

# sports

## Tigers playoff hopes axed by Acadia

by Sam McCaig

There can be only one explanation - Acadia has one helluva good hockey team.

Dalhousie had a very good team: consistent goaltending with a penchant for clutch saves, a strong defensive core that was six players deep, and an array of forwards from the finesse front to that of the nitty-gritty variety.

That said, Acadia made no bones about blowing us out of the playoffs in two straight games, the scores being 12-2 and 9-3.

Ouch.

Almost bad enough to make one forget Dalhousie's handling of St. Mary's in the previous play-off series. Almost, but as those two games were the Tiger's final two victories of the 1993-94 hockey season, they are certainly worthy of mention.

Game one: Metro Centre. Double-overtime. Milroy slapper from top of circle. 5-4. Sweetest victory of the year.

Game two. Dalhousie Memorial Arena. As if we're going to lose at home to the Huskies. 5-1 final. Enter the Axemen.

Oh, the Axemen.

Playing like a team of destiny, Acadia exhibited exceptional puck movement and great team speed.

Combine that with outstanding goaltending (à la Denis Sproxtton) and an experienced coaching staff, and the recipe for a championship-calibre team is set. Simply, they're a very big, very fast team that, in all likelihood, will capture their second consecutive CIAU title.

On the other hand, the Tigers will have to be satisfied with their regular season title and the knowledge that they iced one of the best squads in Canada this year. Unfortunately, they reside in the same division as a team with potential dynasty dreams and this fact left us unable to compete with other national contenders.

Look at it this way: in Dalhousie's last nineteen games, they're an impressive 16-3. Pretty good, you say? Well, for that, they got unceremoniously booted out of the playoffs in the AUAA semi-finals. I'm sure there's a silver lining in there somewhere, it's just a little difficult to find. Furthermore, guess who handed us those three losses... yeah, that's right, the Axemen. Go figure.

What's my point?

Basically, I'm asking, what it is we have to do? We came first overall in the regular season; we had the AUAA Coach of the Year in Darrell Young (sorry, no "fire his ass" article this year); we had the Tiger version of Gretzky-to-Kurri in Joe Suk and Ken MacDermid; and, our canteen was the only one to serve pizza pockets. What else could we possibly do?

Despite these credentials, this is the third year in a row that Acadia has beaten us out and this was probably our strongest team of those three



Dal's Steve Widmeyer gets pushed around in playoff action against Saint Mary's. Unfortunately for the Tigers, Acadia eliminated them from the playoffs last week. DALPHOTO: MIKE DEVONPORT

years. Now we are losing two-thirds of our bread-and-butter line (Suk and MacDermid); four-fifths of our first power-play unit (Suk, MacDermid, George Wilcox and Kevin Meisner); and, half of our starting six defencemen (Meisner, Anthony MacAulay and Brian MacDonald).

Such is the nature of the university game to lose one's best players to graduation, but for those who have toiled so hard for four or five years

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## Tigers make splash

by John Yip

It was a mixed result for the Dalhousie Swimming Tigers at the AUAA championships. While the women defeated the host University of New Brunswick, the men were edged for first place by UNB.

The AUAA's were held February 18-20 in Fredericton. The women outscored UNB 189 to 150 while the men were outpointed 218 to 185.

Thirty-six swimmers, three coaches, four physiotherapists and two managers made the five-hour trek seeking double AUAA titles. The last meet of the year also provided the swimmers with a final opportunity to qualify for the Commonwealth Games Trials and the CIAU championships, both to be held in Victoria, BC.

Day One:

The swimmers were up bright and early for some fast swimming in the morning heats. From the heats, the top six times would move on to the evening's finals. The Dal Tigers saw fourth-year Physics student Dave LeBlanc swim under the CIAU qualifying time in the 100 metre fly in the morning heats. LeBlanc's swim fore-

shadowed the fast swimming to come in the evening's finals. On the men's side Jason Shannon captured the gold in the 50m back and the 200m individual medley. Teammate Mike Ritcey pushed Shannon along in the 200m IM but came up short and took the silver. However, Ritcey powered his way to victory in the 200m breaststroke and earned a trip to Victoria by posting a time under the qualifying standard. Ian Jackson, a pre-qualifier to the CIAU's finished second to Ritcey. In the 100m fly, the Dal men dominated the event with four finalists. The race saw Sean Andrews finish second and Brent Purdy taking the bronze. Purdy missed qualifying for the CIAU's by a mere 2/100ths of a second. Dave LeBlanc and P.J. Cowan rounded up the finalists in the 100m fly. Ed Stewart placed well in the 50m back while Ian McDougall and Andrew Kirby fared well against the UNB sprinters. The Dal trio of Francois Anctil, Greg Rasmussen and Jason Jardine scored some much needed points in the 400m free. The 4x100 medley relay finished second. After Day One,

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## Men win v-ball title

by Carmen Tam

It's beginning to be routine for the Dalhousie men's volleyball team.

The Tigers won their thirteenth AUAA title in 14 years as they demolished Memorial University Sea-Hawks 3-0 in 47 minutes Saturday at Dalplex.

The top performers for Dalhousie were Jody Holden and Chris Schwarz with 12 and 11 kills each as Dal cruised to a 15-4, 15-1, 15-5 victory.

Dal opened the best-of-three series Friday night at the Dalplex by mangling the Sea-Hawks 15-8, 15-6 and 15-4. Holden once again shined for Dalhousie as he racked up nine kills and seven service aces. Holden was named AUAA playoff MVP and AUAA All-Star as were the Ville-

neuve brothers, Paul and Eric. Former Tiger Deon Goulding, now playing for Memorial, was voted AUAA MVP.

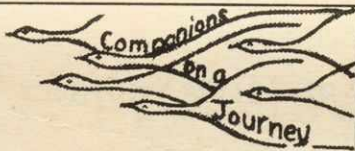
Thus concludes another successful regular season for Dal as the Tigers remained undefeated this year, their tenth flawless record in 14 years. In addition to AUAA play the team completed in four major tournaments including the Manitoba NY Life Invitational and the Sherbrooke Omnium Vert et Or before Christmas. In the new year they were the gold medalist at the Lawton's Volleyball Classic at home and captured bronze at the prestigious Laval Carnival Tournament last month.

For more on this weekend's CIAU championships which Dalhousie is hosting, please see page 13.



PHOTO: BILL JENSEN

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
ROMAN CATHOLIC  
COMMUNITY



**SUNDAY MASS  
12:30 P.M.  
ROOM 307 S.U.B.**

**DAILY MASS, TUES. & THURS. 12:30  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
OR FOR CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE,  
PHONE 494-2287  
CHAPLANS: MARGARET MACDONELL  
FATHER CAIRNS**

## \$\$\$\$ BURSARIES\$\$\$\$

Undergraduate students who have applied for provincial student aid are eligible for a Dalhousie University Bursary. If you have not yet applied, do so today - applications are available from the Registrar's Office. This program runs until April 15th and Bursary applications are also accepted during the summer sessions.

Workshops on proper completion of the Bursary Application are held: Mondays 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. and Wednesdays, 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. in Room 143, A&A Building (Old Board and Senate Room)