

Grand opening of Wickwire field

BY DAVID FINLAYSON

The Ted Wickwire field was officially opened last weekend with a ceremony that included speakers Eve Wickwire, Liberal MP Mary Clancy, Jay Abbass, and Dalhousie President Dr. Tom Traves. The opening also included the Dalhousie's men's soccer team, who entered to much applause after their victory over Memorial University.

Ted Wickwire was a former Dalhousie football player. He was a two-time Climo award winner as male athlete of the year. He played at Dal for seven years as a varsity athlete. The speakers who knew Wickwire had great things to say about him and Dr. Traves called the field a "fitting tribute and memorial to a great

alumni."

This very special facility includes three eighty-yard practice fields and much better stands for spectators than there have been in the past. Dr. Traves was quoted as saying that, "(Wickwire field is) the third largest field (of its kind) in the world."

The official opening of the field took place in very wet conditions and even the people inside the tent had trouble staying dry. Traves commented that "there is nothing more maritime than playing soccer in the rain."

Tony Martin, director of athletics and recreational activities, added that "at this time last year, the field would have been closed for a week because of the rain."

In previous years, the rainy weather would've caused all

games to be cancelled due to swamp-like conditions. Martin also called the field "the new pride of Dalhousie."

Although the field was budgeted at \$3.3 million, the general consensus is that it will be more than worth it. As a whole, the players have taken a liking to it

and it definitely adds a homefield advantage. It is also rather cozy so the fans can get more vocal. It was estimated that 25% of students would use the field throughout the year in intramurals.

With the money they should make renting it out next summer

and spring, one feels that it was definitely worth it to bring in 80,000 used tires, cement, gravel, glue, and of course, the curly grass. Dalhousie already has one of the best sports facilities in the world (Dalplex), and now we have the field to complement it.

Soccer success for women Tigers

...cont'd from page 14: "Women"

"We fell asleep on a kick and didn't mark tight enough," said coach Neil Turnbull.

Other than that one miscue, the Tigers produced another solid performance on home turf.

Turnbull stated that "we started to move the ball a little better during the game."

On Saturday, the Tigers played to a 0-0 draw with St. FX. Candy Keillor earned her first start in nets for the Tigers.

The strong weekend performance can only lead to even more positive things for Dalhousie. Going into the final weekend of conference play, the Tigers are on top of the standings with St. FX, Acadia, and the University of New Brunswick (UNB) chomping at their heels.

This final weekend could provide Dalhousie with eight points towards the league championship as the team travels out of province to meet UNB and the Université de Moncton. These are must-win games for the Tigers as they look to play host to the AUSA championships.

Some Dal players have sustained injuries and this could affect next weekend's play. Coach Turnbull could not say at this point who would and would not be playing this weekend, although he did mention that sweeper Sue Hunter was carrying an injury.

"Next weekend we will find out what we are all about," said Turnbull.

If the girls really want it, then it is there for them to take. They should be on a high after knocking the Huskies out of playoff contention, so look for the AUSA championships at Wickwire field in two weeks time.



A warm welcome to the new Wickwire Field

It looks as though Dalhousie's Mark Ellis (#10) is willing to forego the ball in light of another option. While the outcome of this particular play is unknown, we do know that both the men's and the women's soccer teams can play host to the AUSA championships on the new field if they make it through the weekend with their divisional leads intact.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

October 16 to 22



Kate Gillespie, Soccer

• Kate scored two goals in Dal's 3-1 win over SMU. She was also key in keeping St. FX scoreless. Kate is a 5th year striker.

Trevor Boudreau, Cross Country

• Trevor was Dal's first runner at UNB this past weekend. Trevor placed 5th overall. He is a second year athlete at Dal.



Follow the Tigers

Canadian collegiate baseball champion to be crowned in Montréal

BY CARMEN TAM

Acadia successfully defended their title in the 3rd annual Fall Classic with an 8-3 win over the Dalhousie baseball team on Tuesday, October 17 at Memorial Park in Kentville.

Despite the loss, the Dal team, along with Acadia, qualified for the first-ever Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association (CIBA) national championship. Six teams have qualified for the tournament, which is being hosted by McGill University in Montréal.

Originally slated for the Toronto Skydome, the tournament was moved to Montréal due to a scheduling conflict with the Toronto Raptors basketball team.

The tournament was postponed from last weekend due to a prediction of rain.

The sport, which had been dormant in eastern Canada since 1946, has seen remarkable growth since 1993, when it was re-introduced in Nova Scotia. The CIBA is currently composed of 15 teams in three conferences, located from Sydney, N.S. to St. Catharines, Ontario. There have been reports of other maritime universities being interested in entering teams in the league, due to the success this season.

The top two teams from each conference have advanced to the CIBA Final Six tournament. The tournament is divided into two pools, playing in round-robin format. Dalhousie is in pool A along

with the Brock University Badgers and the McGill University Redbirds. Pool B will consist of the Acadia Axemen, the University of Toronto Blues and the Laval Rouge et Ore.

Dalhousie's first game will be played on Saturday, facing off against the host team from McGill at 9 a.m. at Centennial Park. Their second game is against Brock at noon at Mohawk Park.

Mike Crosby, the head coach for Dalhousie, notes the team is excited about going to Montreal.

"Our goal was to go to nationals this season and now that we are, we are hoping, along with Acadia, to show the Ontario conferences that we have a strong program here."