

1974 Sports rap-up

by Joel Fournier

In a Varsity athletic program as diversified as that at Dalhousie, there are bound to be many notable achievements as well as some major disappointments. The fall season was no exception as both men's and women's varsity teams represented the university in a way that can only be described as outstanding.

The ladies once again showed the way as the Nancy Buzzell-coached field hockey team posted a perfect record in winning all their league games and then went on to triumph in the AUAA championships held in Fredericton by defeating UPEI and St. FX. The lone goals scored in both games were by Charlotte Allan. Helen Castonguay and Joan Selig took first and second place respectively in league scoring, and goalie Katie Didowsky led the conference with a .64 goals against average.

In tennis, the Dal girls acquitted themselves very well, finishing a strong second in this year's AUAA tourney held in Moncton. The net-set, led by provincial-great Jane Gardiner, aim to bring the championship to Dalhousie next year and if they continue to improve, there's little doubt they will achieve their goal. To date, field hockey and tennis have been the only women's events to have been decided in the AUAA but there is every indication that the remainder of the teams will fare equally well.

Lorne Sawula's volleyball squad is off to a great start, winning everything in sight. The girls' latest triumph was in the Acadia-Dalhousie in-

vitational tournament held at Acadia, in which they out-classed all other competitors with the exception of the Winter Games team who hard right down to the wire. Led by captain Cindy Rice, the girls display tremendously disciplined style and nothing should stop them from winning the title.

In swimming, notwithstanding the fact that Dal is still without a pool of its own, the girls are expected to have their best year. Sparked by the fine talents of AUAA bronze medallist Gail McFall, the ladies will be out to show the conference they can win it all. With last year's CIAU Coach of the Year, Nigel Kemp, calling the shots, who would bet against them!

It's a little early yet for some of the other teams to be heard from, but in exhibition play the Dal basketball squad is looking good and all our usually reliable sources pick them as the girls' team to beat for the AUAA crown. It's no secret that Coach Nancy Buzzell would love to follow her field hockey success with a matching performance in basketball. If anyone can do it, it has to be this irrepressible bundle of optimism and energy.

Women's gymnastics will take on a new look under freshman coach June Thayer. Very little has been seen of these pleasant-to-the-eye young athletes, probably because of their 6 am practice time. For these girls, the planned physical education and sports centre can't come fast enough, not only so they can get gym practice time at a reasonable hour, but also because of the cramped quarters they have

to work out in now. The team's aim this year is to be thoroughly competitive and to build a nucleus around which future championship teams can be developed.

There are no reports in yet from curling and badminton, but as both teams won AUAA championships last year, it is reasonable to expect that they'll be up front again this year.

The men haven't really done all that badly either. The soccer Tigers, coached by the ever-optimistic Tony Richards won the AUAA title in great style and travelled to Montreal for the CIAU finals. As it turned out, the talented squad ended up being the consolation winners, but they were only a hairsbreadth from being Canadian college champions. Next year, Tony promises his team will be even better, quite a prediction considering the skill that these boys possess.

Coach Keith Wilkinson led his men's tennis team to another AUAA crown, making it two in a row for the talent-laden group. John Primrose, always a great competitor, was once again in fine form, as he won matches in singles and doubles to set the pace for the team. The Dal team is recognized as a powerhouse in tennis and it's easy to see why.

In a meet held at Point Pleasant Park, the cross-country team continued its championship form, rallying to beat a determined UNB contingent for the AUAA laurels. For coach Al Yarr, his runners marked their third consecutive conference title. This year's team was led by freshman Pat Ther-

iault with Bill Long and Paul Theriault adding strong support.

Cathy Campbell, a former sprint star, has taken over the reins of track and field and has coached the team to its sixth straight AUAA championship. The team, formerly coached by Al Yarr, has to be one of the best success stories for Dalhousie. This year's finals were highlighted by the high-jumping feats of Clark Godwin, a first-year man from Bermuda, who set a conference record with a tremendous jump of 6-feet-six. With freshmen like Clark and Melvin Chisholm, who won the sprint double (100 and 200 metres), the Dalhousie dynasty should endure.

The golf team, under the guiding hand of Pierre Page, managed to finish in the runner-up spot, although their ranks were sorely depleted by graduation. Next year, Pierre -- the Arnold Palmer of the School of Physical Education -- expects the team to be back in what he regards as their rightful place -- at the top.

Football had to be a big disappointment for all concerned, as the team went winless in league competition. Initial optimism ran high as the Tigers enjoyed their best pre-season camp in several years and the early enthusiasm was reinforced when the club travelled to RMC and won its exhibition game in fine style. However, things got progressively worse as it became apparent that even though the Tigers had improved considerably, so had their rivals. But all was not dismal on the grid iron front, as proved by rookie sensation Jeff Neal, who brought the crowd to their feet on many occasions with his electrifying runs and pass receiving. Jeff was unanimously elected to the AUAA all-star team by the coaches in the league and, having seen him play, that was no surprise.

This season also saw Doug Hargreaves step down as head coach. Doug left the team, with regret, to concentrate on his increasingly demanding duties as athletics director. It goes without saying that Doug will be sorely missed by the players and the rest of the coaching staff. New head coach Larry Haylor, a former coach and playing star at the University of Saskatchewan, has taken on the formidable task of putting together next year's squad.

Al Yarr's basketball boys are in the early stages of what can be called a challenging schedule. The team has been bolstered by some exciting new talent and are expected to provide some high calibre ball for their faithful fans. Their latest effort was a close loss to the SMU Huskies, a well-played game that could have gone either way. The team's goal is a playoff berth in the N.S. section of the AUAA and even though it will be difficult to attain, the team is determined to do it.

Versatile Pierre Page has his Tiger hockey charges playing with confidence and finesse as they have got off to their best start in several years. The highlight of the young season was a convin-

cing win over the Swiss national team in exhibition play in Newfoundland. Now sporting a 3-1 league record, the Tigers will be going into post-Christmas play determined to win it all. There should be some exciting hockey in the Rink next year, especially on Jan. 10, when the Tigers host the Huskies to face-off the New Year.

The men's swimming team, again under Nigel Kemp, have suffered greatly with the departure of Peter Guilford and John March, last season's outstanding swimmers. However, coach Kemp, long known for his ability to develop new athletes quickly, expects his club to be at or near the top when the season ends in April. The team's job would be facilitated greatly if they had a pool.

Men's volleyball, as usual, is at the top of the league. Jan Prsala, one of the most knowledgeable and respected coaches at Dalhousie, always has his players tuned to a fine pitch. Last year they won the AUAA championship and this season they should repeat the performance and go on to have a good shot at the CIAU crown.

Men's wrestling is in a state of revival these days as new coach Bob Thayer whips his boys into fighting shape in the less than edifying confines of the lower gym. Bob, a national wrestling champion, a few short years ago, personifies the determination and dedication it takes to become a winner. In upcoming meets in preparation of the eeeeeee for the selection of the Winter Games team, Bob will have his charges in the best condition of their young lives and there's no doubt that all their hard work will pay off. We'll be looking forward to big results from the mat men.

Bill Honeywell, a third-year law student, has gained the reputation of being one of the finest Alpine ski coaches in eastern Canada. He has led the Dal downhillers to win after win in both intercollegiate and national competition. This year will be no exception as the team prepares for its greatest challenge yet, the Pontiac Cup races at Mount Ste. Anne in early January. In addition to praying for snow, the ski team members spend most of their time in dry-land training under the stern eye of their trainer, Wally Fry, who is quickly gaining the reputation of a latter-day Napoleon due to his unrelenting work demands. But the team should cheer up -- the white stuff can't be too far away and Wally will soon be a poignant memory.

No reports yet from Jim Hoyle's gymnasts, who last year won the AUAA title, nor from the varsity badminton team which was also top. Both groups are planning to repeat their efforts and bring additional honors to Dal.

The list of achievements is long, the bright spots many, and the frustrations surprisingly few, and this can only mean that the coaches and athletes at Dalhousie are the finest to be found anywhere. It has been a great fall season for varsity athletics, and the winter-spring activities promise even more illustrious accomplishments.



Dalhousie University

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Hecklers impress

OHIO (ZNS-CUP) - Three Ohio State researchers say they have found that "heckling" is an effective method of undermining a political speech.

Psychologists Lloyd Sloan, Robert Love and Thomas Storm report that they showed a series of old Richard Nixon and Ed Muskie speeches to small groups of students, some of the groups, they say, were secretly planted with hecklers.

The psychologists found that heckling caused people who might be "neutral" to become negative about the speaker and that people who were positive about a speaker tended to become more neutral as a result of the heckling episodes.

One of the most interesting findings is that the heckling effect, when tested two months later, still influenced the audience's views. Two months they say, is the length of a typical political campaign - meaning that a heckling strategy could influence an election.