

Despite defensive lapse...

Dal hockey carries the torch

by Rob Corkum

Most head coaches in the AUHC would be happy to come out of a weekend with three out of a possible four points; not Darrell

Young, head coach of Tiger's hockey.

The league leading Tigers, whose staple this season has been a strong defence, allowed a total of eleven goals in only two games this weekend. They should con-

sider themselves lucky to come away without a loss.

Dal had to gear up to come from behind on both Saturday night for a win over UPEI and on Sunday again for a tie with Mount Allison.

With approximately seven minutes left in the first game, penalties cost the Panthers and gave Dal a two man advantage. Eight seconds after the ensuing face-off and deep in the Panther's end, the crowd went wild. Leading the festival of frantic cheering were DSU president Ralph Cochrane and campus recreation assistant Jeff Sharpe, as Dal captain Craig Morrison took advantage of the situation to score the tying goal.

Three and a half minutes later, Morrison struck again and put the

Tigers ahead for good. Ken MacDermid scored his second goal of the night on an empty net in the last minute of play, sealing the 7-5 victory for Dal.

Other than being disappointed with this weekend's let down on defense, Young, who is in his sixth year at the helm of the Tiger's bench, is very pleased with the season so far. With a record of 11-2-3, and six points leeway over the MacAdam Division leader UNB, he has good reason to be.

"Our defense has been strong all year, and we're just beginning to score more goals," said Young. "The real positive part of our program is that we have good quality athletes who can come back from

adversity, as we have been developing a habit of coming from behind to win."

He feels that the team has a good balance of fifth year seniors in Alan Baldwin, Melanson, Morrison and Pringle, as well as some stand out freshmen including Todd Mondo (Ottawa), US import - Joe Suk (Chicago) and former New York Ranger draft choice Ken MacDermid (Dartmouth).

If the Tigers can get back to the defensive form that has taken them so far this season, as well as continue their goal scoring binge, they should be able to capture the AUHC championship. They haven't been able to do that since 1979, when Darrell Young was playing for Dal.

Sudden death tie saves Tigers' skin

by Gordie Sutherland

Score: Mt. Allison 6 at Dal 6
Shots: Mt. Allison 39 Dal 32
Dal Scorers: Craig Morrison, Ken MacDermid, Todd Mondor, Derek Pringle, George Wilcox and Paul Kleinknecht
Mt. Allison Scorers: Chuck Ross, Ian Armstrong (2x), Richard Clark, Charles Loreto, Craig Young

Dalhousie players George Wilcox and Paul Kleinknecht, scored a goal apiece with less than three minutes remaining to lift the Tigers to a 6-6 sudden death overtime tie with the visiting Mount Allison Mounties.

At 16:03 of the third period Mt. Allison went up 6-4 when Craig Young crept behind the Dal defence before receiving a pass that sent him in on a breakaway. Young went to his backhand and lifted the puck upstairs on Dalhousie keeper Kevin Stairs.

Prince Edward Island native George Wilcox brought the Tigers to within one with a goal at 17:01. Wilcox, who had 23 points in 20 games last season, took a shot from a difficult angle but beat goaltender Todd King to the lower righthand corner. Paul Kleinknecht scored the equalizer with the Tiger net empty and just 37 seconds left on the clock.

Late game comebacks have become a trademark of the 1991 Tigers. The team required similar heroics in a 3-2 win over Saint Mary's last Wednesday and in a 7-5 win over the University of Prince Edward Island on Saturday night.

Dalhousie assistant captain Derek Pringle, who had a goal and two assists in the game, praised Mt.

Allison for their hard work and enthusiasm. "They always play that way," he said, "everyone knows you have to respect Mt. Allison."

At the same time Pringle feels that if the Tigers are to do well this year, they must play consistently good hockey. "It's not like a tap. You can't just turn it on and off when you want to," he said. "The league is very competitive. On any given night, any team can win. This year, if you don't show up to play you are going to get beat. SMU is 4-10. But they are a good team and so is Mount Allison."

The game was a classic as far as seesaw battles are concerned. Mt. Allison went up 3-0 in the first 13 minutes of the game before the Tigers responded with four consecutive goals that gave the home team a 4-3 lead after two periods. Mount Allison took their turn by scoring the next three goals, forcing the Tigers to salvage the game with a tie.

The first five goals of the game were all scored on the powerplays. Referee Wade Bower attempted to establish control early by calling 16 minutes in penalties in the first period.

The first place Tigers play at Moncton this coming weekend.

Tiger Tidbits

Five year old John Langille of Halifax won the \$50 prize in the Coca-Cola Classic shootout. John scored on eight of ten shots taken from just inside the blueline. John's father helped with the shooting and the two were vocally supported by 500 friendly fans at the Dal Arena. After scoring the last required goal, young John gave a big wave to the crowd.

Volleyball Tigers undefeated

by Kevin Barrett

The Dalhousie University Mens Volleyball team registered a pair of wins over Memorial university in what was little more than a tune up for this weekend's Dalhousie Volleyball Classic at the Dalplex.

The Tigers easily defeated their Newfoundland opponents and in doing so pushed their AUAA leading record to 10-0.

Dalhousie was simply far superior in all aspects of the game and overpowered the Seahawks, who fell to a 1-6 record with the loss.

Even with the impressive showing, the Tigers must remain focused on the overall team goals they have set for the season. "We know the AUAA is a weaker conference so we must work on the things that will help us in crucial games down the road", said Tigers player Deon Goulding.

"The lack of competition does possess a problem in that the level of play drops (on Dal's part) and you can get away with some things

that you normally couldn't. This can lead to bad habits. Against CIAU ranked teams, we must have everyone playing to their potential in order to win", said Goulding.

The number six nationally ranked Tigers defeated the number four ranked Waterloo Warriors two matches to one in a three match series prior to the Christmas break.

Both teams will be in this weekend's tourney along with #1 ranked Manitoba, #5 Sherbrooke, Queens, Winnipeg, Moncton and the University of New Brunswick.

"Because we only get out of the conference to play three or four times a year, this tournament is important for CIAU rankings at the end of the year which determine the seeding in the CIAU championships. If we do well here, we will move up in the rankings and likely get an easier draw in the finals," said Goulding.

It seems to be a cinch that Dal will be in the CIAU final 8 and a

good performance this weekend can only enhance their chances in that tourney.

This year's team appears to be very deep, with the bench strength showing major improvements over previous years and at times makes the practises more competitive than the games. Goulding said all 12 members of the team can play and this keeps the starters working extra hard so they won't lose their spot in the top six.

When asked about the Tigers chances this weekend, an optimistic Goulding said Dal would like to improve on their fourth place performance of one year ago. "Manitoba can be beaten and I hope we are the team to do it."

With a deeper bench and a positive attitude, don't be surprised if the Tigers do much more than expected this weekend.

Action takes place in both mens and womens play all weekend at the Dalplex.

Swimming with style

by Ian Robertson

The Dalhousie men's and women's swim team returned from the Codiac Vikings Senior Invitational Swim Meet in Moncton this past weekend with many season's best performances and a third place finish in team standings. Ahead of the Tigers were two non AUAA club teams, the host Vikings and the Halifax Trojans.

Maria MacPherson qualified for the CIAU championships with a time of 1:17 in the 100 metre breast-stroke, well under the standard of 1:17.90. MacPherson, who placed second in the event, also won a silver in the 200m and

50m breaststrokes.

For the men, Jason Shannon qualified for the national championships with his gold in the 200 metre backstroke, but narrowly missed the much tougher CIAU qualifying standard. Shannon added second place finishes in the 50m and 100m backstrokes and 50m freestyle.

Jason Cross showed the greatest improvement, with a win in the 100m butterfly, second in the 100m freestyle and third in the 50m freestyle. Grant Wong was second in the 50m, 100m, and 200m breaststrokes, and third in the 50m butterfly, while team captain Darryl Dutton was third in the

200m backstroke.

The men's 4x50 medley relay was first, while the 4x100 and 4x50 freestyle relays were second. The women's 4x100 and 4x50 freestyle relays, and the 4x50 medley relay was third.

Said women's co-captain MacPherson, "This meet gave us an opportunity to swim against lots of fast people who never compete in AUAA competitions. You tend to get a narrower view of the field when you only swim in university competition, and we all rose to the occasion and swam season best times."

The Tigers' next competition is this weekend at Acadia.

Chances are, if you're reading this page, you're more than interested in Dalhousie intercollegiate sports. Whether you're a Dal team member or a keen supporter, your energy counts at a time when sport programs in the future might be jeopardized. We at Gazette Sports are setting a precedent in trying to offer the best coverage we can. But we're humans too. So get off the couch and help us out. Write for Gazette Sports.