

Volleyball

Men are number one, the women are two

by Andrew Sinclair

Led by a pair of MVP's and powered by a trio of all-stars, the Dalhousie men's volleyball team swept through the AUA championship in six straight games to take the league title for the second year in a row and advance to the CIAU championships this weekend in Victoria. The women's team, however, did not fare as well, losing in the finals to Memorial to relinquish their AUA crown.

The men had little trouble defending their title, as they knocked off the UNB Rebels on Saturday 15-5, 15-4, 15-10, and breezed through the final against Memorial on Sunday 15-10, 15-9, 15-2. At the awards ceremony following the final match, however, they were even more dominating, taking six of nine awards. Ken Boutilier was named tournament MVP, Phil Perrin was named AUA MVP, and Jan Prsala, Rod Walsh, and Bernie Derible were all selected to the AUA all-star team, while coach Al Scott received the Coach of the Year award. Derible was the Tigers top hitter over the weekend; with 25 kills, while Perrin was second with 19. Perrin also collected 15 stuff blocks, 10 of those coming in the final match to set a new team record. Walsh had 16 kills and 8 stuff blocks in the two

matches while team captain Jan Prsala totalled 13 kills and led the way defensively with a team high 5 digs in the final. Top server for the Tigers was Jamie Fraser, who had 6 aces and served 12 straight points in the final game against Memorial.

The Tigers came sixth out of six in the CIAU's last year, but Scott is looking to do much better this time round, despite the fact that the finalists this year are more evenly matched than perhaps ever before. "I'm optimistic", he said. "We've played every team in the finals except the University of Victoria and we've been extremely competitive with every team. I really believe that any one of the six teams could win the tournament; there are no huge gaps. We'll have to play six good matches to win it all." Battling with Dal for top honours in the round robin competition will be Sherbrooke, York, the University of Victoria, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Alberta, and since only the top two teams make the finals, there will be, as Scott says, "no second chances". A new feature at this year's championships will be the selection of an All-Canadian team, which will differ from the CIAU all-star team in that teams not making the CIAU

finals can be represented, and Scott feels that it is reasonable to expect that at least one Tiger will be chosen.

Things augered well for the women heading into their final match, but in the end they just could not come up with what was necessary for victory. Dal blew the Universite de Moncton off the court on Saturday, winning 15-2, 15-1, 15-1, in an incredible 22 minute match that saw the Moncton squad fall behind by 8 points before they managed to get the ball into the Dal court, while Memorial, playing without their star, Monica Hitchcock, struggled to get past UNB. On Sunday, however, it was a different story, as the Boethuks, with Hitchcock back in the line-up, came out in high gear. Memorial won the first game of the match 15-8 and took a slight lead early in the second, before the Tigers, led by some good hitting by co-captains Karin Maessen and Karen Fraser, settled down and took the second game 15-8 and the third 15-13. The Tigers seemed to have things under control at this point, needing only one more

win to take the match, but in the crucial fourth game they came out flat, giving up nine points before they got on the board and going on to lose 5-15. Indeed, it was not until midway through the decisive fifth game that the Tigers began to show glimpses of the ability that had led them to the top of the league standings, as they clawed back from a 2-9 deficit to come within one at 11-12. They could not, however, keep the pressure on, as Memorial hung on to win the game 15-11 and take the match.

Coach Lois MacGregor pointed to Dal's inability to return service effectively as a major cause of their loss—of the Tiger's 81 serve receptions, 36 were classified as "minuses"; that is, the ball was not positioned for an attack. Dal, a strong serving team as evidenced on Saturday when they collected 15 aces, also had problems with their own serve; "We missed serves at key times", explained MacGregor. "Our serving wasn't tough enough, and that threw the rest of our game off." However, as much

as she felt that Dal's main problems were of its own making, MacGregor gave credit to Memorial for the win—"they played at 110 percent; even their weak players played well."

The women were also well represented at the awards ceremony, as Karin Maessen was again named league MVP while Karen Fraser was named to the all-star team. MacGregor was named Coach of the Year. Maessen was the Tiger's top performer with 10 ace serves, 35 serving points, 22 kills and an outstanding 80 percent serve reception. Kathy Andrea had 5 aces, 25 serving points and 15 kills, Fraser had 3 aces, 16 serving points, and 27 kills, and Colleen Doyle had 5 serving points and 12 kills. Playing as defensive specialist, Cindy Moore had the top reception percentage—83 percent.

The Tigers are now looking forward to the Canadian Senior Championships in Montreal at the end of April, and hope to redeem themselves at the zone finals for that event, which will be played at the Dalplex.

Men's Basketball season comes to an end

by Ken Fogarty

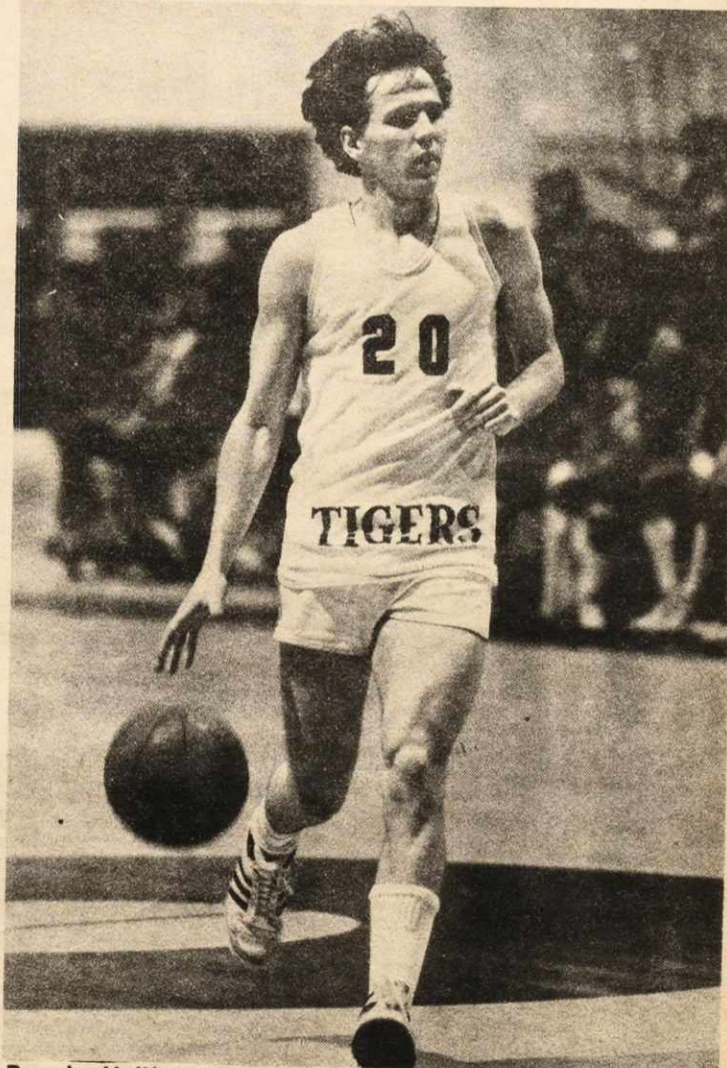
The 1980-81 men's basketball season came to an end last Saturday at Dalplex, but unfortunately it came to an end on a sour note for Dalhousie fans. The Tigers faced the league's best, the Acadia Axemen, and made a fine showing. The Tigers were able to score one hundred points against the powerful Acadia squad. The final score—Acadia 118 Dal 100.

The Axemen are definitely the favorite to win the AUA championships, but also are one of the top favorites to win the CIAU championships. They have only one defeat this year against Canadian competition, which came at the hands of the Saint F.X. X-men.

Larry Hampton and Donny Ehler led the scoring for the Axemen with 32 a piece. Canadian national team member Ted Upshaw followed with 17. The leaders for the Tigers were Tim Crowell with 28 points, Alistair MacDonald with 22, and Pat Slawter with 16.

The last game for the Tigers was also the last game for two of the team's members. Alistair MacDonald and Chuck Judson both finished their careers with the Tigers on Saturday night, and as everyone was saying that night, they will be SORELY missed.

"I think we had a pretty good year", said coach Doc Ryan, "not in terms of wins, but the fact that the guys did a hell of a job. We had a lot of close games". All in all, coach Ryan was pleased with the



Popular Halifax native Alistair MacDonald played in his final home and career game for Dalhousie's men's basketball Tigers last Saturday against the Acadia Axemen. MacDonald scored twenty-one of Dal's 100 points which fell eighteen short of Acadia's 118.

year and has high hopes for next year. His goal for next year is to make the playoffs. "We're going to have to beat some good teams to get

there", Ryan admits, but feels that if he can get some good Canadian ball players to come to Dal next year, they have a good chance to do it.



Well known Halifax resident Nancy Garapick, who had been attending the University of Southern California on a swimming scholarship, returned to Halifax about a month ago and has recently begun studies here at Dal. Garapick, a winner of two bronze medals in the 1976 summer Olympics, cites dissatisfaction with her program at USC as the reason for her return home.

Garapick joins ranks with Graham Smith who also left a U.S. school to return home to compete, and Dalhousie swimming coach Nigel Kemp feels that this trend of Canadian athletes choosing to stay in Canada is one that can be expected to continue and grow.

Garapick will be eligible to swim for Dalhousie in February of 1982.

Higgins/Dal Photo

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