

# sports

## Dalhousie finishes sixth at CIAU's

by John Killeen

Entering the 1993 men's CIAU volleyball championships at Edmonton, Alberta, the Dalhousie Tigers were riding high and well prepared to battle it out for the number one spot in men's university volleyball.

The Tigers earned their berth in the CIAU's last weekend in Halifax by trouncing the Memorial Sea-Hawks two matches to none in a best two out of three series for the AUAA title. It was the Tigers' seventh consecutive AUAA, setting a new conference record. The Tigers did not lose a single game this season in AUAA play in winning this title.

Based on their solid play, the Tigers entered the Canadian Championships ranked fifth in the nation. The Championship tournament is set up so that the top eight teams in the nation attend, with number one playing number eight, number two playing number seven and so on. The tourney then branches into the championship side and the consolation side in determining the national champion.

In the quarter-final round, the Tigers were matched against the fourth-ranked Calgary Dinosaurs. The Dinosaurs visited Dalhousie in October for a three-match exhibition tour which came to be known as "The Battle of the Beasts". The result of this hard fought series had the Dinos winning two matches out of the three. Therefore, the Tigers, coached by Al Scott, were well-prepared and rather eager to face this not so unfamiliar opponent.

Fourth-year setter and team captain Paul Villeneuve felt that based upon their previous encounters alone, there was no better team for the Tigers to face in the opening round than Calgary.

"We had a really good game plan heading into this match based on having already played them," said Villeneuve.

He also described the team as being "very pumped because it was the last chance for some of us to win a national championship."

The Dinosaurs nevertheless prevailed 16-14, 15-12 and 15-10 and eventually went on to win the national championships over L'universit  de Montr al three games to none.

The defeat to Calgary, despite lasting only three games, was a hard fought match and was rather tough

for the team to take.

"If we had won the first game we could quite possibly have won the match," said Villeneuve.

The Tigers were forced into the consolation semi-finals in which they faced and defeated the McMaster Marauders quite handily 3-0.

In their final match for fifth place the Tigers were matched against the Alberta Golden Bears. Down two games to one and trailing in the fourth, Dalhousie rallied to win the

game 17-16 thus carrying a great deal of momentum into game five. Unfortunately, the Tigers came up short and lost the game and the match 10-15, 16-14, 15-10, 16-17 and 15-5.

This tournament, as mentioned, represented the last chance for some of the Dalhousie players to win a national collegiate championship. Fourth-year defensive specialist and second-year medical student Alex Lai will likely not return next year so as to concentrate on his medical

studies. It also marks the end of Paul Villeneuve's stellar collegiate career. After graduation this spring, Villeneuve will have some tough decisions to make as he has been invited to try out for the Canadian Olympic team as well as having received offers to play professional volleyball in Europe.

This season was highlighted by great effort on behalf of the Dalhousie team. This great effort was recognized last weekend at the AUAA championships, after defeating Memorial. Second-year player Eric

Villeneuve was named playoff MVP, while his older brother Paul was awarded AUAA League MVP. Chris Schwartz, Everett Rose and Kirk Yanofsky were also named AUAA conference all-stars. Head coach Al Scott was recognized as Coach of the Year.

Despite finishing out of the medals at the CIAU's, the Tigers' earned recognition for their individual talent. For the second consecutive year, Paul Villeneuve received Second-team All-Canadian honours, while Everette Rose was awarded an All-Canadian Honourable Mention.



DAL PHOTO: MIKE DAVENPORT

## ready, set...

by Graham F. Shaw

The Dalhousie Tigers men's and women's track and field teams returned from Moncton last week as AUAA champions.

The Tigers qualified a record 20 athletes for the CIAU championships which will be held March 9-10 in Toronto at the Skydome. Of the 20 team members who will be going to Toronto 14 are women and 6 are men.

The women's team set a new AUAA record by earning an incredible 15 out of a possible 16 points at the meet. In doing so, the women won all but 2 events and broke 2 AUAA individual records. Paula Peters broke the existing AUAA mark in the 600 metres with a blistering performance, and was named rookie of the year for her efforts. Rachele Beaton set a new AUAA record for the long jump in qualifying

for the CIAU's. Other qualifiers included Andrea Weeks who captured the triple jump title.

Dal's Louanna Mooney, a Saint John, New Brunswick native, was named female athlete of the meet with an outstanding performance, winning the 60 and 300 metre events. She was also part of the championship 4x200 and 4x400 relay teams.

On the men's side of the event Peter Lawson, a Dalhousie senior, was named male athlete of the meet on his way to a new AUAA record in the 300 metres. Lawson was also a member of the winning 4x400 and 4x800 relay teams.

The Tigers left for Toronto on Tuesday and are looking forward to putting on a good performance in the Skydome. An event to watch for is the women's 4x800 relay where the women have their best chance at a CIAU championship.

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