

Overtime

Short Circuit: A book worth reading

By MARK ALBERSTAT

Michael Mewshaw's *Short Circuit* (published by Penguin at \$7.95 and available at the Dalhousie Bookstore) is in parts hilarious, thought-provoking and even maddening. It explores the men's professional tennis circuit like no other book has and with such style that he makes some of the seemingly unbelievable incidents reported quite believable.

Mewshaw, an American now living in Rome, has a Ph.D. in literature and has previously written five novels. In February of 1982 he decided to spend six months on the tour starting in Genoa, then went on to a Davis Cup round in Rome, then to Strasbourg, Milan, Nice, Monte Carlo, the Italian Opera, the French Open and Wimbledon, finishing off his expedition at the U.S. Open.

The book looks at some of the personalities on the circuit from Ivan Lendl to Illie Nastase. Mewshaw gives short illustrations of the mandatory press conferences, travel on the tour and different elements on the tour from clothing representatives to the media.

Mewshaw's experience in tennis is well shown by the description of matches that interest him at each of the stops and one does not feel as if they are reading dated material.

The author's journalistic abilities are apparent throughout the book as he was asking questions to anyone he could find who has a stake in professional tennis. Some

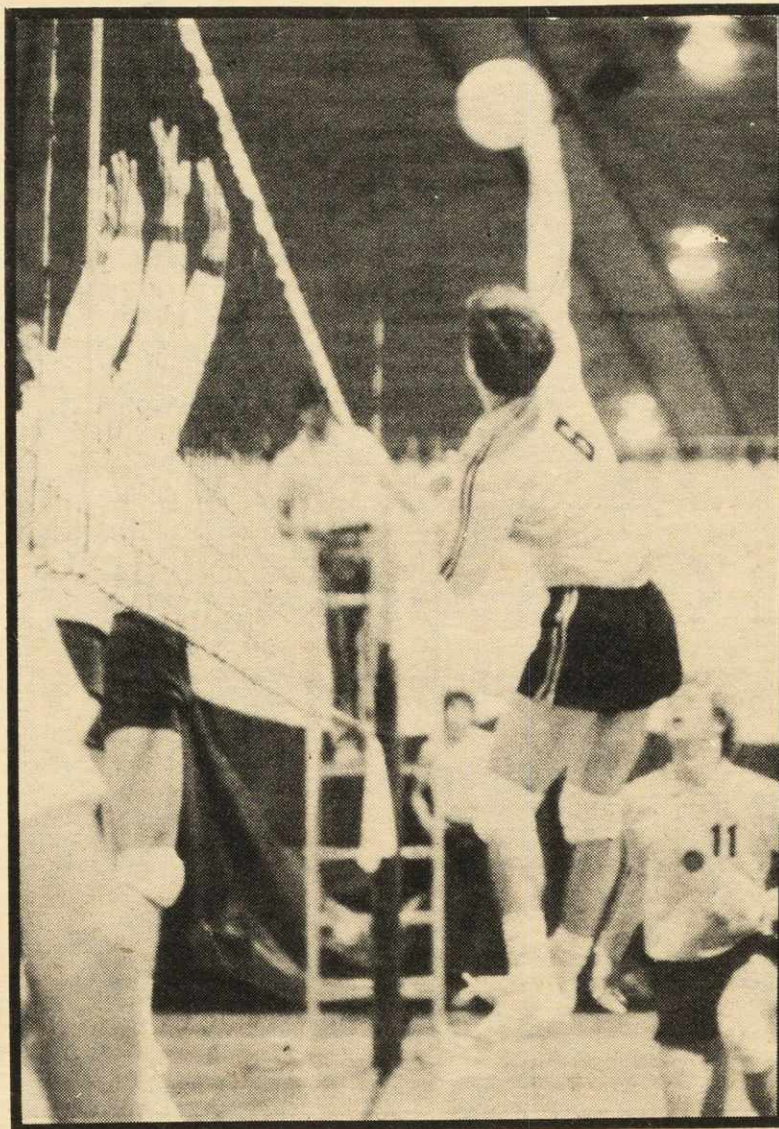
of the players, officials or representatives on the tour refused to talk to him but those that did let Mewshaw and through him the reader realizes how much the people who run the circuit have let it deteriorate into the shabby sideshow condition which it is now in. Mewshaw is constantly reminded that what these men are selling often is not sport but entertainment and like any good entertainers they are for sale.

Some examples of the prementioned degeneracy are as follows:

- Players arranging in advance to split prize money so they know they will receive equal amounts of the purse.
- Players throwing matches so they can go off to the next tournament or endorsement that offers more money.
- Players agreeing to split the first two sets and play an "honest" third set to fill TV schedules.
- Appearance money that can go as high as \$100,000 for the top players for one tournament.

Mewshaw's book raises several questions about the validity of professional tennis and after reading the book you will probably never watch a tennis match the same way again.

A quote from an official on the circuit sums things up nicely by saying, "In other sports the cliché holds that no player is bigger than the game. But in this case every priority has been reversed." □



The men's volleyball Tigers were in action over the weekend, defeating the Memorial Beothucks to remain in first place in the AUAA. Sean Forbes, Dal Photo

Men's volleyball team remains undefeated

By MARK ALBERSTAT

The Dalhousie Men's volleyball team was in action over the weekend against the Memorial Beothucks winning both matches.

The Tigers went into this weekend's action in first place in the AUAA with a record of seven wins and no losses in match play for 14 points. Memorial, on the other

hand, had a record of three wins and three losses for six points.

The first match, played on Friday night, was won by the Tigers 15-6, 8-15, 15-11 and 15-8.

Reid Umlah earned Player of the Match honours by having six kills and seven blocks. Brian Rourke helped the effort with 14 kills and five blocks while Andy Kohl had 11 kills and three blocks.

MacFarlane scores six in romp over Acadia

If they'd stopped play after the first period, the Dal women's ice hockey club would still have had a 4-0 win over visiting Acadia in women university in Friday's game.

After three complete periods, the final result was 18-1 for Dalhousie.

Leslie MacFarlane led the scoring parade with six goals. Trish Selig scored three and Patti Meaghan, Heather McLean and Lorraine Williston notched two apiece.

Janice Cossar, Danielle Poirier and Joanne Van Bommell added one goal each.

The Meaghan-Selig-MacFarlane line accounted for 21 points between them, with Meaghan adding six assists to her two goals.

Coach Kim Houston was pleased with his team's performance on Friday.

"We've been on the other end of those scores before," he noted. "This was Acadia's first game. They're starting out where we were a couple of years ago."

He noted that the games with the junior high boys teams had really helped the Dal club's development this season. He added that although they have been able to

Saturday's match saw the Tigers dominating action in the first two games with scores of 15-6, 15-3 and having some troubles in the third game 15-12 to take the match.

The first game of this match saw the Tigers with excellent defensive blocking and with the usual explosive offense. The score was run up to 9-1 before the visitors had the ball for any amount of time. Memorial fought to keep alive around the 11-4 mark but could only get two more points before the Tigers got the game-winning 15th point.

The second match had Memorial serving first only to lose the serve and the Tigers taking the lead 7-0. Jeff Bredin and his spike serve took the Tigers from 8-1 to 13-1 before surrendering the ball. Dal went on to win the game 15-3 with Reid Umlah serving the winning point.

The last game of the weekend was by far the most interesting with Memorial putting up one of the best fights the Tigers have had so far this season. Dal looked well in control at the beginning taking a fast start of 3-0. Memorial came back and tied the score at 4-4 and took the tally to 4-7 before the Tigers were able to regroup. The score was then taken to 6-10.

Tigers' Phil Langille served the Tigers two quick points to take the score within two. Dal steadily increased their lead to 15 point level allowing the Beothucks only two additional points along the way. Serving up the winning point for this game and closing out the match was rookie Brian Rourke.

Player of the Match was Jeff Bredin with 8 kills and four aces. Another shining star for the Tigers was Reid Umlah with eight kills and four blocks.

The Tigers do not play another home game until January 11th and 12th when they host U de M. □

Athletes of the week



WOMEN: Patti Boyles, a 2nd-year B.Sc. student and member of the Tigers swim team, is Dalhousie's Female Athlete of the Week for the week of Nov. 19-25. Boyles, a native of Saint John, New Brunswick, led the Tigers to a 61-31 victory over Brock University in an exhibition swim meet held at the Dalplex on Sunday.

Boyles captured first place in the 50M and 100M freestyle events and anchored the Tigers winning team in the 400M medley relay. Boyles, a three-time winner of the Athlete of the Week award last year, was the AUAA Swimmer of the Year in her first season

MEN: John Burns, a Geology student and member of the Tigers swim team, is Dalhousie's Male Athlete of the Week. The 21-year-old Burns led the Tigers to a 52-42 victory over Brock University in an exhibition swim meet on Sunday at the Dalplex.

A native of Yellowknife, Burns captured top honours in the 50M freestyle and the 100M backstroke and swam the first leg on the Tigers' winning medley relay team. Burns was a CIAU qualifier and an AUAA All-Star last year.



generate a potent offense, the Dal club still needs to work on what to do when they don't have the puck.

On Sunday, the Dal team fought back from a 3-2 second period deficit to tie Cunard Junior High 5-5.

Meaghan scored two goals, while Kelly Innes, Gladys Mosher and Williston tallied one each.

Mosher's goal came with only three seconds left on the clock.

This Sunday at 5 p.m., the team will take on Major Stevens Junior High. □

TIGER SPORTS THIS WEEK

Nov. 30	Swimming	Acadia	Away
Nov. 30	Women's volleyball	U de M	Away
Dec. 1	Men's volleyball	St. F. X.	Away
Dec. 1	Women's volleyball	U de M	Away
Dec. 2	Hockey	AUAA Allstar game	Away