

## Gymnasts enjoy tumbling

by Kevin Charles Little

Dalhousie student Stephen Banks placed twentieth in the CIAU Gymnastic championships last weekend. The championship is made up of six events including floor exercises, side horse, rings, vaulting, parallel bars and the horizontal bar. Stephen Banks is from Charlottetown and is a third year Arts student (Stephen works out about sixteen hours a week).

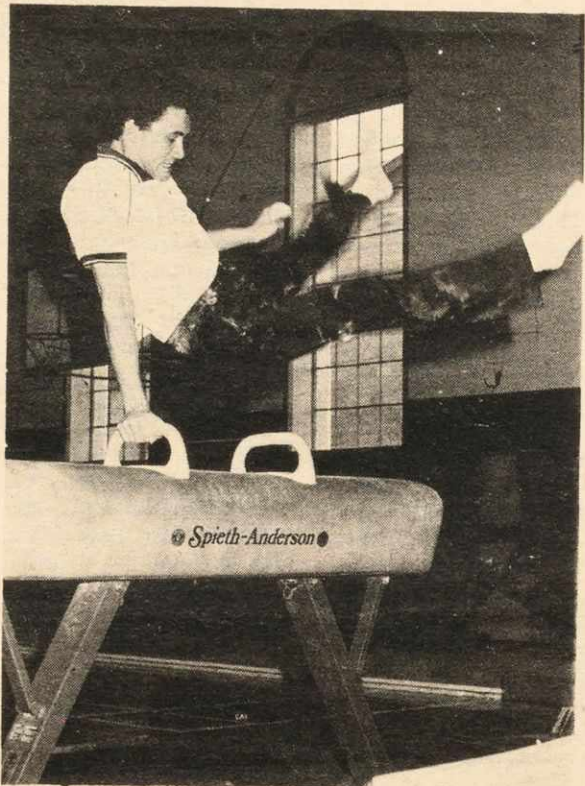
Dal coach and international judge Jim Hoyle said the men's team problem has to do with the lack of competition. There are four competitions held amongst the three AUAA teams (UNB and the University of Moncton) each year. UNB won the AUAA championships this year. There is no women's gym team in the AUAA because, as coach Hoyle

puts it, there is no interest at the university level. Other members of the team include Doug Polak, Maurice Guimond, Bob Bentham, Mathew Cheung and Ted Brereton.

The team does well academically, taking valuable time away from the practices. But it is something the team believes is important. As coach Hoyle put it these athletes come here to get an education and not to compete in gymnastics.

The team members give each other a lot of help during workshops and seem to have a lot of fun doing it.

At the national level coach Hoyle says the team ranks about ninth in Canada. Dal will be hosting the CIAU championships on May the 20th and the 21st.



Jordan/Dal Photo

## CIAU opponents will keep Dalhousie on its toes

This week the Dalhousie men's and women's volleyball teams host the CIAU championships, making a bid to win the national championships in their respective divisions.

On the women's side the Tigers open up the tournament by hosting York University who have been seeded second all year. The women have already played York twice earlier in the season with both games resulting in losses for the Tigers. The Ontario representative in the CIAU, led by setter Mark Taylor, is known for its strong service and fast offence. Dal will also have to contend with the height advantage the York team has over the Tigers.

Later in the evening the women face the top ranked Laval team. Laval, who won the Dal Classic and has been ranked number one all year, sports two national team members, Andree Ledoux and Lyne Trembley. The team has achieved their ranking on a consistent fast middle cutback, with strong blocking helping the cause. Although Laval has dominated the Tigers in inter-tournament play, coach Lois MacGregor feels that the women can upset Laval, if they continue to play to the calibre they have been playing recently.

Play resumes Friday for the Tigers, as the women host the Calgary Dinnies. The Calgary team holds a two to one edge in matches over the Tigers, but in the most recent match, the Dal Classic, the Tigers handily dis-

posed of the game. The Dinnies, who have always been in the top five in the Country all year, have two national Junior team members, Bonnie MacRae and Suzie Smith. Not only will the Tigers have to contend with these two players, but they have to counter the good serve reception and tough defense the power-hitting Calgary team displays.

In their second game Friday, the women have a rematch of the AUAA final, taking on the Memorial team. The Memorial team, led by Sue Rendell and Joan Buck, are a very aggressive defensive team, and play well under pressure. As Coach MacGregor indicated, the win in the AUAA has little relevance except for a confidence booster in the CIAU playoffs.

The women wrap up the Round Robin schedule against another team they faced in the Classic, this time the Lady Wesmen from Winnipeg. The Tigers have already beaten Winnipeg twice this season, but with the excellent middle-blocker and assertive defense the Lady Wesmen possess, Dal must be in top form to win.

For the men the opposition is not as well known. Although the men have played Laval twice and beaten them easily both times, the Laval team has a small surprise for the CIAU Championships. Since the Laval volleyball tournament the team has added four players from the YMCA team in Quebec, the best volleyball team in the province.

On Friday the Tigers face the

number one ranked team in the country, Calgary. Sporting four players from the national team, the obviously experienced Calgary team are led by Mark Kolodzieg and Brian Neuman. Although the Tigers have not met Calgary previously, through the use of videotapes coach of the Tigers, Al Scott, feels in order for the Tigers to be victorious, the strong blocking and fast run offence of the Calgary team will have to be shot down. The team is very similar to the Tigers in that it does not use many outside sets. Thus this game, termed "the Battle of the Giants" because of the size of the two teams, will be one of the best to watch.

This year the Tigers have a core of second and third year players which will give them the much needed experience as well as confidence against the western teams. In terms of height the Dal team matches up with all the other teams and if it has its back court defense and blocking on throughout the course of the Championships the Tigers will be one of the top contenders for the CIAU crown. Coach Al Scott feels that the Classic was a good learning experience and with his starting line-up consisting of league MVP Rod Walsh, AUAA tournament MVP Phil Perrin, three year veteran Jamie Fraser, intense starter Bernie Derible and new starter Jamie Naugher, added to the strong bench the Tigers have, we might just have another CIAU crown under our belts.

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