

Hockey thrills Homecoming crowd

Top-rated Axemen narrowly escape Tigers

BY GREG WHITE

In the sporting highlight of the Homecoming Weekend, the 2000 plus fans who jammed the Dalhousie Memorial Arena were treated to a very physical and exciting hockey game.

Saturday night's matchup pitted the host Dalhousie Tigers against their perennial Kelly Division rivals, the Acadia Axemen. Dalhousie fans were anxious to get a glimpse of this year's final team, which saw the addition of many key players who had sat out in Dal's exhibition loss to the Axemen earlier this season. Team Captain David Haynes has recov-

ered from a shoulder injury and has returned to the line-up.

Dal also dressed Assistant Captain Scott Gallant, who formerly played with the Axemen as a member of their 1993 National Championship Team. Assistant Captain Martin Lapointe, who led the AUHC in scoring for defencemen last season, made his home debut, and fourth year netminder Greg Dreveny got the nod for the Tigers between the pipes.

Dalhousie came out flying in the first period, but it was a strong and physical Acadia team that jumped out to an early 3-0 lead. Dalhousie fans were reminded of



Acadia's hockey supremacy, as the Axemen connected on a very pretty tic-tac-toe goal that would have undressed any defence in the AUAA. Dal clawed their way back into the game at 17:24 of the first period with a power play goal from Martin Lapointe. A fired up Tiger team cut the lead to one goal just 17 seconds later on a nifty move from Jason Pellerin.

Dalhousie fell behind 5-2 in the second period until Marc Warner solved Acadia netminder Trevor

Amundrund with a bullet from the top of the slot, making the score 5-3 going into the second intermission.

Scott Gallant was able to bring the Tigers within one goal of the defending National Champs, but that would be as close as Dal would get. Acadia was able to nullify a Tigers power-play late in the third period, and Amundrund made some big saves for the Acadia side. With an extra attacker in the closing seconds of

the game, Dal was unable to capitalize on a couple of melees in front of the Acadia net. The Axemen were able to fend off the late Dalhousie charge to emerge victorious in the first of many meetings between these two hockey clubs this season.

The Tigers travel to Antigonish this weekend to face a much improved St. F.X. team, and will play host to the X-men at Dalhousie Memorial Arena on Wednesday, November 6 at 7 p.m.

Atlantic Universities Hockey Conference

Kelly Division

| | W | L | T | GF | GA | Pts |
|----------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Acadia (1) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 12 | 8 |
| Dalhousie (10) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 3 |
| Saint Mary's | 1 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 9 | 2 |
| St. F.X. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |

MacAdam Division

| | W | L | T | GF | GA | Pts |
|-------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| UNB | 3 | 1 | 0 | 18 | 12 | 6 |
| Moncton | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 17 | 3 |
| Mt. Allison | 1 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 15 | 2 |
| PEI | 1 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 19 | 2 |
| St. Thomas | 1 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 22 | 2 |

Dalhousie Wins Fall Classic

BY CARMEN TAM AND VIVEK TOMAR

The Dalhousie baseball team was in top form last weekend, capturing their first University Baseball Fall Classic Championship.

Dal won all 4 of its round robin matches, defeating rivals Acadia and Saint Mary's for the Atlantic Conference Title. The victory gives the Tigers the right to go St. Catherine's Ontario to play in the National Final Four Championship of the Canadian Intercollegiate Baseball Association.

Dal edged defending champs Acadia 3-2 on Sunday to win their second straight regular season pennant. The team started the attack early with Shawn Woodworth's double scoring 2 runs in the first inning. Pitcher Trevor Wambach went the distance pitching all 7 innings of the game. Left Fielder Jason Irvine made a spectacular diving catch in the bottom of the 7th inning to keep what could have been Acadia's tying run off base. The win gave Dal a 4-0 record in the tournament and an automatic win of the Championship.

On Saturday, Dal opened the

tournament with an 8-7 victory over Acadia, followed by a 14-8 pounding of the Saint Mary's Huskies. Later on that evening, Dal defeated Saint Mary's again with by 4-1 score.

Dal's Craig Higgins was named the Tournament's Most Valuable Player. Higgins turned in a stellar defensive effort at short-stop and captured the Tournament's Batting Title. Dal players named to the tournament All-Star team were first basemen Scott Sturgeon, second baseman Brian Clarke, and outfielder Shawn Woodworth.

Head coach Cecil Wright was pleased with his team's performance and added, "We look to improve over last season's sixth place finish at nationals." Brian Clarke, playing in his second year, agrees.

"We have a legitimate chance now that we have last year's experience behind us," said Clarke. "We know what to expect, the calibre of ball we have to compete against and I know we can play well."

In St. Catherine's, the team will face the top teams in the nation, including U of T, McGill, Brock and defending champs Laval Rouge et Ore. Good luck at the Nationals!

Volleyball can't dig University of Toronto

BY CARMEN TAM

The Dalhousie Volleyball is seeking its 17th AUAA title in 18 years this season.

Returning to the squad is a strong core of experienced players. Head coach Al Scott, who has been with the team for the past two decades, will be looking to Captain Jamie Mallon and former AUAA all-star Eric Villeneuve for leadership. National B team member and 1994 CIAU Rookie of the Year Terry Martin, and fourth year setter Scott Brake are also returning.

Adding depth this season are third year hitter Jason Trepanier on the right, Peter Thurlow and Dartmouth's Tim Pellerine in the middle, and Bobby Stevens, John Hobin and Matt Hartlen who are manning the left.

This year features an outstanding group of newcomers. Middle blockers Scott Bishop and Jason Dunfield both played for Team Nova Scotia while setter Sacho MacKenzie played for PEI. From the setting position is Ontario native David Cox and Calgarian Peter Exhall. Lower Sackville's Mike Vasser will be playing on the

left side.

Dalhousie started its season last week with a three game exhibition tournament against the University of Toronto Varsity Blues. They lost all three games, but the contests were close.

The first match, at Dalplex, saw the 1996 Ontario East Champion Blues sweep the Black and Gold 15-12, 15-12 and 15-8. Eric Villeneuve had 16 kills and 3 blocks for the Tigers while Terry Martin added 15 kills and 7 blocks. Peter Thurlow was named as Dalhousie's player of the match. Three time All-Canadian Jeff Chung earned player of the game honours for Toronto.

The second match was played at Whycomagh Consolidated School in Cape Breton. The Tigers captured the first two sets 15-6 and 15-10 but were unable to put the game away as Toronto rebounded with a 10-15, 10-15, 13-15 run. Villeneuve had 23 kills while captain Jamie Mallon chipped in 17 kills and 5 service aces. Jason Trepanier added 16 kills for the Tigers.

In the third and final game at Uniacke District School, the Tigers

again captured the first two sets but were unable to capitalize as the Blues recovered to take the next three sets 12-15, 14-16 and 7-15. Dal's Matt Hartlin and Terry Martin had 29 and 19 kills respectively while Mallon chipped in 16 kills and 6 digs.

Rookie Dave Cox says the tournament was a great experience.

"Jeff Chung (Toronto) is the best all-round player in the country, and I used to see him play quite a bit back home. The fact that I am playing against him now is incredible," said Cox.

Assistant coach Kirk Yanofsky noted it was a positive weekend.

"We improved a lot from the first game and we identified the things we need to work on," Yanofsky said.

Next week, the Black and Gold head to Waterloo, Ontario for a pair of tournaments. On Thursday, they'll be competing in the Wilfred Laurier Invitational, followed by the Waterloo Warrior Classic on Saturday.

The first home game of the regular season will be played at Dalplex on November 30th at 7 p.m.