

Tigers slash Axemen

Win moves men's basketball into tie for division lead

BY SUMANT KUMAR

After defeating the highly regarded Acadia Axemen and the St. FX X-Men in their last two games, the basketball Tigers deserve some respect. Despite Dal's dominance, the local media still recognizes St. Mary's as the team to beat this year. It seems the only way for the Tigers to earn the fanfare they deserve is to continue their winning ways.

They had a chance to do so as they hosted the Axemen at Dalplex on Friday. The Axemen were looking for revenge after Dal's last victory, but once again the Tigers had Acadia's number and defeated them by a score of 72-66.

Both teams started slow in this matchup, but the Tigers managed

to scrape a 9-4 lead after five minutes of play thanks to a quick five points from Doug Newson.

Acadia then managed to go on a 13-2 run led by Mark Seaborne, putting the themselves ahead 17-11 with eight minutes to go in the first half. However, after a Dal timeout, the Tigers managed to halt the run and go on a run of their own, scoring 25 points compared to Acadia's 10. The half ended with the Tigers leading 36-27.

With 14:30 left to go, the Tigers looked like they might run away with the game. They grabbed a 55-37 lead, capped by a beautiful behind-the-back pass on the break by Ashkan Rajae to a streaking Benny Edison, who completed a lay up for the deuce.

This large lead led to a bit of

over confidence as the Axemen slowly crept back into the game. Over the next 10 minutes Acadia went on a 22-4 run, and with just four minutes to go in the game Dal led by only four points.

Mark Seaborne then hit a three pointer on which he was also fouled, allowing him to score another point to tie the game.

With only 15 seconds left in the game, Dal had recovered and led by two when Newson scored yet another four points, sealing Dal's 72 - 66 victory.

Newson finished with 20 points and nine rebounds, while Rajae grabbed 10 points and 11 boards.

This was a huge win for the Tigers as they are now tied for first in their division with St. FX.



LEAPING TIGERS: Axemen get pounced on at the Dalplex.



BIG CATS IN THE WATER: who says Tigers can't swim.

Swimmers on the war path

BY SCOTT SANCTON

After successful Christmas training camps in Portland and Boston and a month of competition with age group swimmers and other university teams, the Dalhousie swim team is making final preparations for the AUA championship at Dalplex this weekend.

Over the past few weekends, the Tigers have competed at the Metro Invitational Swim meet, as well as Dual meets with the

University of New Brunswick, Mount Allison University and Eastern Alliance. During the trip to UNB, The women's team took the win while the men's team lost by a margin of 15 points. Both teams emerged victorious against Mount Allison. The Dual meet held with Eastern Alliance provided one more opportunity to race before the AUAs.

One of the major goals of the Tigers is to add to the list of five people currently qualified for CIAUs in Guelph, Ontario later this year.

Currently, Chris Stewart, Marty Laycock, Stuart Kemp, Angela MacAlpine, and Amy Woodworth are the only qualifiers, however the people to watch include Danny French, Dave Leblanc, Steve Indig and Chris Roberts. On the women's side; Amber Mather, Caitlin Peterson, and Megan Hannam are all very close to achieving the qualifying times.

This year's competition promises to be very close and exciting. Action starts with heats at 10am on Friday.

Huskies eliminate Tigers at AUA championships

Women's hockey shutout in defensive battle

BY TERRY HAWES

If there was one thing the AUA women's hockey semi-final match between the Dalhousie Tigers and Saint Mary's Huskies did not lack, it was intensity.

With both teams winning their respective games on Friday against St. Thomas (SMU 12-2 and Dal 7-1), the scenario was quite simple — win and you play for the championship, lose and its all over. Despite a valiant effort from the Dal women, one goal was all SMU needed to defeat the Tigers 1-0 and eliminate them from the competition.

SMU's luck would run out in the final as St. FX defeated them 3-1 on Sunday to advance to the CIAU Championships later on this month.

SMU 1 Dal 0 — A large and boisterous crowd of 500 crammed into Alumni Arena to see the cross-town rivals battle it out for a spot in the AUA final. As it would turn out, the game lived up to

expectations and then some.

Any nerves that both teams possessed in the early stages of the match were quickly dissolved as the play went back and forth in the opening minutes. It was Dal who had the first real opportunity when Beth Sharpe's drive from the point was bobbled by SMU goalie Robyn Homans but cleared away before the puck could cross the line. The Tigers were the hungrier side as the period drew to a close, but Homans was standing on her head, stopping all 19 shots she faced to keep it 0-0 entering period two.

Dal continued to control the play into the second period, despite being penalized on four separate occasions, three of which were drawn by SMU star forward Natasha Noble — proving that it is not only the NHL where star players get preferential treatment.

However, solid goaltending by Krista Skodje and a suffocating defense kept the game scoreless heading in to the final frame.

The game started to shift in the Huskies direction early in the third as forward Valerie Broussard went close with a shot that Skodje just managed to keep out. Finally, on SMU's fifth power play attempt, Stephanie Wilson set up Jamie McEachern, whose drive from the point beat a partially-screened Skodje at 5:19 to give SMU the lead.

Still, Dal would not concede defeat as they continued to pour the pressure on in the late going. The Tigers pulled the goalie, but it was not to be as the final buzzer was met with the SMU girls jumping off the bench to mob Homans.

Despite the loss, the Tigers gave a tremendous effort and both teams were given a rousing ovation as they shook hands at the end. The tournament was a great success and although more can be done to improve the sport, there is no doubt women's hockey will become a permanent fixture in AUA athletics.

CREATIVE WRITING PRIZES

Clare Murray Fooshee Poetry Prizes are open to full-time or part-time undergraduate students at Dalhousie or King's. Prizes are \$300, \$200, and \$100.

The Honourable W.H. Dennis Memorial Prizes for Poem(s), a prose short story, and an essay, are open to full-time undergraduate or graduate students at Dalhousie University. Prizes are \$200 and \$100 for poetry, \$200 for a prose short story, and \$200 for an essay.

Deadline for all submissions is 12 March 1999

Pick up competition rules at:

Department of English
Dalhousie University
1434 Henry Street
Halifax, NS B3H 3J5
<http://www.dal.ca/~englwww/englwww.html>

