

# Tigers double their pleasure

## Dal soccer teams streak to first place

BY TERRY HAWES

Dominant would not be the word to describe the performance of both the men's and women's soccer teams last weekend.

The Tigers simply outthrustled and outplayed their opponents, as both St. FX and Acadia were unable to contain Dal's key players, and as a result the men and women each lead their respective divisions.

The men won 1-0 over Acadia on Friday as Jeff Hibberts became Dal's all-time leading scorer and 3-0 over the previously unbeaten St FX XMen. Dara Moore's women whitewashed the Axettes 6-0 and outclassed the X-women 3-0 on Sunday as the partnership of Stefanie Finateri and Julie Pigozzo continued to pour in the goals.

### Women's Soccer (Sept 24)

**Dalhousie 6 Acadia 0**

Finateri scored twice in the rout of the Axettes as the Tigers remained unbeaten.

After playing to an opening day draw at home to Saint Mary's, things have gone from bad to worse for Laura Sanders' team, a 3-1 loss to St FX was followed up by a lackluster display here at Wickwire Field as Dal completely overwhelmed them in every facet of the game.

Sanders was far from pleased with the outcome.

"It shouldn't be difficult to be ready for a match with the AUSA Champions," she said. "We made some effort, but the girls could have made more of an attempt to stay in the game, it's frustrating and we have to use this as a learning experience."

Dalhousie led 1-0 on Finateri's goal at the 14 minute mark and soon it was two just four minutes later as Andrea Gillespie went in alone on goal and scored putting the Axettes in an early

hole. Julie Pigozzo scored her fourth goal of the season to give Dal a 3-0 half-time lead.

It would have been easy for coach Moore's troops to sit back and focus on keeping a clean sheet for keeper Roxanne Murphy, but the Tigers pressured the Acadia goal constantly. Finateri netted her second of the match at 55 minutes to make it 4-0 followed by goals from Petra deWaard and rookie Sarah Buckland to complete the scoring.

**Dalhousie 3 St FX 0 (Sept 26)**

A year ago, St FX walked away victorious having held the Tigers to a draw, earning the right to host the AUSA Championships in Antigonish.

How things have changed! Finateri and Pigozzo continued their goal-scoring ways in this impressive victory over the X-Women. The blue and white entered the match with four consecutive victories, but Xavier's run and gun offence was brought down to earth by the Tigers rock solid defence.

It doesn't hurt that Dal can score goals either and they have done just that — fourteen in five games with Finateri and Pigozzo combining for ten of them. What is even more amazing is that the two of them did not play at all last season.

Pigozzo scored the Tigers first goal in minute 27, this enabled the defence to take control of the game while creating numerous scoring chances. Finateri gave Dal the vital insurance marker in the 67th minute, passing the X defender and putting it past 'keeper Beth McCharles. Five minutes later Finateri scored her second of the match to kill off any hope of an X comeback.

"The key is communication," said Pigozzo after the game. "We know each others style of play and can read each other

well."

Dalhousie plays three games this weekend. They face the Axettes in Wolfville on Friday before returning to Wickwire Field for a date with Cape Breton the next day, Sunday sees the team travel to Antigonish for another rematch with the X-Women.

### Men's Soccer (Sept 24)

**Dalhousie 1 Acadia 0**

At a windy Wickwire Field, the Tigers picked up the victory in a game where the score flattered the Axemen.

Jeff Hibberts scored the only goal of the match in the 63rd minute on a free kick from 20 yards out that went under the arms of Acadia goalkeeper Brian DeMone. Hibberts goal was the 27th of his Dal career, breaking the old school record set by Kevin Mayo from 1974-76.

The Tigers had the best chances to score in the first half with midfielder Ben Kimbal heading inches wide from a free-kick after an Acadia foul. This was followed by a great save from DeMone on rookie striker Colin Duffy, who had gone in alone after passing Acadia defender Cory Sanford.

DeMone followed this display with another diving save from a Nador Awanen strike just on the stroke of first-half injury time. Soon it became not a question of if but when Dal would go in front of the punchless Axemen.

Dalhousie's attacking formation continued to give Acadia problems early in the second half and it appeared that the Tigers would take the lead as a Chris Coxon shot was headed into the top right-hand corner of the net but was headed over the bar by, strangely enough, another Dalhousie player. A minute later, substitute Rob Dow headed just a couple of inches wide from another Dal corner.



photo by Christian Laforce

Dal women and men's soccer teams leap to first place after no goals allowed in weekend action.

You had to wonder if the Tigers would ever score, but Hibberts marker eased the tension and despite some late Acadia pressure, Dal was full value for the three points.

The only negative for the black and gold occurred with under 15 minutes left as sophomore Carlos Ensminger took a shot to the head from an unidentified Acadia player. Ensminger suffered a cut, but despite the usual gathering of players, some finger pointing and accusations of whether the injury was intentional, cooler heads prevailed and the match finished without incident.

**Dalhousie 3 St FX 0 (Sept 26)**

Dalhousie got goals from Awanen, Hibberts and Dow to end Xavier's unbeaten start to the campaign.

While X looked prepared in the early stages of the match, the Tigers made them look average and at times inept for a team with such a good caliber of players.

We were able to win by exploiting their midfield and defence, they grew tired after a while and as a result we took advantage of this weakness and played a solid, all-around game," said Dal interim coach Pat Nearing.

Grant Spence recorded another shutout and morale is at an all-time high as the team prepares for three games this weekend including two tough road games in Wolfville and Antigonish.



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