

Challenge gives Tigers experience

By MARK ALBERSTAT

THE VISITING MANITOBA Bisons swept this year's edition of the Air Canada Collegiate Volleyball Challenge by defeating the host Dalhousie Tigers in all of their matches from the 17-19th.

The first match was at Dalplex. The Bisons showed why they are the defending CIAU Champions by sweeping the Tigers 15-3, 15-8, 15-3. Through the first game it looked like the visitors would have a rare volleyball shutout as they ran the score up to 12-0 before Dal got on the board.

On Friday the squads travelled to Whycomagh where it took the Bisons four games to defeat the Tigers. This match ended in scores of 15-7, 15-3, 11-15, and 15-9.

From Whycomagh the series travelled to Sydney and Port Hawkesbury for the final day of

competition. Once again the Tigers were only able to snatch one game from the Bisons.

In Sydney the scores were 15-7, 16-14, 13-15, and 15-5. In Port Hawkesbury the tallies were 15-8, 12-15, 15-1 and 15-3.

In the Halifax engagement the host Tigers put on a very poor showing with some severe problems in the middle blocking position. Al Scott, Dalhousie men's volleyball coach, was obviously not pleased with his team's performance in their opening match.

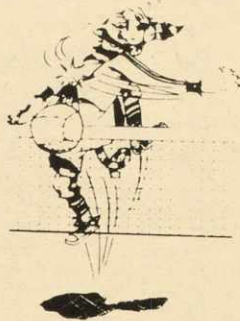
"I was disappointed with their performance in Halifax. We had a lot of new players in the lineup and they were pretty nervous," said Scott. After having one game under their belts though they settled down and played much better."

After the Dalplex debut Scott make a slight change in the lineup, moving veteran Brian

Rourke into the middle, which seemed to fix their blocking problems.

"In Whycomagh we lost the second game but we were up 13-9 so it could have gone to five, and the same thing happened in Sydney," said Scott.

One of the main reasons for the Air Canada Challenge was to bring high level volleyball to



parts of the province that don't normally see it. The Challenge played to packed houses in Whycomagh and Port Hawkesbury, while the crowds in Sydney and at home in Dalplex were a little on the small side.

The Tigers next see action at the UNB Invitational in Fredericton, where they will play both AUA and club teams.

Rugby Tigers scare Pictou

By LIONEL D. WILD

UNDEFEATED PICTOU County got the scare of their Nova Scotia Rugby Union season in eking out a 17-7 victory over the Dalhousie Tigers Saturday afternoon in Dartmouth.

Pictou, with a 7-0 record and first place almost assured, came away with respect for the scrappy Dalhousie squad.

"We didn't play last week, and were rusty out there today," said Pictou coach Roger Swarbrick. "But having said that, Dalhousie still played very well."

Dalhousie got off to a strong start, pressuring the surprised Pictou squad in their own end of the field. A Pictou back took a penalty for a viscious high tackle, and Tigers' winger Chris Carter responded by kicking a 35 yard penalty goal for an early 3-0 lead.

By halftime, though, Pictou had a 7-3 lead. Winger Jim Taylor scored an unconverted try in the left corner at the 25 minute mark, and fullback Peter Lenihan followed with a 30 yard penalty goal ten minutes later.

After Taylor had scored another try and Lenihan converted it for Pictou at the 10 minute mark of the second half, it looked as though Dalhousie would concede the match.

However, persistence and trading kicks at a bounding ball down the field by Dalhousie inside centre Paul Wogan, outside centre Ian MacLeod and scrum half Lionel Wild produced results. Wogan fell on the ball in the end zone and the Tigers were back in the game, trailing 13-7. The convert was unsuccessful.

Soon after, Dalhousie came within a right foot of tying the score. Chris Carter rambled down the right side of the field, hurdling over one defender on his way to the end zone when his right foot came down out of bounds. The try scored between the posts was properly called back.

Pictou closed the scoring 35 minutes into the second half when wing forward Vince Rizzotti scored an unconverted try off a set penalty play.

"It would be nice to have people come out and see these games," said Dalhousie winger Tom Kovacs. "The score was not indicative of the tempo of the game."

Once again, the Tigers' front row of Steve Cole, Dean Jackson, and Steve Lenihan had strong performances against the vaunted Pictou front row.

The hard running of Carter, timely kicking and smart running of Dalhousie standoff Blair Gill, and well placed 25 yard drop outs of Wogan were other positive features of the Tigers' game.

Dalhousie fullback Peter Cook, playing with an injured hamstring muscle, was dependable in his defensive coverage.

"We played really well today," said Tigers' captain MacLeod. "Everyone went in to the game really loose. There was no pressure on us."

Kovacs was encouraged by the team's will to win against a technically superior team. "There was a spark there that we've been missing in a few of our games," he said.

The Tigers closed out their season, pending review of the disputed match against Saint Mary's, this coming Saturday against Halifax R.F.C.

Starting time is 1 p.m. at J.L. Isley field.



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