

sports

Men's soccer take bronze at nationals

by Angel Figueroa

It was so close, yet so far, but you had to like it. Bringing home the bronze after a gruelling four-day tourney at the national inter-university championships in Guelph, Ontario,

last weekend, the Dalhousie men's soccer team has ended the season with its best finish in 16 years.

Dal's right of entry into the CIAU playoffs was granted after a glorious 2-1 victory over Saint Mary's in the Atlantic Conference final on No-

vember 7. While earning Dal its second AUSA championship in a row, the win was merely one stage in the quest to fulfil a more ambitious but omnipresent goal: an appearance in the national cup final. This was a goal heavy on the minds of most players since the beginning of the year (as last season ended with a disappointing fourth) but one never to be realized. Instead, they obtained the next best thing - the right to be considered one of the best three teams in the country.

Qualifying for the CIAU playoffs were five other teams. Pool A comprised of McMaster, winner of Ontario East; Laurentian, winner of Ontario West; and Concordia, winner of the Québec conference. Thrown into Pool B with Dal was the University of British Columbia of Canada West, who were the defending national champions, and the University of Guelph, who gained a berth as the host team. With only two games each to determine the playoff situation there was no room to fool around.

First on the itinerary was Guelph, which Dal defeated 2-0 in a game

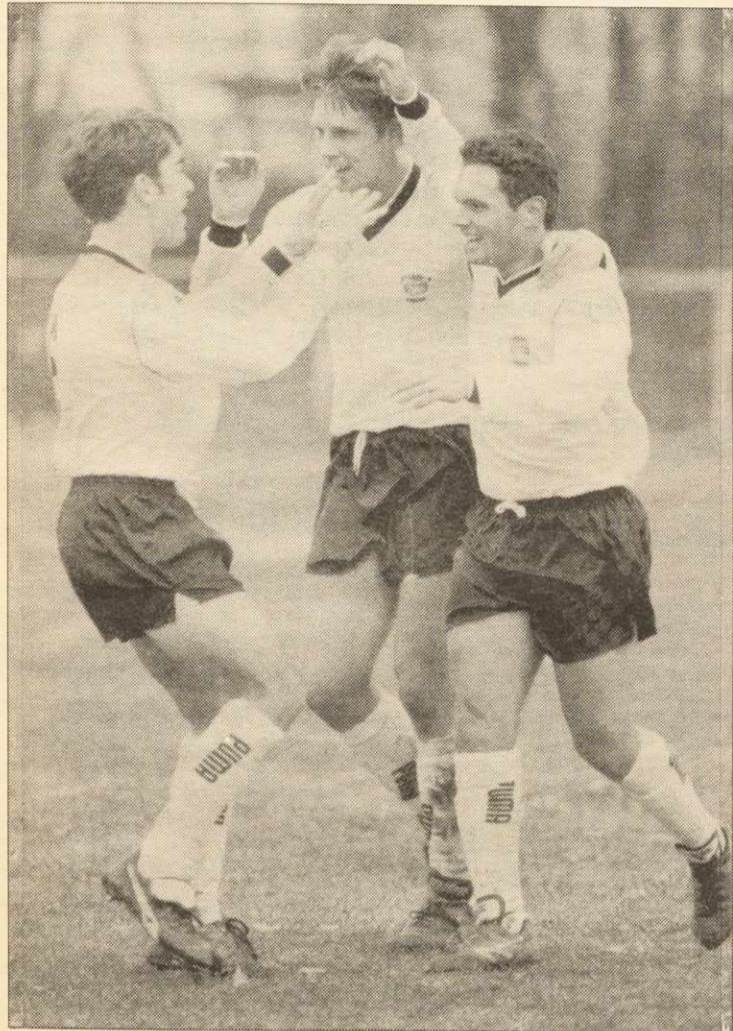
played amid a torrential downpour. Scoring the goals were striker Colin Audain, in the 34th minute, and defender Adrian Ibbetson, in the 43rd minute. While midfielders Craig Janc and Rob Sawler put in fine performances, a strong effort by the defensive line of Neil Sedgwick, Rob Adams, Jamie Sawler, and Ibbetson was also crucial for the win.

While the victory set the pace for Dal, the next game broke it with a stroke of bad luck in the form of an own goal, as the resulting 1-0 loss virtually ended all hope for a Dal appearance in the final. The goal in question came in the 23rd minute of play from a UBC free-kick deep in Dal territory. Deflecting off of Ibbetson as he stumbled from the icy pitch, the ball was redirected from an otherwise harmless course into the back of the net. Frantic mustering by Dal couldn't bring the equalizer, despite sensational playing by Janc, Audain, Tony Pignatiello, and Andy Wheeler. Keeper Trevor Chisolm also put in a World Cup performance, but it was to no avail, as UBC went on to snatch a game that was otherwise a scoreless draw.

While UBC qualified to the finals as winners of pool B, Dal moved on to the bronze medal match to face Laurentian University. Ironically, it was a repeat of the same match-up of the year before, but this time with different results. Last year Laurentian won in a 3-1 trouncing of Dal, but this time Dal went on to hold a 2-1 victory and claim its first CIAU medal in men's soccer since 1976.

Dal's first marker came in the 16th minute of play from a free-kick by Sedgwick right outside the penalty box. Blasting it through a five man wall into the left corner of the net, it was his "first" of the season. Constant attacks on the Laurentian net followed, with strikers John Richmond, Audain and Janc playing exceptionally well. Rookie Geoff Axell also had a fine day, and was a key factor in setting up the deciding goal. It came in the 42nd minute, when Janc crossed from the left flank to find Richmond just outside the penalty box. Richmond then nailed it into the upper left corner for his eighth of the year.

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It has been a good season for men's soccer

DAL PHOTO: ANGEL FIGUEROA

Swimmers win double-header

by John Yip

The Dalhousie Swimming Tigers had a busy weekend sweeping through Acadia and the Dartmouth Sportsplex. At Acadia, both men's and women's teams won their respective categories.

The Tigers flexed their muscles and won sixteen out of twenty-one events. Multiple winners include Katherine Dunn and Jason Shannon taking the 200m and 400m Frees, Jennifer Smith winning the 400m IM and the 100m Fly, and D'Arcy Byrne capturing the 100m Back and 400m IM.

Other winners were Ian Jackson (100m Breast), Katy Laycock (100m Breast), Sean Andrews (100m Fly), Jamie Wright (800m Free), and Robin Mackay (800m Free). The women's Tigers handily won the 4x100m Medley Relay and 4x200m Free Relay. The men's Tigers took the 4x200m Free Relay.

Coach Dave Fry was satisfied with the weekend's performances at Dartmouth and Acadia: "The weekend gave an opportunity for the swimmers to swim events that they don't normally swim. I'm pleased with the intensity the swimmers have displayed, considering the Acadia meet was sandwiched between the Dartmouth Invitational."

The weekend also concluded the

Practice Challenge between the men's and women's teams. Each male swimmer was paired with a female swimmer, and whoever attended the greater number of practices over a two week period was treated to lunch by the loser. With ten practices offered a week, each swimmer had to attend at least six practices. The winners were evenly split between the men's and women's teams.

"The Practice Challenge was a good way to motivate both teams to go to practice. It also gave me a chance to kick Matt Fraser's butt!" said fourth year swimmer Katy Laycock in between munches over her free lunch. Lynne Patterson, who made fifteen practices in the two week period, came out on top over rookie Adam Widdis. The Challenge proved exhausting but did not deter her from voicing her opinion: "It was good."

The Tigers meet Mt. Allison on Saturday at 6pm and UNB on Sunday at 1pm, both at the Dalplex. Come out and cheer our Tigers on.

Dal hockey play by play action

by Derek Neary

The Dalhousie Tigers split a pair of overtime games in weekend hockey action November 14 and 15. On Sunday the Dal squad came up short in a 5-4 loss to the Cape Breton Capers, but on Saturday the Tigers were 7-6 winners over the St FX X-Men.

Both teams lit up the red lights early in Sunday's game. Eddie Russell scored at 1:20 of the opening period to put the Capers out front 1-0. A moment later, rookie Andrew MacVicar buried a rebound behind Cape Breton netminder Darryl Paquette. The Capers regained the lead at 2:46 when Kendrick Douglas slipped the puck under a falling Morgan Fudge. Ken MacDermid evened things up when his shot deflected off a defender's skate and into the UCB net. The score remained 2-2 at the first intermission.

The teams continued to trade goals in the second period and again the Tigers were forced to try to catch up. Paul Pedinelli scored for the Capers at 2:03. Dal's Derek Switzer redirected a MacVicar blast a few minutes later, making it a 3-3 game.

Cape Breton quickly restored their one-goal advantage as Russell

notched his second marker of the contest at 5:17. The visitors took their 4-3 lead into the third period.

A low wrist shot off the stick of centre Joe Suk eluded Paquette and was the only goal in the third period. Assists went to Ken MacDermid and Anthony MacAulay. With things stalemated at 4-4, the game shifted into overtime. Geoff Locke fired a rebound between Fudge's pads at 3:49 of OT to clinch the game for the Capers.

Dalhousie coach Darrell Young gave Cape Breton credit for showing so much character by playing such a fine game after a 12-4 pounding at the hands of the Acadia Axemen a night earlier.

"They played hard and kept on hustling," he said.

In Saturday's game, Greg Smyth scored just past the midway point of the third period to give the Tigers a 6-5 lead. The X-Men's Dave MacGillivray then tied things up with only twenty seconds remaining. Smyth then put Dal ahead for good by scoring forty-eight seconds into OT and lifted his team to a 7-6 victory. Ken MacDermid scored a hat trick for the Tigers in that game. MacVicar and Corey MacIntyre each added a single.

The Tigers played Saint Mary's on Wednesday, November 18 as the Gazette went to press. Prior to that game, Dal's record was an even 3-3-0. Young believes his team should be better than .500, and he says he would hate to go into the second half of the season at that pace.

"We're better than a .500 hockey club. We have just got to decide that we want to play better than a .500 hockey club."

The Tigers will be on the road on Saturday, November 21 as they visit St. Thomas University. The following night they will be in Moncton to take on the Blue Eagles.

Dalhousie Athletes of the Week

* Tara MacIntyre *

WVB-5th @ Wesmen Invitat.



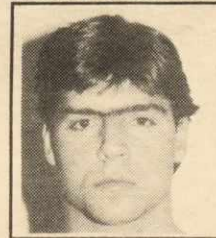
In consolation final - 30 kills & 5 stuff blks.

Nov. 9 - Nov. 16



* Jason Shannon *

MSWIM Dal defeats Acadia



2 victories - 200 M & 400 M Freestyle

Follow the Tigers