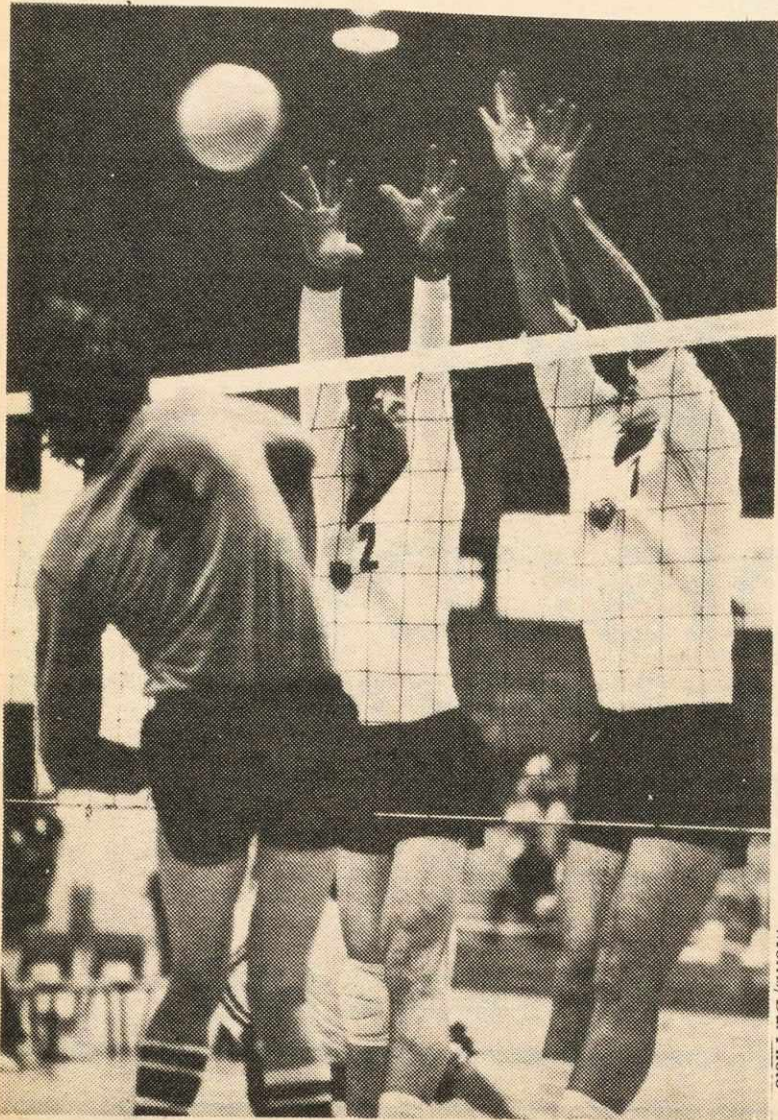


# Sports



Morts/Dal Photo

Volleyball action at the Dalplex last week saw the Tigers continue their strong play, but end up overshadowed by Penn State and others.

by Andrew Lorimer

The Dalhousie Volleyball Classic proved itself to be one of the premiere invitationals in Canada last weekend, when it hosted eight teams from universities across Canada and the United States.

The outstanding calibre of play in the men's gold medal match between Penn State Nittany Lions and the UBC Thunderbirds stole the show. Penn State are currently ranked second behind UCLA in the national Collegiate Athletic Associ-

## Penn State dominates Dal Classic

ation while UBC is seated fifth in the CIAU.

The tournament began Friday with the UBC women's team defeating York and the women's Tigers dropping their first match to Penn State. Later that evening the Winnipeg Lady Wesmen beat Memorial in their first match, while in men's play, Dal Tigers lost three straight to the Nittany Lions.

Saturday saw the Dal women's squad take both their matches against Acadian and York, to move into the semi-finals alongside Penn State, Winnipeg and UNB. The men's Tigers won three straight from Sherbrooke but lost to Winnipeg one game to three. Penn State men's qualified for the semi-finals by defeating Sherbrooke and Winnipeg while the UBC Thunderbirds qualified by downing Memorial and Manitoba in their pool.

In the semis the women Tigers square off against Winnipeg and lost 15-1, 15-11 and 15-5. Penn State beat UNB 15-2, 15-4 and 15-3 to move into the finals with Winnipeg. In the men's semis Penn State downed Manitoba 3 games to 1 and UBC downed Winnipeg to advance to final match.

More impressive matches than the men's final are seldom seen in collegiate volleyball. Both the Thunderbirds and the Nittany Lions fans witnessed very strong, very competitive clubs. UBC jumped to a 1-0 lead with a 15-9 win in the first game and apparently had the match wrapped up when they roared to a 6-1 lead in the second game. Penn State however managed to struggle back and hold it at 7-5, only to see the T-birds race away again and take it 15-7, leading the match by two games.

It looked grim for the Nittany Lions as the Thunderbirds took the lead in the 3rd game, 12-8 and fans began to drift out. But the Nittany Lions proved to be a come-back team when they tied the game at 12 and went on to win it 15-12.

So much for an easy victory.

From then on both teams struggled relentlessly for every point they made and painfully dragged the fourth game to 5-5; then to 7-7 and then to 11-10. The Pennsylvanians frustrated UBC spikers with an impressive 3-man block and UBC countered by retrieving anything that fell shy of the stands. The game drew to a 14-14 tie and the Nittany Lions were victorious. For UBC it was back to square one.

In the fifth and final game Penn State came out on a roll and moved to a 10-5 lead. The Thunderbirds thundered back to make it 11-9 but could not hold on as the Nittany Lions won the game 15-10 and took the gold medal.

In the women's final the Winnipeg Lady Wesmen beat Penn State three straight, starting by defeating their opponents 15-0 in the first game. The second game was a runaway victory for Winnipeg as they decimated the Nittany Lions 15-3. Coming into the third game, Penn State changed setters but were still powerless to stop Winnipeg from taking the game 15-7 and the gold medal, 3 games to nothing.

The Bronze medal matches were somewhat less dramatic as the Women's Tigers lost to arch-rivals University of New Brunswick in 5 games, 7-15, 15-12, 8-15, 15-13 and 15-6. The men's bronze medal went to the Manitoba Bisons who won their match against the University

of Winnipeg.

After the final, Tom Tait, coach of the Penn State men had several things to say about his team's performance. "They were shutting us down on the outside spiking and we had to switch to a middle tack to gain any ground on them," he said.

Although there were five returning players from the 1982 squad Tait was concerned about how the team would play together. "This was our first tournament this season," he remarked. "It's always hard to judge the personality of a team until they actually perform in competition."

For Dale Ohman and the UBC Thunderbirds it's back home to prepare for the CIAU championships, which they will be hosting this year.

Tournament All-Stars in the men's division for this year's Classic were Jamie Fraser (Dal), Terry Gagnon (Man), Paul Friesen (UBC), Brad Willock (UBC), Jeff Johnson (Penn State) and Mark Kryanik (Penn State). Women All-Stars included Ruth Klassen (Win), Alice Kamermans (UNB), Ellen Crandall (Penn State), Nan Callander (Win) Lesley Peters (Penn State) and Nicole Young (Dal).

MVP's in the semi-finals were Patty Scadeland (Penn State), Paula O'Brien (UNB), Jamie Hancharyk (Win) and Cathy Blight (Dal) for the women's teams and Brad Willock (UBC), Hans Rieger (Win), Bruce Van Horn (Penn State) and Doug Kosak (Man) for the men's.

Tournament MVP's were Jamie Hancharyk and Bruce Van Horne for the women's and men's divisions respectively.

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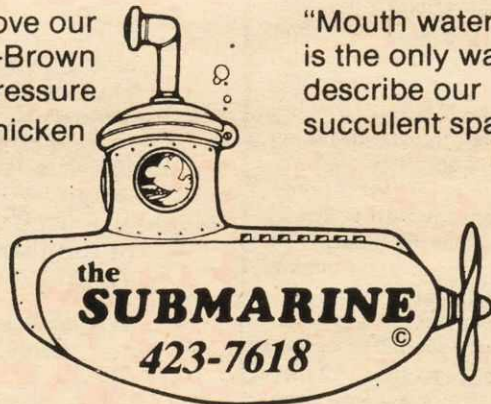
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