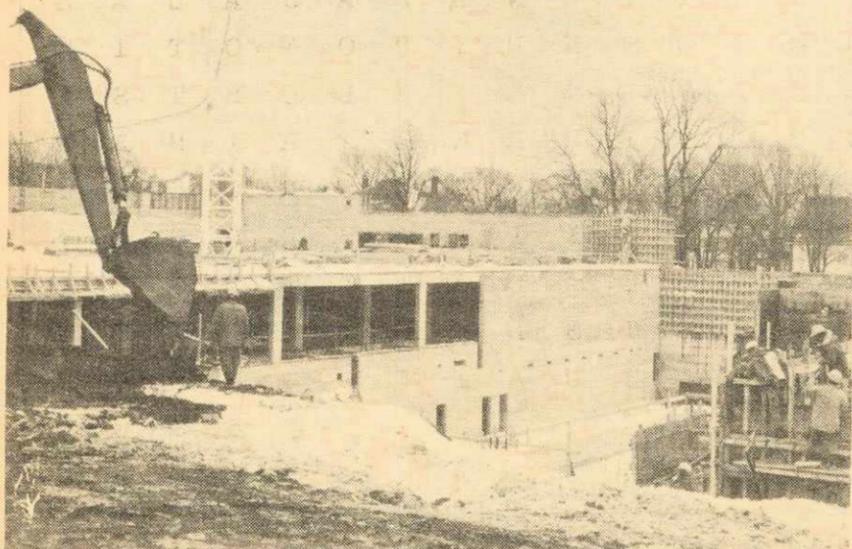


A preview of Dalplex from inside



Dal Photo / Myers

Dalplex is running on schedule and should be ready for use by February or March, 1979. By the time this issue is printed the main floor should be poured and what is shown will be covered up until the opening.

by Peter Hayes

After looking at the working blueprints for Dalplex, Dalhousie's new sports complex, one can only look with eager anticipation and awe at what the future will hold for sports at Dalhousie. It promises to be a marvellous facility, and it is hoped that 85 to 90 percent of the student population will take advantage of it, a reasonable expectation considering the facilities to be enclosed under the new roof.

According to Ken Bellemare, the head of Dalhousie Athletics, the

new complex might be in use by this time next year, but that would be "very lucky". Probably the official opening would not be until September 1979, after most of the kinks have been worked out.

Bellemare says the complex is proceeding on schedule, the budget is being kept in hand and the fund raising campaign is picking up dramatically. Approximately two million dollars is still needed.

The complex will facilitate 500 people an hour. On the bottom floor

there is a 50 metre pool that has 2 removable partitions, making it good enough to use in international competitions. There are four squash and four raquetball/handball courts as well as a major weight training room.

The second floor consists of offices, locker rooms, and the equipment room, which will have three windows for more efficient service. The courts on the bottom floor extend up through the second floor, where there are observation balconies. The locker rooms are quite unique in that they will be suspended above the pool area. Steel girders, being installed now, will hold up the rooms—further maximizing the vast space of the complex. Class and training rooms are also located at this level.

The main floor of Dalplex will undoubtedly be the highlight. The dimensions are 90 by 70 yards, with a hard, green rubber-type surface. There are to be two main courts at the center, one for volleyball and one for basketball, with the possibility of 3,000 seats being moved around them for major events. The combinations of courts that can be made on the rest of the floor is

phenomenal, with everything from tennis (2 permanent courts) to a gymnastics floor. For a major badminton tournament, 14 courts or more could be laid down. Courts can be laid down and taken up, baskets moved in and out, and nets raised and lowered almost at will—whatever the demand. There is also a warm-up room on this floor.

The cover of the facility will be an air suspension steel roof. Around the perimeter of the top level and above the main floor is a 12-foot wide track. The only way to get into the main floor will be through revolving doors, one for the general public and one from the locker area. Bellemare admitted this might cause congestion but that Dalplex was being built primarily with student needs in mind, and is definitely not solely a spectator facility. He added that Dal's "Sports For All" philosophy is being held in perspective and given priority.

Hopefully Dalplex will proceed as it is now—on schedule. That way the many Dal students awaiting its opening will not be disappointed due to delay, for there will be no disappointment in the facility itself.

SMU hard on Tigers



Bob Fagan became only the third player in C.I.A.U. history to score 2000 points in Varsity basketball. The milestone was accomplished in a Munro Day contest against St. Mary's.

On Munro Day, the Dalhousie Basketball Tigers hosted Saint Mary's in a game that was only close for twenty minutes. Phenominal shooting by SMU, 62% for the game, was the story of their 90-69 win. The game was a slow one, with SMU sticking to basics and going to their bench often. Ross Quackenbush led the Huskies with 30 points, while Mike Donaldson hooped 20 and had eleven rebounds for the Tigers. The contest could not be called rough, although Al MacDonald made up for a few of Frankie White's elbows by beating him cleanly one-on-one.

Dal must learn to challenge and stop the hot shooter; it cannot be a coincidence that many top teams have their best shooting nights in the second half against the Tigers. Team ball handling has improved, especially as Fougere and MacDonald team up against pressure and deal the ball to Fagan, Howlett and Donaldson inside. The Tigers must develop bench strength to avoid the second half fade as starters tire or get into foul trouble. In this league,

five is not enough.

Bob Fagan has scored 2,000 points in his career. He went into the SMU game with 1986 and got his fourteenth point in the first half to reach this magic milestone.

Bob was in foul trouble for the rest of the game and spent much time on the Tiger bench, an unusual position in all his four years. This being just outside his range, he ended with "just" 18. The Tigers sometimes look too much for his scoring contributions and must learn to stay together without him.

The St. F.X. basketball team came to town last Wednesday ranked fifth in the nation and hung on to win 76-75 against a well prepared and determined Tiger quintet. "We stayed with our game plan for forty minutes and showed the maturity, team play and poise necessary to compete at the top of this league" said Coach Al Yarr after the game. It was a significant step for the team but not the final step upward. The best style for the Tigers is evident, but whether they can be consistent with this style remains the question.

Bob Fagan led all scorers with twenty-eight points, followed by Mike Donaldson with twenty-two points on phenominal 89% floor shooting and a game leading twelve rebounds. Donaldson had a chance to tie it with two foul shots at the buzzer and made only one, a seemingly unjust ending to a brilliant game. However, without Mike's efforts the game would not have been close. The deciding factor in the game was X's exceptional outside shooting late in the second half. Paul McGrath hit five key jumpers from deep in the corner and led the X-men with eighteen points. Pat Adrien had seventeen followed by Gil Green with sixteen. Both teams shot well as X finished with 55% and Dal with 49%. It was a clear case of X winning a close one.

This is "the" weekend. The team travels to UPEI for two **must** games. Two wins almost insures a play-off berth. Two losses . . . well, a split leaves everything wide open.

Women Tigers back to winning ways

After absorbing their 3rd league loss to UNB last week, our female Tigers bounced back with a vengeance, recording wins over St. F.X., U de M, and Mt. Allison, and in the bargain pushed their season record to 11 wins against 3 losses, good enough for 2nd place behind the unbeaten UNB squad.

On Wednesday, the women downed St. F.X. 61-50 in a game that both teams would rather forget. High scoring Carol Rosenthal led Dal with 19 points, while Kathy Bryan with 23 and Joanne Richards with 14 carried the offensive mail for X. The one bright light from the "Tabbies" point of view was their vastly improved free throw performance, where they hit on 29 of 34 attempts for a high 85%.

Taking to the road over the weekend, Coach Carolyn Savoy's charges downed U de M on Friday evening 90-61 in a fast, high scoring

contest. With most team members showing the effects of the previous evening's Phys. Ed. Ball, Coach Savoy was able to stay with the swift Monctonians by going to her bench early and often, in addition to employing a tough zone defense. Anne Lindsay and Chris Buckle led the balanced Dal scoring attack with 14 points.

On Saturday against an over matched Mt. Allison squad, our girls returned to their effective, evenly balanced scoring and easily downed their hosts 78-39. Five players hit double figures, as rookie Diane Thompson led the way with 19 points, followed by Carol Rosenthal and Anne Lindsay with 14, while Chris Buckle with 12 and Kathy Donovan with 10 rounded out the top five. Next home game is Feb. 4 when Mt. Allison visit the Dal campus.

CKDU SPORTSHOW

SPECIAL FEATURES

Hockey:

Live play-by-play broadcasts with Blair Dwyer and Pat Findlay on location at the Dalhousie arena.

Sun. Feb. 5: St. F.X. at Dal - 2 p.m.
Tues. Feb. 7: S.M.U. at Dal - 7 p.m.

Basketball:

Live play-by-play from the Dal gymnasium.

Fri. Feb. 10: Women's action - the league-leading U.N.B. team at Dal - 7 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 25: Acadia at Dal, Men's action - 8 p.m.