



Huskies take AUBC title

by Mark Alberstat

March 4th and 5th saw the AUBC playoffs at the Metro Centre with Saint Mary's coming out as the clear champions in the 78-67 win over UPEI in the final game.

Friday night's game had the Tigers take on fourth-place UPEI, and Saint Mary's playing the St. Francis Xavier X-men.

Dal was originally scheduled to play against St. F.X. and Saint Mary's to play UPEI, but the Huskies forfeited two games because they played two games with an ineligible player. The two games in question were played before the Christmas break. This wrinkle revised the standings with Dalhousie going from second to first place and the Huskies dropping to second.

The first contest of the night was the Dal-UPEI game. The Tigers ran into trouble in the second half, losing with a final score of 78-64.

At half time Dal was leading with a score of 32-28, but the Tigers were unable to keep the

lead through the second half. The Panthers had several scoring drives in the latter half that were left almost unanswered by the Tigers.

At the midway point in the second half it was clearly UPEI's game.

Dal's top scorers for the game were Stan Whetstone and Steve Lambert, each with 21, and Bo Hampton with 10. For UPEI, Curtis Brown had 20 while Tejan Alleyne had 19.

The 9 pm game pitted the AUBC defending champion Huskies against the X-men. This game saw the Huskies go to the locker room at half time with a 42-32 edge.

The final score of the game had Saint Mary's winning by three with a score of 73-70. Rod Buckland had 18 for St. Mary's while teammate Ron Lardge had 16. St. F.X.'s John Hatch had 17 while Kyle Gayle netted 13.

The final game of the AUBC season had the upstart UPEI Panthers against Saint Mary's. The game was a pretty evenly

matched battle with neither team having a very wide margin through the first half.

The first half looked like there would be a shootout between Saint Mary's Gary Bratty and UPEI's Tejan Alleyne. Bratty was the first of the two to hit double digits, but Alleyne was soon to follow.

With 21 seconds left in the first half and the score tied 40-40, UPEI had a chance to go to the locker room with an edge as Saint Mary's handed the ball over, but the Panthers were not able to capitalize on the chance.

UPEI's Tyrone Norman showed his brilliance late in the second half, racking up 14 points for the half, four of which came from his seven foul shots.

The second half had Saint Mary's easily in control of the game being ahead by 7 points or more four times throughout the half. Through the second half UPEI had a total of four foul shots canning three of them compared with Saint Mary's eight out of ten. The only player to foul out of the game was the Panthers' Tyrone Norman late in the second half.

The leading scorers of the game were UPEI's Mike Morgan with 21 and Tejan Alleyne with 21. Saint Mary's shooting stars were Gary Bratty with 27 and Ron Latter with 16.

The MVP for the championship was Saint Mary's Gary Bratty who collected 30 points in their two games.

Scoring summaries

Friday night - UPEI 78 - Morgan 13, Brown 20, Alleyne 19, Willock 11, Norman 6, Pettigrew 5, Marchbank 4; Dalhousie 64 - Lambert 21, Whetstone 21, Hampton 10, Leacock 4, Write 8.

Swim Tigers at CIAU's in Toronto

The women Tigers, who have finished in the top five the last five years, were led by team captain Shelly Platt. Platt was a triple finalist in the 200 and 400m Individual Medley, and the 800m Freestyle. Platt was also a member of the silver medal winning 400m Freestyle Relay Team which included Jennifer Davidson, Susan Duncan and AUSA Female Swimmer of the Year Patti Boyles.

Andrew Cole led the four man male contingent, capturing a silver and a bronze medal in the

100 and 200m Breast Stroke. Cole's times of 1:04.59 and 2:19.02 were both AUSA records.

All nine Dalhousie female swimmers contributed to the team's score. In addition to Platt, Duncan was fourth and fifth in the 50m Freestyle and the 100m Backstroke, Boyles was fourth and fifth in the 200 and 100m Freestyle, Tricia Cameron was fifth in the 200m Breast Stroke, Mary Mowbray was eighth in the 200m Butterfly and Karen Walker, Jennifer Davidson and

Sue Hall were all consolation finalists.

David Petrie qualified for the consolation final in the 100 and 200m Backstroke.

The Dalhousie Tigers Women's Swim Team placed fifth at the CIAU National Swimming and Diving Championships held at the University of Toronto over the weekend. The Tigers, who sent nine female swimmers to the meet, finished with a total of 257 points, two behind fourth-place Brock.

The University of Toronto, on

the strength of their superior diving, captured top spot in the women's division with an overwhelming 410 points. Alberta and British Columbia placed second and third with 365 and 346 points respectively. Dalhousie and Brock had no drivers competing.

In the men's competition the Tigers just failed to finish in the top ten placing 11th with 81 points. Calgary captured top honours with 572 points compared to second-place Toronto's 479. The University of Laval placed third with 378 points.

A volleyball fairy-tale

by Mark Alberstat

A long, long time ago in a University far, far away October was soon to be there. As usual, with the encroachment of October the new volleyball season was just around the corner.

The volleyball team was chosen and as Dal Scott, Alhousie's head volleyball coach, sat in his office at the Alplex, he saw a disheartening thing. There, in front of him, was that year's players list. The present team consisted of only three veterans and the rest rookies.

Much of the previous year's high-calibre team had not returned, be they graduated or otherwise and non-existent and irrelevant to the story. That year's rookies list had many question marks on it: Could these players gel as a team? Could they successfully take on other varsity teams with more experience? And why are the players so much taller than the coach?

There was also a new assistant

coach that year, namely Ken Gallben. Few people know about Ken and how he affected this rag-tag team and even less care, but he is a character involved in the volleyball team's fairy-tale season that could not be left out.

Before we delve into the actual season matches and results, let's look at some history of the team, and, of course, the coach, Dal Scott.

First off, the team competes in the FTAA or the Fairy-Tale Athletic Association, which often doesn't know if it's coming or going, and will sometimes hinder athletes' futures for their own self-esteem. In the men's volleyball division there are 3 other teams for the Alhousie Tigers to play against, most of them being strong teams and none to be laughed at.

The Tigers have had a remarkable record with Dal Scott at the helm, leading them to four undefeated seasons and likewise to four consecutive FTAA titles start-

ing with the first year he arrived on the scene.

Dal Scott is best described as being calm, but not just calm—super calm. He sits in his chair on the sidelines watching the match, occasionally making substitutions and talking to his players but is always the same straight-faced Dal. Photographers often like taking pictures of coaches when they get emotional at games and volleyball is no exception. In one match that fated season, a photographer spent much time trying to get an emotional shot of coach Scott. The photographer left disappointed, even though the match took the maximum of five games.

The team started off the regular season at home to a bad beginning. The team lost to UNB on consecutive nights but dimly showed the depth and expertise they would later reveal.

The team's next home game experience was not much better as they lost two of three matches

in an FTAA tournament.

Like all fairy tales, though, things got better. Let's face it—they couldn't get much worse. With the team sporting a three and six record going into the Christmas break it looked like nothing could save the Tigers' downward spiral except one of three things: (1) a miracle, (2) a magical coach with more incantations than Broom Hilda, or (3) a great storyteller. Luckily, our fated heroes had all three.

Over the Christmas break the team worked together and separately to perfect their skills at volleyball and other activities.

With a sprinkling of black and gold magic dust from Dal Scott, there emerged a team of volleyball players that could play (and this time win), could be nationally ranked, could hope to win more than two matches in a row, and could ultimately tie their own shoes and carry their own water bottles.

Dal Scott rebuilt the team,

made them faster than they were, stronger than they were, and more cohesive than they ever were before.

They won their first match after Christmas as well as their second match, and psyched themselves up for the much-famed Alhousie Volleyball Classic. This tournament showed that the team was indeed something to be reckoned with.

The team played a tight Classic, in the end winning the bronze and, for the first time that season, getting ranked nationally (eighth).

Our heroes won match after match and the wave carried them into the championship match of the FTAA which they subsequently won, ending the year with an incredible (when considering the beginning of the season) 12-6 record. Oh, dear readers, this is what dreams are made of.

We wish the team the best of luck in the CIAU's.