

# SPORTS DESK

By PAUL FARLEY

The Dalhousie Tigers have finally suffered their first defeat in AFC play this season. They fought the league leading Stadacona Sailors valiantly but hopelessly and the sailors were full value for their victory. It was an exciting game from a spectators' point of view and there was even some doubt as to the final outcome up until the Sailors scored their second touchdown.

The stronger part of the game as far as Dal was concerned was their defence. Up until the third quarter the defence line contained Stad's highly rated ground game very well. Pass defence was spotty but adequate and allowed only 4 completions in 11 attempts.

The offensive unit however was in a different position. They couldn't keep up a sustaining drive; both to keep the ball and to give the defence a rest. Although some plays were well executed and went for good gains, Dal couldn't put enough of them together to score more than once.

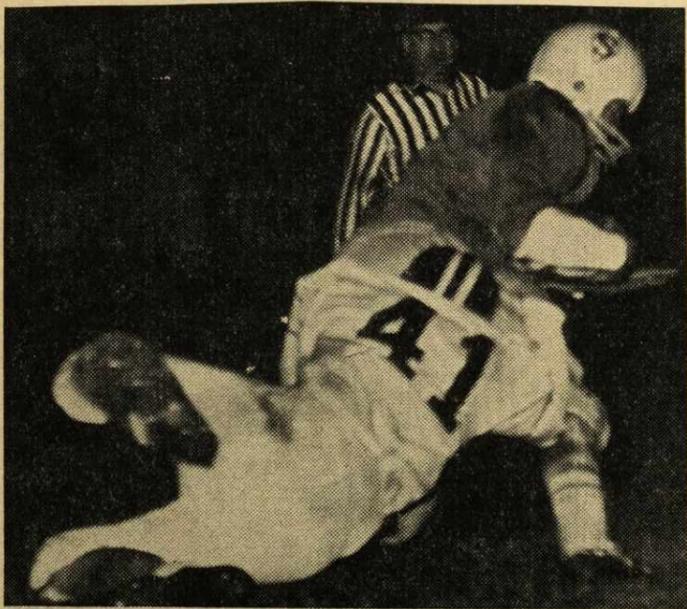
Dal lacks the big gun in the backfield who can both run well and explode up the middle for necessary short yardage. Marler is speedy enough but he lacks the size to be as effective as he might be. Precious at quarterback is a good signal caller and passer but lacks the speed to run well with the ball on roll outs and keeper plays. Maybe with a little experience Offman will be the answer as he is an excellent passer and runner.

However, the game against Stad showed where Dal should fit in as far as the AFC is concerned. X is still the best in the league with St. Mary's and Stad close seconds. Mount Allison are next in line although they are bound to be weaker than last year having lost Rick Black, Pete Grivakes and with Jock Ferguson injured. The rest of the teams are pretty evenly matched with maybe a slight edge to Shearwater. With a good game Dal could beat any one of St. Dunstons, Shearwater, U.N.B. and of course Acadia. If the team keeps on playing as well as they did against Stad then this season should mark the beginning of the coming out of the doldrums for Dal.

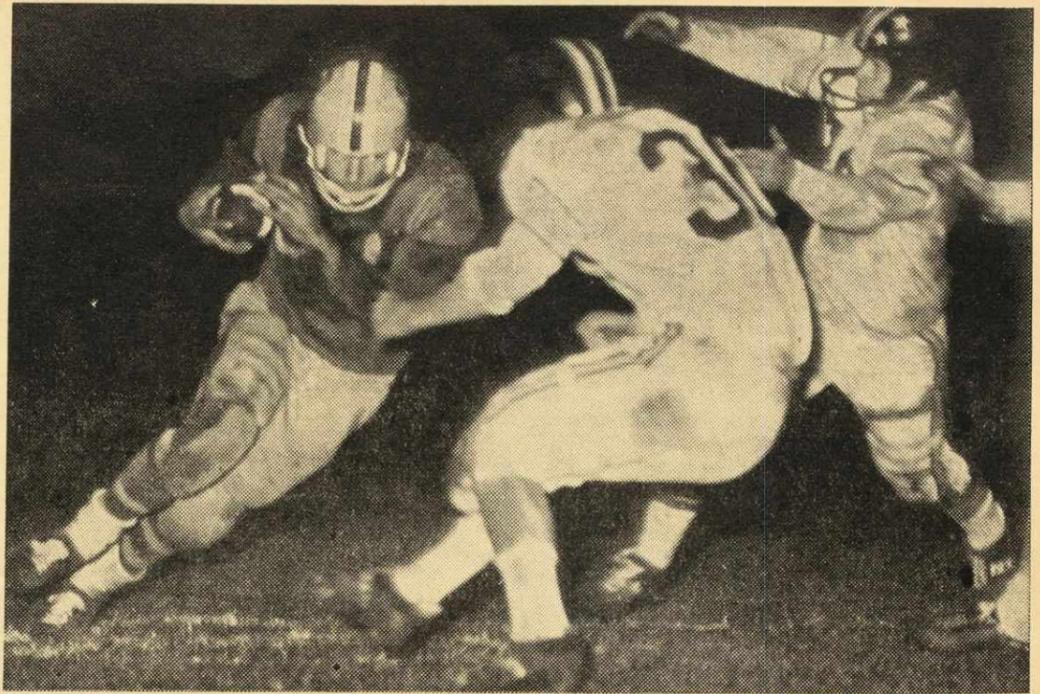
Probably the most keenly competed interfaculty sport at Dalhousie is Interfaculty Football. The introduction of "tag" football last year replacing the conventional "touch" type football has improved the game to the point that a greater variety of offensive plays can be used.

However, since the ball carrier is now harder to stop, the game has gotten rougher than it used to be because it is sometimes necessary to stop the progress of the ball carrier before his tag can be removed. This leads to tackling which although is legal is very loosely interpreted by the referees. As more tackles are made, more weight is thrown around and it has gotten to the point where the team with more weight has a far better chance of winning any game. This is evidenced by the fact that Law, the heaviest team in the league is its leader. Meds, another of the heavy teams is second.

Now, assuming that the purpose of interfac football is to give all the male students, both big and small, the opportunity to play the sport, it is thought by this reporter that a much stricter interpretation of the tackling and blocking rules should be taken by the referees. Maybe the use of three referees instead of two would help the situation. The only other alternative would be to play completely tackle football, with full equipment and the regulation number of officials, a much more costly and less suitable answer.



**NICE TACKLE** — Shown above is Dalhousie's Rob Thorborn putting the stop on an unidentified Stad player while a bespectacled referee decides whether or not to blow his whistle. (Photo by Munroe)



**HOLD THAT LINE** — Shown above are two Dalhousie defensive stalwarts John MacKiegan (20) and Bill Stanish (20) about to nail a hard-charging Stadacona Sailor in Dal's 20-6 loss to the Tars last Friday night. Dal's defence did a good job of containing the league leading Sailors who have been so far undefeated in AFC competition. (Photo by Munroe)

## Dal Suffers First Defeat

A hard fighting Dalhousie Tiger football team fell victim last Friday night to the league leading Stadacona Sailors. In doing so, however the team demonstrated that they are no longer the league doormats that they have been in the past two seasons.

### DAL STARTS WELL

From the opening kick-off, quarterback Dave Precious completed two long passes in succession to Marler and then Stanish. Then the Sailor defence found their sea-legs, and a fierce nip and tuck battle started that was to be the first half. Taking the ball on the Dal 52 in the first quarter, the Sailors took five plays to a first and 10 on the Dal 11. Two plays later Martin romped over from the two for the major. Denis' convert was good, and turned out to be the margin at the end of the half.

### DAL CLOSE MARGIN

About midway through the second quarter, aided by a recovered kick and a sharp defence, the Tigers had possession on their own 45. A rough play penalty to the shipmates advanced the ball 20 yards. A third and 5 gamble saw MacKiegan get to the Sailor 30, and first down. Freshman Quarterback Mark Offman then completed a pass to MacKiegan, who made it in to the eight. Two plays later, MacKiegan was sprung clear on a picturebook block by Marler, and ran into the end zone for the TD. The convert was no good, and the half ended with Stad leading Dal 7 to 6.

### TIGERS FADE

Early in the second half it became apparent that the Tigers were having trouble and it became commonplace to see the Sailors getting eight, twelve, and fifteen yards on line plunges. The

Dal offensive team fared no better, completing a few respectable passes, but only after the Navy line had chased the quarterback so far that the net gains on the plays were negligible.

### STATISTICS FAVOUR STAD

The statistics told the story. Stad gained 236 yards along the ground and 30 yards passing to Dal's 100 and 50. Dal's punts were hurried in almost all cases, and the result of this was that Stad's punting average was very close to twice Dal's. Punting can be as effective a way of gaining yards as rushing, and Stad proved it. Passing, Stad completed four out of eleven, and Dal completed six out of fourteen. Precious and Offman each completed three. Martin for the Sailors gained 84 yards, Parker 69, Laviolette 51, and Glover 21. MacKiegan paced Dal with 74 yards.

## ON CAMPUS

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16** — PC Party Meeting, Women's Lounge, A & A Building 7:30.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17** — Liberal Party Meeting, Women's Lounge, A & A Building 7:30.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18** — Lobster Bowl Game, 8 p.m. Wanderer's 9 - 12:30 Record Hop Gym.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19** — Residence Roll 8:30, Men's Residence.

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