

sports



PHOTO: MIKE GRAHAM

Tigers 1, Axettes 1

by Sam McCaig

The women soccer Tigers kicked off their season at home on Wednesday with a 1-1 saw-off against the Acadia Axettes.

Dalhousie — defending AUAA champions and CIAU silver medalists from a year ago — faced a gritty, aggressive team in last year's AUAA finalists. Acadia sported a big, fast team that took the game to the Tigers in the early going. The Axettes were rewarded at the 14th minute of play when midfielder Cindy Montgomerie buried a short penalty kick past Dalhousie keeper Leahanne Turner.

The game's rough-and-tumble manner continued with Acadia usually holding the upper hand. Dalhousie mustered little offense until striker Kate Gillespie was on the receiving end of an illegal push in the penalty

area. Thus, a penalty kick was awarded to the lady Tigers at the 36th minute and it was decided that midfielder Carla Perry would take the shot. Perry smashed the ball in off the crossbar and the game's scoring was complete.

The goal proved to be a confidence booster for Dalhousie as they gained other chances throughout the match. Not to be outdone, Acadia kept Tiger keeper Leahanne Turner busy, but she proved equal to the task.

Game stars to Leahanne Turner for her sparkling saves and to Carla Perry for her leadership on the field.

Dalhousie travels to the granite planet this weekend for a pair of matches against Memorial's finest. The following weekend, they're back at home on October 1st and 2nd for two games against the Université de Moncton Blue Eagles.

Dal men's soccer ties St. FX

by Rod Nickel

The Men's Soccer team missed a chance to avenge last year's playoff loss to St. Francis Xavier, by playing to a 1-1 draw with the X-Men on Saturday at Wickwire Field in Dal's first game of the season.

The Tigers led 1-0 after dominating the first half.

"After the first 35 minutes, we tried to defend more, rather than attack, and it hurt us," said Dalhousie keeper Trevor Chisholm.

First-year striker Mark Mouat put the Tigers ahead early in the first half when his low kick beat X-Men keeper Jackie Chisholm following a corner kick.

Dalhousie played an aggressive first half and appeared to have the X-Men on their heels. The X-Men were kept in the game by the solid play of Chisholm.

St. F.X. had only a couple quality chances to score in the first half. One came after a corner kick with Tiger keeper Chisholm out of position. Mid fielder Rob Sawler was forced to make a goal-line save.

Minutes later, X-Men fullback Ron Whalen burst up the middle and went in alone on Chisholm, only to miss the net.

"The ball was just bouncing and everybody was coming forward," he said. "I looked up and Trevor was coming out at me and he gave me that much room," he said and gestured with his hands two feet apart, "And I just missed it. I should have put it in."

The X-Men tied the game in the second half when Cormack Meagher took a pass from Trevor

DAL 1 Reddick and kicked the ball in front of the net, where it went in off the leg of a Tiger defender.

St.FX 1 "It was just unlucky, I think," said Tiger keeper Chisholm. "There were three of us challenging for the ball. It just happened to hit off [the defender's] knee and went in the net."

Dal coach Ian Kent was disappointed his team allowed the X-Men to come back, but said he was encouraged by the play of the Tigers' first-year players.

"We had five first-year players in our first eleven and they showed that they can play... We just played against

a team which is exactly the same team as last year minus one player, so these guys stepped up. We had Stephen Cormier marking [X-Man] Jorge Rodriguez, who was one of the AUAA all-stars last year and had no problems. Our sweeper Marc Rainford played very well. Both of my strikers are first-year," said Kent. "One of them scored, so it's positive from that point of view."

X-Men coach Lou Bilek, who led the team to last year's AUAA championship, found positive points in the draw as well.

"Dal is a young, tough team... to tie at Dal is not bad. I don't mind it at all."

Captain Keith Souchereau left the game early in the first half after twisting his knee. Kent did not know if Souchereau would need to miss any action.

The Tigers play their next four games on the road, beginning with a game at Acadia on Sunday. Their next home game is October 5 against Saint Mary's Huskies.

Fort Massey United Church
corner of Queen & South

Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.

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