

SPORTS

Tigers devour McGill

Dal women win fourth CIAU soccer medal in six years

BY TERRY HAWES

The Dalhousie Tigers women's soccer team captured the bronze medal at the CIAU National Soccer Championship in Victoria, BC by spanking the McGill Martlets 5-0 on Sunday. This was Dal's fourth CIAU medal in the decade after a bronze in 1993, gold in 1994 and silver in 1995.

The Tigers went 0-0-2 in the round robin portion of the tournament (1-1 with Calgary and 0-0 against Queen's) to finish second in group A, a ranking that placed them in the bronze medal match with McGill. Calgary defeated Victoria 3-2 to win the national title.

Dal 0 Queen's 0 — In a game of few breaks, the Tigers had to settle for the draw, eliminating the Golden Gaels from medal contention. Malin Wester recorded the shutout in a game dominated by the tight defence of the two teams.

"It was an even game with Queen's," said Tiger Natalie Lindthaler. "They are a good team

and their tight defence made for few chances."

But even though Queen's knew a loss meant elimination, their offence was virtually non-existent. This made the draw even easier for Dalhousie.

Dal 1 Calgary 1 — The Tigers battled the Dinosaurs to a

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hard-fought draw as the tournament opened up Thursday afternoon. Stephanie O'Neill (who was later named tournament MVP) scored to put Calgary ahead before Lindthaler capitalized on a cross from Patricia Norman to level the score and give Dal a positive start to the tournament.

Dal 5 McGill 0 (Bronze medal match) — After falling short of reaching the championship game, it could be expected that the

Tigers would feel a little out-of-sync as they prepared to take the field on Sunday for the bronze medal match-up.

This proved to be less and less apparent as Dal took control of a listless McGill, jumping out to an early lead and strolling away to a well deserved victory.

The 0-0 tie with Queen's on Saturday resulted in Dal settling for a battle for third but coach Dara Moore's optimistic outlook gave the team all the ammunition it needed to jump out to a 3-0 lead by halftime. Mary-Beth Bowie scored twice and Kelly Larkin scored her eighth goal of the year while still in the first half. Natalie Lindthaler scored her fourth goal of the year to make it 4-0, and Bowie completed her hat-trick to give the Martlets a lot to think about on the plane home.

Lindthaler said the team managed to stay focused despite the disappointment of not reaching the final match.

"We were discouraged, but coach Moore emphasized the fact that there was still a medal at stake and we could look at it positively or negatively. [We] wanted it a little more."

Moore agreed.

"We took a positive approach and played with a lot of character and heart," said Moore.

While the team did struggle at times throughout the year, for Lindthaler, winning the bronze medal was very satisfying.

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photo by Mike Davenport

Natalie Lindthaler in action earlier this season.

Dalhousie Athletics Upcoming Events

Men's Hockey
Thursday, Nov. 19 Dal vs St. Mary's 7pm @ Memorial Arena
Sunday, Nov. 22 Dal vs Acadia 2pm @ Memorial Arena

Women's Volleyball
Saturday, Nov. 21 Dal vs St. FX 3pm @ Dalplex

Men's Volleyball
Friday, Nov. 20 Dal vs UNB 8pm @ Dalplex
Saturday, Nov. 21 Dal vs UNB 1pm @ Dalplex

Women's Basketball
Saturday, Nov. 21 Dal vs Memorial 6pm @ Dalplex
Sunday, Nov. 22 Dal vs Memorial 1pm @ Dalplex

Men's Basketball
Saturday, Nov. 21 Dal vs Memorial 8pm @ Dalplex
Sunday, Nov. 22 Dal vs Memorial 3pm @ Dalplex

Swimming
Saturday, Nov. 21 All day @ Dalplex
Sunday, Nov. 22 6pm @ Dalplex

Dalhousie's 1998 Women's Soccer CIAU Tournament All-Stars

*Petra de Waard
Mary-Beth Bowie
Natalie Lindthaler*

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