

Hockey ends semester on high note

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

The Dal hockey team were playing at their usual level on Sunday when they took on the St. FX X-Men in Antigonish. The Tigers took the game 4-2.

The Tigers started offensively and kept that up throughout the game, despite having a short bench.

"They usually have a pretty physical team but we came out strong from the beginning," said Dal blue-liner Rick Findlay. "We started hitting them before they started hitting us and we took them off the physical aspect of their game."

This didn't, however, stop the X-Men from opening the score at 5:15 with a shorthanded breakaway goal from Jarret Reid. The Tigers evened out the score during a power play at 6:01 when Shane Gibbs netted the puck from the slot, with the assists going to Tim Hill and Richard Ujvary.

Mark Alexander scored the second goal for Dal, also from the slot, at 6:52, assisted by Jeff Letourneau and Findlay.

The St. FX team got progressively more physical, and even referee Steve Langille accidentally got stuck. The game, however, stayed relatively clean and good scoring opportunities were



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Letourneau, Martin LaPointe and Chad Kalmakoff proved effective and Dal goalie Fred Corkum was not really tested, despite a few close calls.

At 17:04, Ted Naylor deflected the puck from the slot to Gibbs who tipped it in the net. Less than a minute later, Letourneau was benched for the remainder of the game after being elbowed in the face by X-Man Rob Massa.

The third period was by far the most physical and the X-Men outshot Dal 9-8. The last five minutes saw good breakaways by Kalmakoff and Luke Naylor, and the home team's defense sometimes had to work hard to keep up with them. Bizarrely, St FX head coach Danny Flynn

decided to pull Silver with only one minute left in the period. Kalmakoff had no trouble netting the puck with the assist going to Jan Melicherik and David Haynes.

"It was an all-round team effort because everyone went in there and played their strengths," noted Pellerin. "Everyone tried to keep things simple and it just worked out."

"There were a lot of guys out of the line-up. We dug deeper and got some extra courage," added Findlay.

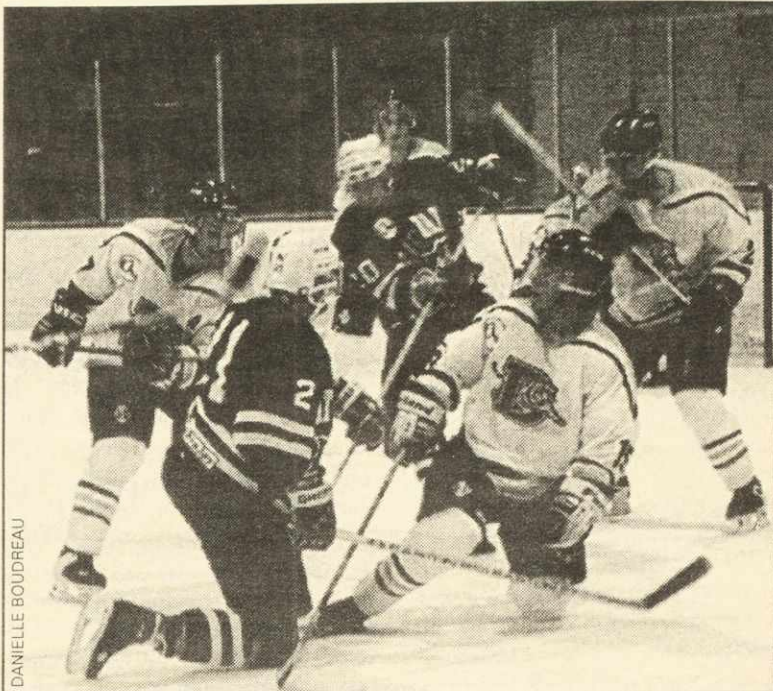
created by both teams.

"I found [the game] a bit chippy at times," commented Tiger forward Jason Pellerin.

PJ Stock evened the score for the X-Men at 15:23.

The Tigers kept up their speed during the second frame, testing St. FX goaltender Shawn Silver repeatedly. The Dal team were never in any real danger as their defense was solid.

The Tigers proved their worth during a two-man disadvantage, with Whynot and Gibbs in the penalty box. The combination of



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Huskies tied

BY EUGENIA BAYADA

"We started playing hockey at 8:45 p.m. Unfortunately the game was at 7 p.m." So said coach Darrell Young of the Tigers' performance against SMU at Memorial Arena last Friday.

The Tigers' perennial crosstown rivals came out stronger in the first period, determined to end their nine-game point drought. Dal seemed overconfident and started off more than a little lacklustre.

The first half of the frame was uncharacteristically tame but then again, the Huskies knew that they were walking on broken glass after the previous week's infamous fiasco (SMU's Ken Tasker was suspended for assaulting a Dal fan). Nevertheless, Husky Marcel Pineau managed to score two for SMU, the first one shorthanded with Shawn Redmond serving a penalty for cross-checking captain David Haynes after the whistle.

The second period saw another goal for the Huskies, this time from Redmond. The pace of the game picked up a little, as did the penalties.

"I just think that we were [mentally] unprepared, unfocused...we were brutal," commented Tiger Chad Kalmakoff. In a game where mental preparation is essential, the Dal forward is realistic when he admits, "We had our minds on other things. If we had focused from the beginning and prepared to play, then we would've won."

"The positive thing is that we showed some courage and rebounded in the third," added Young.

The final period gave Dal fans something to cheer about as the Tigers started to take their game more seriously. Tight checks, better passes and an overall faster pace led the home team to capitalize on a power play at 5:54. The goal came from Kalmakoff, assisted by Martin LaPointe and Luke Naylor.

The Tigers took advantage of another power play opportunity, narrowing the difference at 9:35 on a shot from the point by LaPointe which found the top

left-hand corner behind goaltender Mike Weatherbie. Dal tied 3-3 at 9:49 with a wraparound goal from Trevor Doyle which deflected off Weatherbie's skate.

The Huskies had a chance to edge past Dal at 13:19 when blue-liner Shane Gibbs covered the puck in the Tiger crease. Referee Allie Affleck awarded a penalty shot to SMU's Mike McKay, but goaltender Greg Dreveny read the play perfectly and had no problems stopping the puck.

The overtime period turned interesting when a questionable call by Affleck at 0:34 put Luke Naylor in the penalty box for the remainder of the frame. Naylor was given a five-minute major for charging the SMU goalkeeper. In fact, the Dal forward didn't even touch Weatherbie but the latter put on such an Oscar-winning performance that Affleck didn't really have a choice.

The Huskies did not capitalize on their power play, even though they outshot Dal 5-2. The overtime highlight was no doubt a hip-check by LaPointe which sent Pineau somersaulting over the blue-line. The Tigers displayed strong defense, keeping the period scoreless.

"The only reason we looked good [in the last two frames] is because I don't think they're a very good team," commented Kalmakoff after the game.

Dal defenceman Craig Whynot believes that if it wasn't for the penalty on Naylor, the Tigers could have taken the game.

"Our goalkeeper played stellar," he added, reflecting the team and coach's opinion. Dreveny took Player of the Game honours but was modest, only commenting that "We picked it up in the third [period] and played well."

The Tigers have only won one out of the last four games.

Haynes notes: "We've had a rough last couple of games now. What we have to do is just take it one day at a time. Everybody is working hard and, the good Lord willing, things will turn out fine."

Dal diver looks to make big splash in Boston

BY MORRIS GREEN

It doesn't take long for Chad Leaver to attract an audience when he dives. A recent Sunday afternoon at Dalplex is no exception. Soon after he starts diving a group of kids gathers on the deck to watch him jump and somersault or twist, and quietly slice the water like a basketball swooshes through the net.

"Do another!", they yell. "Do like five spins in a row mister!"

Chad loves to dive, and his ability to impress the young crowd reflects the amount of practice he dedicates to the sport. His abilities will be tested next week when he travels to Boston for an important diving meet that will put him face to face with some of the best divers on the United States' East Coast.

The 22-year-old Bobcaygeon, Ontario, native is in his third year of the International Development Studies program at Dalhousie. He got into diving by accident last year when he was fooling around on the springboards at Dalplex. Someone noticed his skills and suggested he contact the Cygnus Diving Club at Centennial Pool.

Dalhousie hasn't had a varsity diving team since the 1980's; Chad now trains with Cygnus six days a week under their coach Robert Breau.

"Chad is not the ordinary athlete off the street," says Breau. "He has exceptional agility and with practice that means he has an ability to learn very difficult

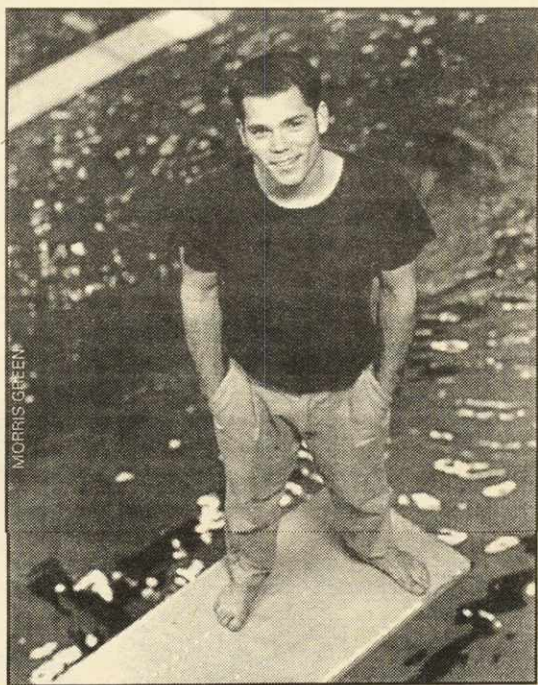
dives."

In Boston, Chad will be doing a very limited number of dives off the one and three metre springboards. With time, he'll progress to the ten metre platform. In case you're wondering, the highest platform at Dalplex is a mere 5 metres. The view from the 10 metre platform at Centennial Pool is downright scary. Even with water to cushion the impact, this is still a very, very high jump. And when you complicate a jump with four somersaults or four body twists in the few seconds between takeoff and splash-down, you begin to appreciate how difficult this sport is.

Chad isn't doing four somersaults yet. Not even close. His best is one and a half, and four is a goal that will have to wait about a year. But he is good, and he's anxious to compete next week.

"The Boston meet is important for a couple of reasons," he says. "There is very little competition in Atlantic Canada and I need to toughen up for the Seniors Nationals in Edmonton next March."

"It's also an opportunity to make contacts with scouts from



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some important American universities. I'll be competing in front of coaches from Brown and Colgate and Boston College and I wanna meet every one of them!"

The competition just happens to coincide with his exam schedule, but he's prepared. Diving is carefully juggled alongside school and a part-time job with CBC-TV's *Street Cents.*, and Chad says it's never a chore.

"Diving is a great release from school and work. When I'm standing on the board before I do a dive, nothing else is in my head. I'm not thinking about work or school, or my student loan, I just wanna nail the dive."