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## Relay teams primed for CIAU gold

BY DAN HENNIGAR

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Which one of the teams would be signing their names on the championship banner was never in doubt — only the margin of vic-

tory remained unknown.

Yes, the Dal women's track and field team won yet another AUAA conference championship this past weekend. They won the longest event and shortest event, the highest event and the furthest event, and many events in between. By the end of the meet, Dal had accumulated 132 points, 34 more than second place Moncton.

Leading the way was the AUAA rookie of the year Angela Ripley. In the 60m event, Ripley blasted out of the blocks in what she described as "the best start of my life." She continued to accelerate through to the finish line, finishing an impressive 0.52 seconds ahead of second place.

Although there is some uncer-

tainty regarding her time – due to a malfunction in the electric timer – her official result ranks her 5th going into this weekend's CIAU national championships. Ripley also placed 2nd in the 300m race.

In the 1500m, Dal's Cindy Foley cruised to a seemingly effortless 20 second victory. Foley, who has only recently returned to running after a two-year hiatus, will be competing this coming weekend in her first national calibre track and field meet since 1991 and may well surprise a number of Canada's best.

Krista Wuerr, who placed second in the 1500m, came back to win a tough race in the 3000m against fellow teammate Ashley Evans. Evans, who ran the entire race on Wuerr's outside shoulder, looked poised to make a move in the final stages of the race but with less than two laps remaining, Wuerr sprinted for home, finishing with a time of 10:52.12,

as compared to Evans' 10:54.06.

Rachel Beaton was Dal's top point scorer, placing first in the long jump and triple jump, and second in the high jump for a total of 19 points. Tara MacLellan of Dal earned three silvers competing in the long jump, high jump, and 60m.

Conspicuous in her absence in individual events, but by no means inconspicuous in the relays, was Dal's defending CIAU 600m champion Paula Peters. Peters, who had already qualified for the CIAU 600m race, opted to compete only in the relay events at the AUAAs.

In the 4x200m relay, she made up the stagger and had gone flying past her competitors before they had even finished accelerating. In the 4x400m and the 4x800m (ranked 1st and 2nd in the country, respectively) the Dalhousie teams were able coast easily to victory.

Next weekend could prove to

be Dal's most successful CIAU Championship ever. Until Peters' victory in the 600m last year, Dal women had never won a gold medal in CIAU championships.

This year, they have a legitimate chance of capturing at least four medals, all of which could be gold. Despite tough competition from several Ontario schools, Peters is a favorite to defend her 600m title.

In the relay events, Dalhousie is ranked first in the 4x400m, over two seconds ahead of number two ranked Saskatchewan, and should be capable of running much faster if pushed. In the women's 4x800m, Dal is only one second behind number one ranked University of Windsor. In short, Dal could win all three of these events.

On the field, Dal's lone gold medal hope lies with high jumper Ann Sinclair. Sinclair's seasonbest jump of 1.72m ranks her number two in the CIAU, only one centimeter below first.

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