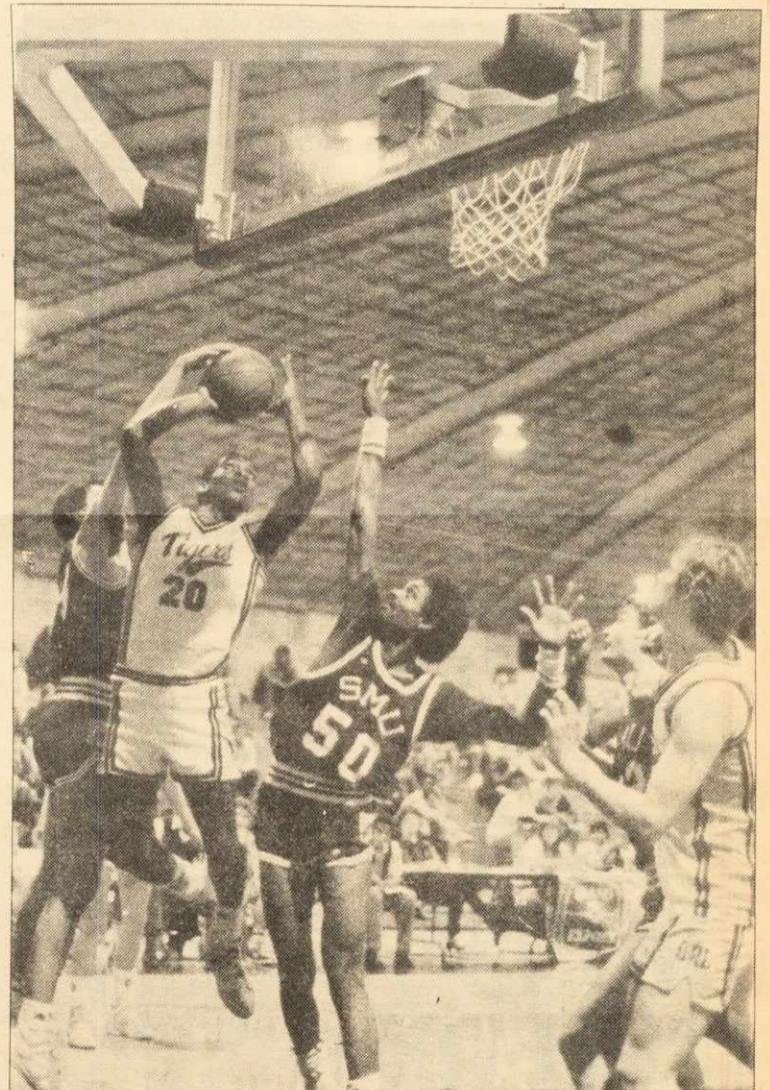
In the second half of the season, the Tigers again rode the roller coaster for awhile. Their record of 3-3 cost them a top ten ranking. The Tigers roared back to win their next three games and make their playoff hopes look brighter. Dalhousie finished with a 10-4 record, good for third spot in the regular season standings. In the final game, the Tigers lost a heart breaker, 57-59, to UPEI, who had

led the AUAA women's standings throughout the regular season.

Men's Basketball

Things looked promising for the men's basketball team, which was a team going through the process of rebuilding, when they won the consolation final at the Tipoff Tournament held at Acadia. After that, Dalhousie only managed to win one game out of its first four to leave them in second last position at the break.

In the East Coast Shootout Tournament held at the Dalplex, the Tigers lost in the finals to the eventual CIAU runners-up from Brandon. Dalhousie's defense appeared weak at times and the Tigers were without the services of rookie Willem Verbeek, who was the team's leading point-getter. The Tigers' regular season record of 2-16 left them out of the playoff picture though they were battling for a spot until the final weekend of competition.



Swimming

The Dalhousie swim team dominated in the pool throughout the season and they did well at the AUAA championships as well.

The Dalhousie men regained the AUAA title they last held in

1982. The Tigers finished the season with an 8-0 record in dual meet competition. In total, the Tiger men captured 11 gold, six silver, and six bronze medals at the AUAA event.

In the women's division, Dalhousie claimed second spot as Mt. Allison broke the Tigers' six year hold on the AUAA conference title. At the season's close the Tiger women had compiled a 6-2 record for the season. At the CIAU championships, which were held at the Dalplex pool, the Tigers had nine members competing in the event.

Track and Field

The Dalhousie women captured the AUAA title at Moncton while the men finished a respectable third. The women were led by the performances of Lucy Smith, who won the 1500m and the 3000m events, and by Annick deGooyer, who captured gold in the 1000m and finished second in the 1500m race. In all, the Dal-

housie women won nine of the 13 events.

Derek Estabrook won the 1500m event and Tim Hillis won the 60m hurdles to give the men Tigers two their three medals at the competition.

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I N T H E G R A W O O D

LONG -----FRIDAY-SATURDAY-MONDAY -----WEEKENDS