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RESURGENT ROAR FOR TIGERS WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

By Benjamin Blum (<https://dalgazette.com/author/bblum/>)

February 15, 2013 / No Comments (<https://dalgazette.com/sports/resurgent-roar-for-tigers-womens-volleyball/#respond>)

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(https://dalgazette.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/rsz_woemnsvolleyballportrait_davidmunro_wmkd.jpg)

Dal volleyball stars, from left, Hilary Sears, Tara-Lynn Truant, Marlee Powers, coach Rick Scott, Louise Facca and Raeesa Lalani. (David Munro photo)

It's been an impressive turnaround for Dal's women's volleyball team over the past five years. Under coach Rick Scott, the team has gone from perennial afterthought to championship contender.

"We've brought in a lot of really good athletes that are physical and athletic, but also a bunch of girls with great character, great work ethic and have really bought in to what I'm preaching as a coach," said Scott.

"They deserve the credit."

The Tigers were on the precipice of completing their road to redemption last season, but fell short in the final against Saint Mary's. This year, the team is focused on finishing the job.

"We got one big goal ahead, and that's to win the AUS," Scott said. "We haven't really accomplished anything yet. We're pleased with where we are but we know we got to go and play well [this] weekend."

At the heart of the team is a group of five veteran players who have been instrumental in leading the Tigers to an undefeated season against AUS opponents.

Louise Facca, Marlee Powers, Hilary Sears, Tarah-Lynn Truant and Raeesa Lalani have been on the roster since Scott's second season and are products of his extensive recruiting.

"It's taken him about four years to build the team that he saw was going to be AUS champions," said Lalani. "Having [this] core group of girls at the start and every year adding more and more.

"They know the expectations of being a Dal Tigers women's volleyball player, both on and off the court," said Scott of his under-19 players. They've really done a great job of setting the tone in practice, the work ethic, the commitment and helping the young players."

The Tigers have improved steadily since Scott's tenure began in the 2008-09 season. After missing the playoffs that first year, the team advanced to the quarter-finals in 2009-10, the semis the year following and the final last spring.

Scott's coaching philosophy revolves around what he calls "the process." He attributes his team's success to focusing on the fundamentals of the game and working hard at every interval.

"When you start worrying about that other stuff, like winning and the score, you're not thinking about passing the ball and hitting the ball and serving the ball," Scott said.

"Pass and dig" added Truant regarding the team's focus. "Being ready to adapt to whatever we hit."

This attention to detail begins at practice, where the mood is intense. "He pushes us hard at every practice. He doesn't hold back, he makes sure to get the best out of us every time," said Powers. "He's very, very passionate."

This season, the Tigers sit atop the standings at 16-2 heading into the six-team playoffs this weekend at Memorial University. Their record ensures them a bye into the Feb. 16 semifinals, where they face the winner of the St. Francis Xavier-UNB quarter-final.

If the Tigers win the championship, which would be their first since 2005, they move on to CIS nationals in Sherbrooke.

Dal is currently the third ranked team in the country.

The team is confident they can succeed this weekend, but are grounded by Scott's emphasis on the task at hand and the memory of losing last year's championship to SMU.

"It was a tough loss," said Sears. "Everybody came back knowing that we're going to put in all the effort and not take any plays off or any time off to achieve an AUS championship. We're just going to give it our all."

Scott agrees that this is their year.

"We have a really deep team, we've got a lot of people that can come in and provide a spark. That's the key to our success," he said.

Amidst the pressure of entering the AUS championships as the top seed, Scott manages to keep things in perspective for his team with a message of tempered confidence.

"It's not going to be easy, but we're ready for it."

← Halifax housing crunch (<https://dalgazette.com/opinions/halifax-housing-crunch/>)

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BENJAMIN BLUM



A lifelong sports fan, Benjamin Blum entered the world of journalism in 1979 after suffering a concussion playing rugby for the University of King's College. From that moment, his twin passions for writing and sports motivated the Thornhill, Ont. native to give this journalism thing a try. Having been an athlete, coach and fan for many years, Ben brings his diverse knowledge of sports along with a witty sense of humour to the sports section. Ben was Sports Editor of the Gazette for Volume 146.

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Dalhousie Gazette

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Dalhousie has confirmed that Dal students attended the 22-person party ticketed for violating COVID-19 restrictions on Friday. The university is considering multiple punishments for the students. Full update [↓](#)

<https://twitter.com/DalhousieU/status/1386102985881706497>

Apr 25, 2021



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That's all for tonight. The meeting has been adjourned.

Apr 22, 2021



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At the end of the meeting, Stinson says faculty reps should work with their faculty societies asap to ensure that a representative will succeed them. Faculty reps are chosen by faculty societies, instead of in DSU elections.

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Apr 22, 2021



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Vice-president (academic & external):



Report of the Vice President, Academic and External

Name: Erica Seckman

Reporting Period: April 05, 2021 - April 06, 2021

Council Date: April 22, 2021

Internal Affairs and DSU Committees

1. Ongoing work developing translations of policies related to academic integrity.
 - a. Four of the original four translations are complete (Spanish, Hindi, French, and Mandarin). A fifth translator has been hired to complete an Arabic translation. The translation will tentatively be completed by April 22nd.
2. The Accessibility Fund Committee met on April 19th to review applications.
3. Ongoing Report the Fees Campaign development.
4. Ongoing transition work for the incoming VPAC:
 - a. Transition report
 - b. Scheduling introductory meetings.

University Affairs and Committees

1. Ongoing discussions with Senior Administration and Faculty about developing a Student Ratings of Course Content (SRCC), which will be focused on oppressive content in the classroom.
 - a. Minor amendments from the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee have been accepted by the Chair. The proposal will be presented to Senate on April 26, 2021.
2. Ongoing work with the Code of Student Conduct Review Committee. The revised code will be presented to Senate on April 26, 2021.
3. On March 30th attended the Open Educational Resources (OER) Grants Submission Decision meeting. I am thrilled at the number of proposals we received and we accepted 6 developing projects the full amount requested.
 - a. More information to follow once the awards are accepted.
4. On April 9, 2021 the Ombudsperson Advisory Committee met to discuss our proposed changes to the Job Description and Terms of Reference. At our recommendations, we changed some of the wording to make it more general. We were worried that some of the original language may restrict the Ombudsperson's reach. We want students to be able to go to the

5. On April 12 and 13, 2021 I was a student panelist on two cases for the Senate Discipline Committee.

6. On April 14, 2021 I attended an Academic Quality Taskforce Team meeting.

External Affairs

External Committee was scheduled for April 13, 2021. Quorum was not met.

Upcoming Dates

April 30th is my last day in office.

Apr 22, 2021

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The *Dalhousie Gazette* is settled in K’jipuktuk (Halifax), Mi’kmaq, the ancestral territory of the Mi’kmaq people, where we work, play and live.

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