

Sports

RUNNING A RELIGION WITH THE SHUPES



by Kevin Charles Little

Mark Shupe and Gary Shupe are two very gifted people at Dalhousie. The brothers have been running for a little over a year, and already Mark Shupe is ranked number three in the Atlantic Provinces. Gary is also competitive and is ranked fifth. Mark won the 1981 Natal Day Race, setting the record for the two mile race. He has also won the Atlantic Cross Country and several other fall classics. Gary won the 1,500 at the Nova Scotia track and field meet at the Dalplex in February.

The two do not train together because they fear they would constantly be racing. They run between 15-20 races a year, averaging 50 miles a week in training. As objectives, Gary plans to go to the Canada Games and Mark to the Olympics; cross country is their strongest event.

Mark is a second year Journalism student and Gary is studying Physical Education in his freshman year. When I asked Mark why his hair was blonde and his eyebrows black, his reply was, "I dye my eyebrows, they make me look mean."

Mark has a long history of winning. In grade eight he came 20th in the nationals and in grade nine he finished second in the Provincials. The Shupe's technical assistant is Dave Fraser who helps iron out problems with their running. Dalhousie should be proud of these two dedicated athletes.

Men's basketball has to hit fast

by Llewellyn Butterfield II

The men's basketball team make their first appearance this weekend in the AUAA championships since 1976. While coach Peter "Doc" Ryan is pleased in this attainment of his primary objective, the manner in which this has been achieved has made him less than optimistic.

The Tigers were ripped to shreds by the X-men on February 17th, then the following weekend they went down to an ignominious defeat at the hands of the Acadia Axemen. Since Dal was already assured of a playoff position the significance of those two losses may have escaped the notice of some fans. The two defeats translate into a fourth place finish for the Tigers, and the dubious distinction of meeting number one ranked Saint Mary's Huskies in the first round. If the Tigers had won at least one of their last two regular season games they would be meeting UPEI in the semi-finals.

Now that the seedings are decided Dal has to face up to the awesome challenge of Saint Mary's, who have gone 28-0 against Canadian opposition this season. This fact will prob-

ably work in Dal's favour as the Huskies will not be as sharp as they should be. (Even if they lose, they are virtually assured of a place in the national finals.) Furthermore, the Huskies only scraped by the Tigers by one point in their last meeting on February 10th. So there is a glimmer of hope for the Tigers.

Mentally the Tigers will be ready to play. Talent-wise the Tigers match up well vis-a-vis the Huskies. The key will be who controls the boards. Whetstone and Crowell have to keep SMU from getting second and third shots. On offense the Tigers need to get a good transition game going. They cannot afford to let SMU dictate play and force them into taking bad shots. In any event, the AUAA championship promises to be an interesting affair.

Dal meets Saint Mary's at the Metro Centre at 9 p.m. on Friday night, while St. F.X. meets the Panthers of UPEI at 7 p.m. in the curtain raiser. The AUAA final is slated for Saturday at 3 p.m.

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