

# Soccer Tigers tear up SMU

by Angel Figueroa

After a disappointing 1-0 loss to Acadia last week, the men's soccer team won their home opener on Saturday against St. Francis Xavier by a convincing score of 2-0.

Although making a few scratchy plays which can be attributed to their lack of time performing together, they committed no serious mistakes. Instead, the Tigers played 90 minutes of good solid

soccer.

## Tigers 2 St. Francis 0

The Tigers took control of the game right from the kickoff, keeping the ball in the opposing team's end for the majority of the first half. In the 18th minute striker Tim Hall took the first shot on goal from just inside the penalty box, but it was easily saved. Constant pressing finally paid off with an excellent goal from a

corner kick by Andy Wheeler in the 35th minute.

Right-wing striker Tim Hall had an exceptional game, lucky to draw no misconducts for his aggressive style of play. Along with fellow striker Ian Clarke, the two were constantly harassing the X-men defense. Their tenacity finally paid off in the latter part of the second half. After capitalizing on an X-Men mistake at centre field, Clarke took the ball down the left wing and crossed to Hall, who was open just inside the penalty box. Trapping the ball and deking out a defender, he blasted a shot inside the far post to solidify the win in the 65th minute of play.

On Sunday the women's squad met St. Mary's. While the cross-town rivals came to Studley field reeling from their 5-0 thrashing of Mount Allison and 2-0 victory over Concordia, all the Tigers could brag about was a 3-0 win over Cape Breton. Later in the day, however, it was all smiles from the Dal bench, as they squeaked by one of the best teams in the division.

"Our win gives us some breathing space," said head coach Terry McDonald. "Getting two points from SMU enables us to approach the other teams with more confidence."

The Tigers opened the kickoff playing as though they were intimidated. They made many errors and let SMU keep the ball in their end. After 15 minutes of play however,



photo credit: Angel Figueroa

Dal finally woke up and began to show great passwork, speed, and tight covering. Ultimately it was their passwork that would win the game for Dal.

The scoring spree started in the 19th minute of play when Dal striker Carla Perry picked up a rebound from a shot taken by Dina Gavas and scored to put the team up 1-0. The goal definitely boosted their confidence: for most of the remaining half the ball stayed in SMU's end.

Dal keeper Hillary Bradshaw was caught unawares in a brief spark of SMU resurgence when a long shot went over her head and into the net in the 34th minute.

The second half opened on a sour note. SMU was given a free kick from a careless foul just outside the penalty area, and the ball

eventually rebounded into the net.

As the score went 2-1 in favour of SMU, 20 minutes of intense soccer followed with both teams playing extremely well and each coming very close to scoring. But finally Dal evened up the score when Gavas, who showed great ball control throughout the game, headed the ball into the net from a corner kick in the 70th minute.

Immediately after the SMU kickoff, Stephanie Johnson stole the ball and sped down the right wing. She passed to Campbell who deked a defender and then fed to Perry, who wasted no time in lobbing the ball over the SMU keeper for the winning goal.

Dal couldn't be better prepared for their next match hosting defending champions Acadia on Sept. 21 at 4 p.m.

## Football at Dalhousie?

by Chris Lambie

A plethora of rumours concerning the possible re-emergence of varsity football at Dalhousie have been circulating since the team's demise in the early seventies. Commonly known as the flagship university of the Maritimes, Dal can now sit back in the bleachers and watch as one of Nova Scotia's smallest schools, University College Cape Breton, kicks off to an impressive rookie season in the C.I.A.U.

When questioned about student support in respect to the issue, Peter Pottier, treasurer of the Student Union, said "I think the majority would say 'yes' to football in a student referendum".

However, Ralph Cochrane, president of the Union, said "If there was an extra fee, I couldn't see students supporting it". He added that "if we had a team that was funded through Alumni donations, students would probably be more supportive." Cochrane wanted to emphasize that "times have changed in the University and that all sorts of different organizations need the money."

Tony Martin, the director of athletics, stressed that "while football is an extremely exciting, dynamic and valuable program [his department] must first ensure the security of pre-existing and successful varsity teams before attempting the task of building a new one."

Tom Lynch, chair of the President's Advisory Council on athletics and a founding member of the Black and Gold Club, noted that the Alumni want to see "a fall focus on campus". He says that a football squad would "fill a big blank in varsity sports at Dalhousie", and that "it is a personal dream of mine, we need it and it can be done". He also hints that "commitment begets commitment", and that once the

administration makes concrete plans concerning the renovations to Studley field, "alumni would show considerable financial interest".

Eric McKee, V.P. Athletics and Recreation, is far less hopeful than Martin or Lynch. McKee says that "as far as I'm aware, there is no serious planning" in regards to a football team. He feels that the situation is "too hypothetical" to warrant speculation, and that "for the moment, its just not part of the plan".

Given the administration's present financial condition, it's easy to see why McKee is reluctant to even think about a plan that would require over a quarter million dollars in start-up capital alone.

Betty Flynn, Alumni Director, says that "costs and fundraising are two different things." She adds that while "lots of Alumni yearn that it might happen again, it would have to be an administration decision" to bring back the team. The important point raised by both Flynn and Martin is that Alumni support for football cannot simply be the re-routing of donations from other university programs.

Bill Lord, the director of Dalhousie's Physical Plant, said that while the plans for Studley Field are still in the "proposal stage", the field will "stretch from Memorial Arena to the Western Exit Road, and it will contain two practice fields end to end". This size field would easily accommodate the needs of a football team.

It would seem that football at Dalhousie is a distinct possibility in the future, if only the many concerned Alumni can come up with the necessary funds. Lynch feels that by placing an "emphasis on integrity and quality, and by retaining a spirit of cooperation [that] we can open quite a few eyes."



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