



Hart/Dal Photo

The number six ranked basketball Tigers came back hard in the last five minutes of the game to close the gap to eight points after being behind by as much as 24 in their 94-86 loss to the CIAU number one ranked SMU Huskies.

Dal volleyballers in first place

by Manoj Vohra

The Dalhousie womens volleyball team took first place in the AUA league over the weekend by defeating Memorial University.

On Saturday Dal defeated Memorial in five games. The Tigers lost the first game 12-15 but rebounded to take the second 15-9. In the third game Memorial pulled out all the stops and won 7-15. However, the Tigers salted away the match by winning the next two games with scores of 15-10 and 15-5.

On Sunday the women put their 7-0 record against the Beothuks once more, and this time they only required three games to do away with Memorial. The scores were 15-6, 15-13, 15-3.

The Tigers now hold down first place with a perfect 8-0 record followed by Memorial with a record of 6-2. In the latest CIAU rankings the Tigers are ranked fourth behind Laval (the winners of the Dal classic held the weekend before), York and Sherbrooke.

For the second year in a row the Tiger Volleyball Team will emerge as the AUA league champions. The Tigers increased

their seasonal record to 10 wins and 0 losses with two narrow victories over the host Memorial Beothucks. This increased Dal's undefeated string in the AUA to 26 victories.

In Saturday's match, the Beothucks jumped to a two game lead before the Tigers turned the tables to escape with a 12-15, 10-15, 15-3, 15-4, 15-10 win. Phil Perrin contributed 24 kills in 34 attempts and added another team high of 11 blocks. Jamie Naugler had 20 kills as well as 7 blocks. Rod Walsh also responded with 11 kills, 4 blocks and 3 digs.

Sunday's match saw the two teams trade close games before the Dal team dominated the deciding game. Match scores were 14-16, 15-11, 13-15, 15-13, 15-5. Rod Walsh had 26 kills, 9 blocks, 2 ace serves, 6 digs, and a service reception figure of 90% to lead the team in all statistical categories. Phil Perrin was next with 25 kills, 5 blocks and 2 digs. Jamie Naugler played well and contributed 17 kills, 4 blocks and 4 digs. Jamie Hanham led the single setter system with strong performances in both matches.

The Tigers will be competing this weekend in Laval's Rouge et Or Tournament.

Tigers upset X-men

by Llewellyn Butterfield II

The Dalplex was the scene last Tuesday night of a Dal win over Saint Francis Xavier.

The thrill of victory was particularly sweet in this game as it marked the first time the Tigers had defeated the Xmen since January 1976. The Tigers breezed to a 48-33 halftime lead and cruised the rest of the way, winning 79-68.

Coach 'Doc' Ryan made a mildly surprising move by starting small forward Pat Slaughter instead of Phil Howlett. The move paid handsome dividends as Slaughter wheeled and dealt for 17 first half points. Ryan made another good move by having Dal man-to-man defense instead of

the usual zone defense. This allowed Dal to get more pressure on St. F. X's main scorers, John Hatch and Mark Brodie. While St. F. X had problems scoring, Dal's offense quickly got into top gear. Stan Whetstone was effective on offense, but it was defense where he made his biggest impact. He finally lived up to his pre-season billing of 'prince of mid-air' by blocking three shots and generally intimidating John Hatch.

The fifteen point lead proved too much for the Xmen to overcome. However, they did manage to make the game exciting. Their zone defense virtually shut down the Tigers offense for several minutes. Meanwhile the Tigers

played as if the game was already over. The Xmen closed the gap to nine points with six minutes left. At this point Whetstone made his reappearance to arouse the Tigers. The Xmen cut Dal's lead to five with two minutes left, but the result was now academic.

The question remains, will Dal be able to shed their Jekyll and Hyde style of basketball (which has characterized this season) by the time AUA playoffs roll around? By the time the next issue of the Gazette rolls off the presses we should have that answer for you. Dal has another big game next Tuesday when they are slated to take on the Saint Mary's Huskies, 8 p.m. at the Metro Centre. Be there!

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