

SPORTS

First loss in men's soccer

BY ANGEL FIGUEROA

It's a weird league. That's what comes to mind after reviewing this weekend's men's soccer scores, where the Tigers took on Acadia for two games which were likely testing matches for the AUAA playoffs. Splitting games with a win and a loss, Dal enters the final four games of an arduous season that is now more indefinite than some like to think.

A 3-0 win was recorded first on Wednesday at Wolfville, followed by a startling 1-0 home loss on Sunday, in which the Tigers faced a rejuvenated Acadia that were playing as if their life depended on it. They delivered Dal's first loss of the season, but with a record of four wins and two ties, coach Ian Kent still finds the defeat a good pointer for the team.

"Having this one loss will be an isolated incident that will turn out to be very positive for the team," he said, which was a sentiment also shared by the players.

But it was a loss that even Kent felt was plagued with bad luck, something he usually frowns as non-existent in soccer. Dal out shot Acadia twice over, physically dominated them, and still outplayed them, but the many chances to score never materialized for one reason or other.

"We didn't play much worse than the game we won earlier. Maybe we weren't as hungry as Acadia. But we still dictated most of the play — our finishing touches just evaded us."

The score was nil apiece at halftime, but Acadia scored in the second half with a scrappy goal off a deflection from a corner. Gambling, they crowded the halfbacks to saturate their defensive efforts, and their panic paid off as Dal just couldn't break it down to score at least an equalizer.

In Wednesday's game, it was nil apiece at halftime as well, but when Rob Sawler scored early in the second half, there was no turning back. Sticking to custom, it was yet another beautiful goal for the blond kid who looks more like a feather-weight boxer than the great player he is. Heading a rebound during a scramble just inside the six yard box, the ball found its mark for the first of two goals he would score.

Dal dominated the rest of the game as Acadia seemed to fall apart. Midfielders Andy Wheeler and Neil Sedgwick again put on a marvellous show, while the entire back-line led by sweeper Adrian Ibbetson fulfilled their role to a tee. Dal went up 2-0 with more theatrics from Sawler, as a corner by Tim Hall was first deflected outside the crease where Sawler used his shin to put it into the upper corner.

John Richmond would finally get on to the stats sheet with a goal of his own, after an unusual hiatus of four games without scoring. To mark the occasion, it was fittingly dramatic. Acadia was intercepted on a drive and a quick, trademark lob from centrefield put Dal on the

counterattack. Richmond won the loose ball in the keeper's face to then chip it over him and into the net, while diving gloriously into the pitch from the collision with the rushing keeper.

More entertainment from Sawler earned him AUAA player of the game, while Acadia stood humbled in defeat. However it was a victory that proved a motivator for their resurrection in the next game, where Dal's "lack of zip" was enough to be humbled themselves. With a 4-2-1 record, playoff qualification seems virtually assured, but there is now no room to fool around, as always-strong SMU (despite their record) is next on the list. SMU will be fighting for survival in a game which will show no resignation to the forces that clobbered them 5-1 only a week ago, and their unforgiving astroturf could prove a formidable variable. After that, its Saint Francis Xavier, at Studley, on Oct. 16 at 4 p.m..

Soccer

Atlantic Universities Men's Soccer

	East Division					Pts.
	W	L	T	GF	GA	
Acadia	5	2	2	12	8	12
Dalhousie	4	1	2	16	4	10
Saint Mary's	1	4	2	11	17	4
St. FX	0	4	3	4	13	3
West Division						Pts.
	W	L	T	GF	GA	
Mt. Allison	4	1	2	16	5	10
UNB	2	0	3	6	4	7
Memorial	3	4	1	3	15	7
Moncton	3	4	1	14	14	7
UPEI	3	5	0	11	14	6

Atlantic Universities Women's Soccer

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
	Dalhousie	6	1	1	34	
Acadia	5	0	2	18	1	12
Memorial	4	2	1	13	5	9
Mt. Allison	3	3	1	10	10	7
Saint Mary's	2	2	2	3	4	6
St. FX	2	5	0	6	13	4
UPEI	0	3	1	1	9	1
Moncton	0	6	0	0	42	0

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

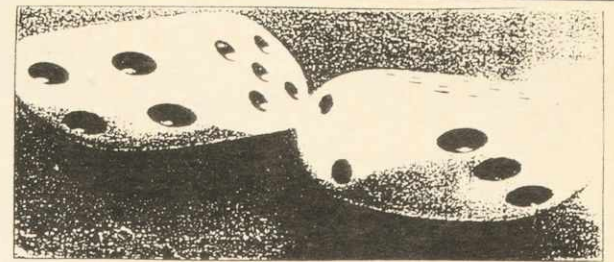
Oct. 22 Dal @ SMU 4 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

Oct. 19 Dal @ SFX

HOCKEY

Oct. 11 SMU @ DAL (Exhibition Game) 5:30 p.m. • Oct. 20 ACA @ Dal 2 p.m.



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Music: Men's Choir - Handel

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Sermon: *The Priesthood of Believers* - Rev. John E. Boyd
Music: Shutz Willcocks

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