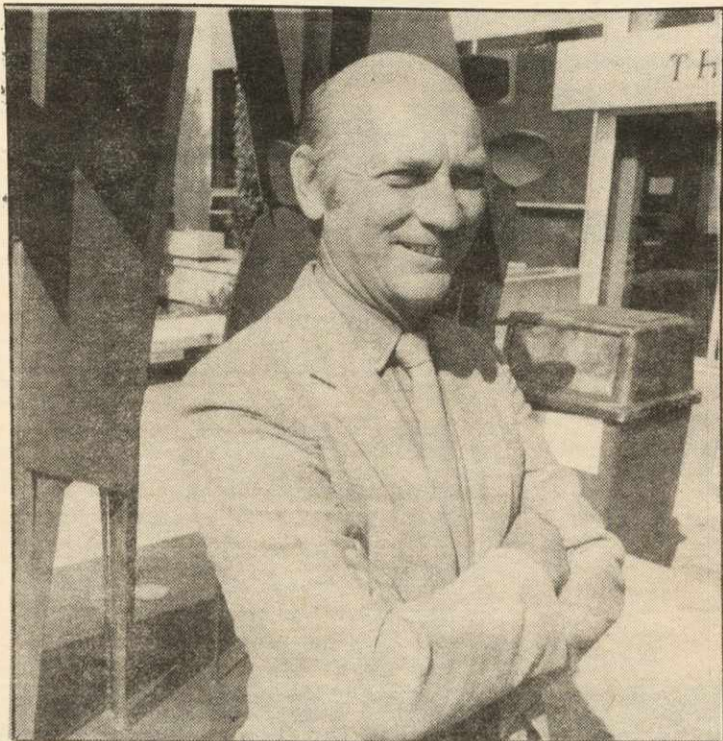


Soccer coach back with high hopes



Tony Richards, coach of men's soccer team.

by Angel Figueroa

Dalhousie is going to see the best soccer they've seen in five years, says new Tiger coach Dr. Tony Richards.

In the wake of a dismal 1989 season, that didn't even see the Tigers in the final round, there is every reason to believe that 1990 will not be a disappointing year for the soccer program.

"We can have the talent. You can see us in the playoffs," Richards said. Richards, who is head of Leisure Studies, is returning to head the men's squad after an absence of nine years. His ten years of coaching, from 1971 to 1981, saw his team go to the Atlantic championships six times and were runners up at the national once.

Richards was very impressed with the initial turnout. After cutting the weaker ones out of the herd, he is very satisfied with the final squad. Of the 20 who were cut four were veterans, indicating the large influx of quality players.

"Everyone is committed to the team; it's just up to everyone to play their position. With a good coaching staff behind me, I can't help but be optimistic."

Richards will be assisted by Ray MacNeil and Ian Kent, both onetime players at Dal.

The starting line-up is comprised of some very experienced players. Four are members of the provincial under 18 squad, and one played with the Bermuda under 18 national team. As well, two graduate students from England were successfully recruited to complement seven returning veterans. Richards said he will be counting on the experience of Andy Wheeler and John Amus to help out Keith McAlary and Bob Adams, two of the Tigers' star players from last year's squad.

Terry MacDonald, who is coaching the women's team, is also very optimistic. After watching his team start the season opener with a 3-0 win over Cape Breton on Sunday, he felt that his squad is the best he has seen in a while. "For the first time in a number of years, we have new players of above average talent. The challenge now is getting the players to know each other and perform together."

MacDonald has been coaching since the women's team first started in 1980. Prior to that he played for Dartmouth Moosehead. His experience will be reinforced with the help of assistant coaches Trent Morris and Neil Sedgewick.

There are only four returning players including team captain Lenore McDonald who plays

sweeper, and Stephanie Johnson at midfield, who was rookie of the year last season. With the acquirement of Belinda Campbells, a two-time All Canadian from St. Mary's, they'll be providing the many newcomers with leadership and experience.

The women squad's next two games are against St. Mary's (Sept. 16) and then Acadia (Sept. 21), two fellow powerhouses of the Atlantic division. By then the team will have had two weeks of practice, so it should be a good indication of just what lies ahead.

The men's team plays their home opener against St. Francis Xavier on Sept. 15 at 3 pm. There will be a pre-game barbecue at Studley field and everyone is welcome to attend.

While insisting that soccer is Dalhousie's foresport, Richards and MacDonald admitted that a variable necessary to complete success will be strong support from the bleachers. This is something that has not been evident in the past years. With the new 1990 rosters, a lot can be expected if there is a good showing of Tiger fans.

So come on Dal. Get there and holler 'till you croak. You might just witness the making of two championship teams.

Dalhousie rugby kicks off season

by Paul Bishop

Nine a.m. Sunday morning. The sun is shining and the dew is glistening on the grass of Studley field. Fifteen men have gathered there, donning shorts, jerseys and cleats. They have come while their friends and neighbors sleep, or are just now sitting down for that first cup of coffee and the morning paper. These men think not of such comforts, however, but of the event before them. These men are *not* professionals, they are *debatably* athletes, and their sport is... rugby.

On Sunday morning such an event took place. Dalhousie met Kings for their annual pre-season exhibition game. The rivalry between the two teams is well known, yet on this particular day the competition was tempered by a camaraderie felt by all. Everyone was glad to see their old teammates back on the field, and meet with past rivals.

Dal Rugby is particularly excited about the upcoming season. A solid core of returning players under the leadership of club president Steve Mansfield, with the aid of such people as Doug Hartlen, Bill Hoque, and the infamous Av Singh, should provide the momentum to propel the club into its 110th season.

An important addition to the team is a new coach, Jim Gordon, who was a member of Dal Rugby during the phenomenal years of 1979 to 1982 when the club won

both University and Provincial Championships. His leadership skills and obvious command of the game are tempered by his sense of humour which is an important feature of Dal Rugby.

Not everyone on the team has great deal of rugby experience, and as a university team everyone is encouraged to become proficient in the basic skills, while attempting to master the more subtle complexities of the game.

Now, I'm sure of you who have seen even just one match might wonder about what sort of subtleties exist in a game where thirty people run about, in seemingly random confusion, trying to beat on someone carrying the ball. This is, I assure you, merely a superficial view of the game. Rugby requires good fitness, quick thinking, and the ability to conceive advanced tactical manoeuvres, *before* someone clobbers you. Under good leadership, and with enough experience, the team quickly becomes a unit which effectively moves the ball around the field exhibiting a grace which the uninitiated would not have believed.

In the end, rugby is a social sport. People new to Dal find a group who are open, and who like to have fun. If you feel you would like to play, experienced or not, practices are Tuesdays 4 to 5 p.m. at Studley field, and watch for the posters announcing the next home game.

DAL STUDENTS
Come into **Uptown Images**
for our 3rd Annual Poster Sale

20% Off

our entire selection of instore posters.
Over 500 Images to choose from

NOSTALGIA, FINE ART, SPORTS, CARS

3 locations - 1st floor Mic Mac Mall 465-2227
- Halifax Shopping Center 454 - 8344
- Brunswick st., Off Spring Garden 422 - 9264

Uptown Images



" THE PURRFECT POSTER STORE "