SPORTS

Dalhousie Rugby sweeps weekend play

BY JIM GORDON

The sky was blue and the air was crisp as rugby returned to Studley Field for the first time this season The Dalhousie Rugby Club improved its record to 4-0 last weekend, with a pair of wins over Acadia and SMU.

Both Saturday and Sunday saw the motley crew assemble early in

the afternoon, with several players dragging themselves to Studley Field against the wishes of their bigheads. However, on both days as kickoff time approached, the cobwebs gave way and the Dalhousie Rugby Club rumbled onto the field. Saturday's 18–10 win over Acadia was the club's toughest contest this season. Acadia jumped to a 4-0 lead in the first minute of the

game, but Dalhousie fought back and at the half was up 12-4.

In the second half, Acadia attacked continually and had Dalhousie reeling, but several desperation tackles by John "Rhyming" Simon and the Dave "Imp' Thompson prevented Acadia from being able to take the lead. When the whistle blew to end the game Dalhousie knew they had won a

hard fought victory as a result of a complete team effort.

Sunday's game against SMU was a much improved effort by Dalhousie, resulting in a 38-6 victory. Dan "Mr. Big" MacDonald, was clearly the star for Dalhousie, scoring three trys for a total of 12 points. Dan's previous claim to fame was talking to Ralph on the great white phone at Domus.

Dalhousie's forwards dominated the game. Leading the charge was the "Kiwi Clipper," Conrad Pilditch, who continually attacked SMU with powerful runs from the back of the scrum. Conrad was rewarded for his efforts, scoring a four point try. Not to be outdone, loose forwards Graham Cameron and Bill Stoner, "the Maddogs,"

constantly harassed the SMU backfield preventing them from gaining any advantage. A fine performance by the Dalhousie front row Kevin Schultz, Kelton Thomason and James "Babyface" Sheppard, possibly the winners of the University Rugby League's ugliest front row, provided the home team's backfield with plenty of ball.

The Dalhousie Rugby Club wishes to thank all the fans who attended the weekend games, your support is greatly appreciated! Dalhousie faces a pivotal weekend coming up. On Saturday the team travels to Mount Allison to face a powerful Mounties team, which is also 4-0. The final regular season game is Sunday against ST.F.X. on Studley Field.

Rowers forsake all else

BY CHRIS LAMBIE

In its first year of existence, the Dalhousie Rowing Club has launched an impressive fleet of eight shells on Lake Banook in Dartmouth.

Andrew Carter, president of the club, says over 60 people have shown up to row competitive crew at Dal. "We have three novice women's' eights, one novice men's eight, one light-weight women's four, one light-weight men's four and the varsity men's eight," says

> Dal rowing impressive in its first year

Carter.

about a dozen local rowers, lots of imported oarsmen/women with experience and even more new rowers who have been sucked into the life-controlling vortex that is rowing.

ing sport at the competitive level. Student oarsmen/women must learn to give up all sorts of fun stuff like partying, studying and sleeping-late if they want to win races. In short, participation calls all sanity into question when it starts to snow in the middle of a late fall practice.

While Dal Rowing is only in its first year, the team hopes to race in New Brunswick this weekend, and at the Head of the Connecticut on October 13.

Assisted by a number of volunteer coaches, the team hopes to gain racing status for the Ontario University championships (O.U.) and Boston's Head of the Charles for next October. The O.U. championships is a regatta where all of the eastern Canadian rowing schools compete in a series of 2,000 metre sprints. The Head of the Charles is a much longer race and the world's largest one-day regatta, not to mention the world's largest one-day festival of picnics, ivyleague foolishness and open-air alcohol consumption.

As the varsity eight prepared for The club is made up of a core of a late night practice last week, a light fall wind was blowing crisp and the leaves around the lake were starting to change colour.

The delicate action of a wooden Kaschper shell being carried down to the water's edge was almost over-Rowing is an intensely demand- poweringly beautiful. Comraderie

was evident between the members of the varsity boat as they joked with each other while tightening their oar locks and fastening themselves into their footstops and shoes in the boat.

As they rowed away from the

Student oarsmen women must learn to give uþ fun

dock, the cox calmly giving orders, their blades were slightly uneven and their catches kind of ragged. But slowly, building a working rhythm, the shell started to pickup speed and the crew began to swing as one.

Following them for the course of an hour, the boat gelled into something more perfect than anything else in the world, an eight-oared crew. Hopefully, their's and their team-mates' efforts will follow in the long-standing and successful tradition of Canadian rowing.

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