

Dal dominates X and Memorial

BY DAVID FINLAYSON

It has been a couple of years since someone has stepped up at Dal and singlehandedly taken on the burden of scoring goals.

This year, rookie Jeff Hibberts has not only taken on that role, but he is revelling in it.

This past weekend he potted four goals in two games while starring in victories over St. Francis Xavier (St. FX) and Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN). Though he only broke into the starting lineup two weeks ago — when Geraint Morris went back to England — he has tallied six goals so far this year.

Against the X-Men on Saturday at Wickwire field, Dal dominated the play. With a midfield finally living up to expectations, the goals are starting to come more easily for the Tigers. A 2-0 scoreline for Dal was more than flattering for their opponents, who rarely ventured into Dalhousie's danger zone. Dal had control of the ball for about 80% of the game, and had their shooting been more accurate, a five or six goal game was within their reach.

The midfield was patient, and thrust forward at every opportunity. Graham Allardice and Chad Thorpe had some very useful runs on the wing, while the Ante Jaczic-Dave MacFarlane combination is starting to tear opponents to shreds.

After 27 minutes, Chad Thorpe had a shot cleared off of the line by a X-Men defender and Paul English followed up, narrowly missing over the crossbar.

Finally, at the 44-minute

mark, Hibberts opened the scoring by tipping a loose ball inside the crease just over the goal line.

St. FX's keeper, who stands approximately six foot five inches tall, was tested over and over, and Dal could not beat him on high balls. Trevor Chisholm, in the Dalhousie net, was not really tested in earning the shutout.

On Sunday, with regulars Mark Ellis and Paul English on the bench, Memorial (MUN) probably thought that they were in for an easier time than usual. What they found on the field was a team that was very much "on fire."

A crushing 3-0 win for Dalhousie could have easily been more, but again, Dal could not find the net as often as they should have, and MUN's goalkeeper came up with three tremendous saves.

Trevor Chisholm recorded his second shutout in as many days for Dalhousie.

Jaczic and MacFarlane in the midfield were again dominant for Dalhousie. Chad Denny filled in up front, and Gregor MacKaskill played in the wing half position. Both had very solid games, with Denny registering a couple of shots and about 20 slide tackles on a very wet Sunday afternoon.

Dal's first goal was a result of a fine midfield build-up, with MacFarlane slipping a great through ball to Hibberts, who buried it in the far bottom corner.

In one of MUN's only attacks, Allardice did well to block a shot that was heading for the net. Hibberts then notched his fourth goal of the weekend inside the six-yard area after some good work by Thorpe on the wing. Hibberts almost netted his hat



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trick when he deflected a MacKaskill shot, but the keeper denied him.

In the second half, Ellis subbed in for Denny and soon created some good chances. He missed just over the bar, and it sometimes seemed like he wanted to beat every defender, instead of shooting the ball.

English then subbed in, and he too created some quality chances.

MacFarlane was stoned by the keeper on a 30-yard blast that seemed destined for the bottom corner.

MUN wilted under the tremendous pressure from Dal and Ellis capped off the game with a delightful chip over the keeper after a great ball from Jaczic in the midfield. Jaczic was named player of the game for his tireless efforts, although the whole squad should be congratulated for their fine performances this weekend.

The Dalhousie defence was solid again as Matt Serieys, Marc

Rainford, and Steve Cormier stalled any attacks that X and MUN could muster.

This upcoming weekend, keep an eye open as to how Dal will play when fourth-year midfielder Chris Devlin comes back from his ankle injury. His return leaves some hard choices for the coach-

ing staff, in a weekend that determines where the AUA's will be played. The midfield played extremely well and the passing is great to watch. Now if the shooting improves, Dal will be blowing opponents out every week, and the trip to the CIAUs will become that much easier.

Women devour Huskies

BY DAVID FINLAYSON

The Tigers continue to lead the Atlantic Conference after a win over St. Mary's University (SMU) and a tie with St. Francis Xavier (ST. FX) on Wickwire field this weekend.

Dal's women's soccer team defeated SMU in a well-fought match on Sunday afternoon.

Leahanne Turner was in nets for the victory, after sitting out Saturday's match because of a red card she obtained during the Tigers' last league game. Kate Gillespie was on target with two goals, and Carolyn Campbell added a single in a decisive 3-1 victory.

Debbie Pottie scored for the visitors on a free kick, when the Tigers gave up too much room defensively.

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