

Dal forms fencing club

Fencing may be your sharpest point

by Bob Pottle

Want to lose weight? make new friends? develop agility, speed, strength, stamina, poise, and get rid of that ugly blemish on your big toe-nail? If so dear friends, read on.

The way to accomplish all these amazing feats (or maybe one or two)? Try fencing. If this brings to mind connotations of trying to adjust to a meaningful social relationship with a rapier through your navel, don't worry, it isn't too much of an inconvenience.

Fencing is actually one of the safest sports known. Recently it has been regaining popularity in the Atlantic provinces. Five years ago only U.N.B. and Memorial had teams. Now DAL and U.P.E.I. have been added to the list, as well as another four non-university clubs in Saint John, St. Andrew's, and Fredericton, N.B.

The Dal club meets on Tuesdays in the McGinnis Room from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and on Thursday on the Dal gym stage at the same time.

Instruction is provided by five students with an average of three years of competition experience. Anyone is invited to join, with or without previous experience. Masks and foils are provided but a heavy sweat shirt or light jacket and a glove should be worn.

A regular canvas jacket costs about \$20 and if you happen to be affluent enough to have an extra \$50 lying around you can buy your own mask, weapon, and glove.

Once you've mastered the basics, fencing can become a fast moving and exciting sport. It's been compared to playing chess in a one hundred yard dash. Men have their choice of three weapons: foil, épée, or sabre, while for some unexplained reason women are limited to the foil.

The foil is the weapon used by all beginners. It was first developed as a light practise sword for the "affairs of honour" common in the 19th century. In competition hits can only be scored with the point

and an elaborate system of rules has been devised for bouts. The torso constitutes the target area, with hits elsewhere considered invalid.

The épée is the direct descendant of the duelling sword. It is similar to the foil in shape but is much heavier and has a more rigid blade. As in foil, points are only scored with the point but the entire body is a valid target area. Bouts with this sword lack the structured formality of foil and sabre matches and are usually of short duration.

The sabre was developed as a cavalry weapon but is much lighter and more flexible than the original sword. This is by far the fastest type of fencing and the most exciting to watch. Bouts are often over in less than a minute. The target area in this case is the body from the waist up.

All bouts last until one fencer has scored five points on his opponent or a time limit of five minutes has elapsed, the winner being the fencer with the most



Fencing is catching on at Dal

points on his opponent.

Most competitions are now judged by electrical scoring equipment, but in some cases (i.e. poverty) a group of four judges and a president award points. Two judges watch for hits against each opponent while the president interprets the action and enforces the rules of the match.

If enough people are interested, tournaments can be arranged with other clubs. These are usually great fun (including the after-game parties!!!!).

For more information call Bob Pottle (429-4107) or just show up at the practices. Hope to see you there!!

We're field hockey champs

Dalhousie wins!

Dalhousie's Varsity Field Hockey Team won the closely contested A.W.I.A.A. league championship by beating Mount Allison 1-0 in Sackville, on Saturday, November 4, 1972.

Going into the final weekend of league play four teams were fighting for the top position. Mt. Allison and Dalhousie had 10 points each, with U.N.B. and St. F.X. close behind with 9 points. Four games between these teams were to be played in New Brunswick during this last weekend of play.

After Friday's game Mt. A. moved to top place by defeating St. F.X. 2-0. The game between U.N.B. and Dalhousie was played to a scoreless tie, with the game called at half time because of inclement weather.

The game to decide the championship was played at Mt. A. on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. It was a very even contest, with both teams playing what was undoubtedly their best game of

the season. Three minutes before the end of the game the only goal of the game was scored by Dalhousie's team captain, Judi Rice. It was a "classic" goal, scored from a corner hit that was received by the team's highest scorer, Andrea MacAdam, who passed to unmarked Judi Rice, who successfully shot at the corner of the goal.

This is the fifth time that Dal has won the championship since it was inaugurated in 1953. It has broken a string of victories by U.N.B., who have captured the field hockey title consecutively for the last five years, and apart from another win by Dalhousie in 1966, every other year from 1962, when they entered the league.

Only one Dalhousie player graduates this year. The team are looking forward to an exciting and challenging season next year.



Back row — left to right — Ginny Hingley, Tish Pertus, Carol Sparks, Judi Rice (capt.) Rose Johnston, Louise MacDonald, Susan Brenton (manager) Front row — left to right — Judy Jewers, Chris Almon, Charlotte Allen, Sharon Keough, Joan Selig. Missing from picture, Andrea MacAdam.

Vietnam war over

WASHINGTON (CUPI): A New England newspaper decided to take all those Pentagon body counts seriously in 1965 and started keeping a ledger.

Last month it was able to announce the end of the Vietnam War.

According to the collected information and statistics

dispensed by the Department of Defense, the United States has killed every man, woman and child in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

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