

Waterpolo Squad impressive at McMaster

by Patrick Whelan

The Dalhousie University Water Polo team matched its fourth place finish of last year in this year's University Challenge Cup, held in the Ivor Wynn Sports Centre at McMaster University. The competition was attended by ten university teams from across Canada, making it the largest and most important university tournament of the year. The Dalhousie effort was characterized by the resilient defence and steady goaltending that has become a trademark of Nova Scotia teams in the last few years. In fact, Dalhousie allowed the fewest goals of any team at the tournament. The team was frustrated, however, by an inability to score consistently against the better teams, and this resulted in their disappointing though respectable finish.

The training of the team

was hindered by the late opening of the Dalplex, and the fact that balls have still not been allowed into the pool area. Coach Ken Clark designed a slow moving game style that partially compensated for the superior conditioning of most of the other teams. This proved effective, as Dalhousie finished second in their five team division, with a 3-1 record, and advanced to the medal round.

In the first game of the playoffs, Dalhousie met the host McMaster squad, who have won the Challenge Cup for six of the last eight years. The McMaster team's reputation for rough play had little effect on the Dalhousie team, who stayed even until the third quarter. The young squad finally succumbed, partly because of their own inexperience, and the effect of the large home crowd.



The final score of the emotion-charged contest was 5-3. The team then went on the play the Carleton University team for the Bronze medal. Carleton had previously been upset by a spirited Queen's squad in the other semi-final. The Carleton team consisted of several players from the Canadian National team, which has its training camp in Ottawa. Dalhousie had met Carleton in the final game of the preliminary round, and had lost by one goal in the closing minutes, as an extra ball had fallen into the pool, and caused momentary confusion among the Dal players. The final score of the match was 4-3. The Dalhousie team entered the game, therefore, confident and eager to avenge the unfortunate defeat. The team played with great determination and showed little sign of the poor conditioning

that had plagued them in previous contests. This resulted in a 1-1 tie at the half. The Carleton team seemed stunned at the unexpected performance of the Tiger squad, but two successful extra man opportunities in the third quarter seemed to seal Dal's fate. In the fourth quarter, however, as was his custom in this tournament, Brian Lane rifled a shot past the Carleton goaltender to bring Dal to within one. A surge by Dalhousie in the closing minutes failed to produce a goal, in one of the most exciting finishes of the tournament, as the final score remained at 3-2. This game again underlined the Dal team's lack of experience under pressure, but it is hoped the opening of the Dalplex will result in a higher level of competition being attracted to Dalhousie. This February, many of the teams Dal faced in

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FIELD HOCKEY FINAL STANDINGS

EAST

TEAM	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Dal	11	0	1	29	3	23
SMU	7	4	1	18	12	15
St. F.X.	6	5	1	17	13	13
Acadia	4	7	1	12	20	9
MUN	3	7	2	13	23	8

WEST

UNB	10	1	0	31	6	20
Mt. A.	4	5	2	9	12	10
U de M	3	8	0	10	23	6
UPEI	0	11	0	0	27	0

TOP SCORERS

EAST

NAME	GOALS
Lori Anne Moore, Dal	8
Andrea Garland, MUN	6
Monica McKenzie, SMU	6

WEST

Mary McCann, UNB	9
Donna Phillips, UNB	8
Beth McSorley, UNB	6

SOCCER FINAL STANDINGS

EAST	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
SMU	8	1	1	32	6	17
Dal	5	4	1	27	16	11
St. F.X.	4	5	1	20	25	9
Acadia	1	6	3	13	31	5

WEST	W	L	T	F	A	Pct.
UNB	9	0	2	32	4	.909
MUN	4	1	1	18	6	.750
Mt. A.	6	5	1	29	12	.541
UPEI	2	8	1	11	31	.227
U de M	1	10	1	9	60	.125

TOP SCORERS

EAST

NAME	GOALS
Dave Riddell, Dal	9
Ross Webb, SMU	9
Jim Sidey, SMU	8
Harry Fowler, Dal	6
John Evans, Dal	5

WEST

Jeff Smith, Mt. A.	9
George Wood, UNB	7
Ebenezer Dania, UNB	5
Gilles Le Bouthillier, U de M	5

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