

V'ball take second

BY AARON BLEASDALE

Victories against Mount Allison (3-1) and formerly first place Moncton (3-0) helped Dal move into second place in the AUA over the weekend, two points behind undefeated Saint Mary's.

The wins were great for the team as they helped them to rebound from the tough loss they suffered to the Huskies the previous week.

"Wednesday night we had a disappointing finish to what started off so well for us, and we had to come back," explains head coach Leslie Irie. "It was a gut check and a test of character. The challenge was put to the team and they responded quite well."

Saturday's win against Moncton was big. Despite the 3-0 score, the match was no cake walk. The first set saw Moncton jump out to a 12-7 lead, but the

Tigers battled back and took the set 16-14. The next frame saw the Tigers battle back from an even greater deficit. Down by 11-1, they came back and won the set 16-14 again. They won the third set 15-9, but by that point they'd cleared the hump.

"That first set against Moncton was the telling point. The team showed a lot of heart and guts and I was really proud of that," recounts Irie.

Quoting basketball great Pat Riley, she continues, "Sometimes you don't have choices about how you lose but you do have choices as to how you come back and prepare to win again...and that's what we did."

The women continued their rebound on Sunday against the Mount Allison Mounties, winning 15-7, 14-16, 15-12, 15-7, despite lacking the services of Kia Johanssen who was

out with the flu.

Angela Barrett started in Kia's place and filled in admirably for the vitamin C-popping Johanssen, even though she'd only been informed of the roster change a short time before the game. "I love to play," says Barrett, "and when the opportunity comes, you have to be ready and take advantage of it."

The win was against a Mounties team that graduated several key players last year, including the talented Carla Edwards. Dal is in a similar situation, having graduated sixty percent of their starting line-up. This is the first year that the team has had no real big superstars. They don't look to one player, they look to each other.

"When we're playing together we can be just as good as anyone else, but when we're not playing together, we're playing poorly. Then we can be just as bad as anyone else," explains Irie.

The competition in this weekend's Digs Classic Tournament will be fierce as Dal and Moncton, the only AUA delegates, will be playing hard to represent their conference. But Irie isn't terribly concerned with results. She views the event as a chance to move towards their performance goals by playing strong out-of-conference teams.

"We need to be challenged," Irie says, "and we will be challenged, and that's where you learn the most."

18th Annual Digs Volleyball Classic

Men's Division

University of British Columbia Thunderbirds
Memorial University Sea-Hawks
Queen's University Golden Gaels
Universite de Sherbrooke Vert et Or
Dalhousie University Tigers
Laurentian University Voyageurs
University of Waterloo Warriors
Universite de Montreal Carabins

Women's Division

York University Yeomen
Universite de Moncton Aigles Bleus
Universite de Montreal Carabins
Dalhousie University Tigers
University of Guelph Gryphons
McGill University Martlets

January 24th

12 p.m. Dal (w) vs. Guelph, Moncton vs. Montreal (w)
2:30 p.m. Dal (m) vs. Laurentian,
Waterloo vs. Montreal (m)
4:30 p.m. UBC vs. Memorial, Queen's vs. Sherbrooke,
York vs. Moncton, Guelph vs. McGill
7 p.m. Dal (m) vs. Montreal, Laurentian vs. Waterloo
9 p.m. Dal (w) vs. McGill, UBC vs. Sherbrooke,
Memorial vs. Queen's, York vs. Montreal (w)

January 25th

11 a.m. Dal (m) vs. Waterloo, Laurentian vs. Montreal (m)
Women's Quarter Finals
1 p.m. UBC vs. Queen's, Memorial vs. Sherbrooke
4 p.m. Men's Consolation Semi-Finals
6:30 p.m. Men's and Women's Semi-Finals

January 26th

9 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Men's and Women's
playoffs for final positions.
11 a.m. Men's Gold Medal Final
1 p.m. Women's Gold Medal Final

Dal students get in free with identification. Non-Dal student prices are \$5 for a day pass, and \$10 for a tournament pass. Adult prices are \$6 for a day pass, and \$12 for a tournament pass. Group rates are available.

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Men rock Memorial

BY CARMEN TAM

The Dalhousie Tigers continued to dominate their AUA competition with yet another pair of victories over the Memorial Sea-Hawks last weekend.

Dal swept MUN 3-0 on Saturday, with a 15-11, 15-6, 15-1 victory. Eric Villeneuve was named Player of the Game with 14 kills and 10 digs. Teammate Jason Trepanier racked up 23 kills for Dal.

On Sunday the Tigers topped the Sea-Hawks 3-1 with game scores of 15-10, 15-3, 11-15 and 15-4. Jamie Mallon totalled 20 kills and 9 digs and earned player of the game honours while Eric Villeneuve and Terry Martin had 20 and 18 kills respectively.

Dal now sports a 6-0 record with 12 points while Memorial "mirrors" them at 0-6.

While the Sea-Hawks did not use home court advantage, the Tigers are hoping that the home court advantage will work for them as they host their prestigious 18th annual Digs Volleyball Classic this weekend at the Dalplex.

The Tigers hope to improve on last season's fourth place finish in a very competitive division. The Classic has always attracted many of the top teams in the past and this season proves to be no exceptions. The 1997 Classic boasts a coast to coast field from the 8th-ranked University of British Columbia to the Sea-Hawks.

Dalhousie will welcome other visiting teams tonight including the Universite de Sherbrooke (ranked third in the CIAU), Laurentian University, University of Waterloo, Universite of Montreal (6th) and the Queen's Golden Gaels (10th). Dalhousie is ranked fifth.

Villeneuve, a fifth year veteran for the Tigers noted, "This is probably the top tournament in the country this year. Five of the eight teams are ranked in the top ten." He adds, "It will be special this year with such a strong field. I know our team is looking forward to the Classic as one of the highlights of the year. As well, this is the last chance to move up in the

rankings."

Dalhousie has medalled twelve times in the 17 year history of the Classic, with three gold medals since 1991. The Tigers begin round-robin play against the Laurentian Voyageurs, Friday at 2:30 p.m. Then they'll battle the Universite de Montreal Carabins at 7 p.m. which will prove to be a good match. The Carabins defeated the top ranked Sherbrooke Vert et Or twice last weekend. The Sea-Hawks, who've put in strong performances in past Classics, will play the UBC Thunderbirds at 4:30 p.m. All games will be played at the Dalplex. Come and support the Tigers this weekend.

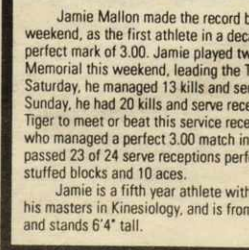
athletes of the week

Jenn Parkes, Women's Volleyball



This past week, the women's volleyball Tigers went two for three in three regular season matches. Jenn Parkes managed a 38% kill efficiency out of 71 kill attempts and had 8 stuffed blocks. Jenn is a fourth year science student from Sydney, NS. She stands 181 cm tall, and is 21 years of age.

Jamie Mallon, Men's Volleyball



Jamie Mallon made the record books at Dalhousie this weekend, as the first athlete in a decade to pass near the perfect mark of 3.00. Jamie played two matches against Memorial this weekend, leading the Tigers to victory in both. On Saturday, he managed 13 kills and serve received 2.69. On Sunday, he had 20 kills and serve received 2.96. The only other Tiger to meet or beat this service receive score was Andy Cole who managed a perfect 3.00 match in the early eighties. Jamie passed 23 of 24 serve receptions perfectly! He also had 5 stuffed blocks and 10 aces.

Jamie is a fifth year athlete with the Tigers. He is taking his masters in Kinesiology, and is from Ottawa, Ontario. He's 23, and stands 6'4" tall.

January 23 -29

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Lobby of the Student Union Building
January 30, 1997 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Student Union Building Conference Centre
January 30, 1997 1:30 - 3:30 pm

*The Chair and Faculty from the Education Department
will be available to answer your questions.*

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