

SPORTS

Hockey Tigers recover from thrashing

BY DEREK NEARY

The Dalhousie Tigers' hockey club posted a win and a loss in a pair of home games last weekend.

The Tigers were coming off an intense 5-5 tie with the Acadia Axemen as they headed into action against the University of New Brunswick Red Devils on Saturday. Unfortunately for the home team, the large contingent of U.N.B. fans who made the journey to see the game had a lot to cheer about.

Dal quickly fell behind 2-0. Despite an abundance of opportunities — two shots hit the goal post and two goal line scrambles — the Tigers couldn't get on the board. It wasn't until the 17 minute mark that Dal finally got the break they were looking for when George Wilcox scored to

pull the Tigers within one.

Neither team made much headway in the second period until U.N.B.'s Clyde Simmons broke in all alone and beat Pat McGarry to the glove side with just two minutes remaining.

Just 25 seconds into the final frame, the Red Devil's Ken Murchison picked up his second goal of the game to make the score 4-1. Dominic Niro banged in a rebound 17 seconds later to give U.N.B. a four goal cushion. Jim Ladine added to the thrashing by blasting a shot from the top of the face off circle to make the final count 6-1.

The Tigers took to the ice less than 24 hours later hoping to bounce back against the St. Thomas Tommies.

Once again Dal got off to a slow start, trailing 2-0 after goals by

Vojtech Kucera and Mark Rupnow.

Peter Robinson closed the gap to just one goal on a set-up by George Wilcox.

Kelly Bradley notched the equalizer mid-way through the second frame while the Tigers held a two man advantage. Assists went to Joe Suk and Paul Kleinknecht.

Dal took the lead on Mark Myles' go ahead goal just as their power play expired. Corey MacIntyre had a helper.

A moment later the Tommies answered back with a power play goal of their own on Paul Stewart's marker.

This penalty filled affair was knotted at 3-3 after two periods.

At 4:10 of the third, Wilcox converted on a first rate pass from MacIntyre to put the home squad

back in the lead.

Suk snapped a low wrist shot past St. Thomas goalie Steven Gaudet at 10:49, to put the Tigers up by a couple.

With five minutes left in the contest, Ken MacDermid buried a loose puck into the Tommies' net to make it a 6-3 game.

Garth Joy replied two minutes later

as he tipped a teammate's shot past Kevin Stairs, but it wasn't near enough as Dal skated away with a 6-4 victory.

The Tigers hit the road this weekend for a pair of games. On Saturday they travel to Moncton to face the Blue Eagles and Sunday will see them take on the St. Mary's Huskies.

He's Sūk, he scores!

BY GORDIE SUTHERLAND

The speedy centre streaked past the Acadia defenders, forcing them to wrap their sticks around his shins. He somehow maintained his balance, while stickhandling the puck as though it were a yo-yo on a string. He moved the puck from right to left... left to right... right to left and back to the right one last time, and the Acadia goalie was left sprawling as the Tiger player completed his deke by neatly backhanding the puck into the open net.

"Dalhousie Tiger's second goal scored by number 77... Jo-o-o-o-o-o Suk," shouted the rink announcer. "Assisted by number 20 Bill Loshaw and by number 10 Greg Smyth. Time of the goal 19:58."

This goal was the patented Joe Suk goal. It required his soft hands, his speed, his balance and his deception.

Again this season, Suk is showing off the talent that landed him a tryout with the Chicago Blackhawks in 1990.

"He's very exciting and explosive," says Dalhousie coach Darrell Young. "He's putting numbers on the board, and he puts them on the board when we need them."

Suk, a native of Chicago, is in his second year with the Tigers. He came to Dalhousie last season, after being cut from the Blackhawk tryouts. Suk decided to pursue a university education, instead of returning to the Hull Olympiques for a fifth year of major junior hockey. Even though the 1990-91 season was his rookie year, he was expected to be a dominant force in the Atlantic Universities Hockey Conference.

But he had a difficult transition to make.

"You're at a high there," explains Suk, 21. "It's a great feeling, it's a great opportunity and then you get cut. I'm not putting Dal or the AUAA down but it's a really big difference."

But now that Suk has a year of experience, he's playing like a seasoned veteran.

"This year he has come in and said he wants success for himself and for the team and he's prepared to get that," says Young.

Suk started off this season by exploding for 12 points in the first five games. He is in second place in the league scoring race with 12 goals, 18 assists and 30 points in just 16 games. He's well ahead of last year's pace which saw him finish with 31 points in 26 games.

Suk's offence this season has led the Tigers to second place in the Kelly Division and to a ranking of seventh in Canadian University hockey. The Tigers' impressive 8-4-4 record is surprising, since the team lost four of its top eight scorers from last year's team.

"One of the things we talked about at the end of last season is that his success is going to have a direct relation on our team's success," recalls Young. "The greater his success, the greater the team's success is going to be."

Suk centres one of the league's best lines. His wingers are sophomore Ken MacDermid and newcomer Greg Smyth. MacDermid was Suk's teammate in Hull for four years, including the 1987-88 season when the team went all the way to the Memorial Cup. Smyth transferred to Dalhousie after playing with the University of Western Ontario for three years. MacDermid and Smyth are also among the league's top 10 scorers.

Joe says communication makes the trio a successful forward line.

"We know each other and where we're going to be," says Suk, a Commerce student. "I played with Kenny for four years and Smitty is great too. Just give him the puck and he'll score every time."

Suk says he hasn't given up on the idea of playing professional hockey but for now he's focusing on his university career.

"If I get asked to another camp, I would have to think about it," says Suk. "Right now, I'm dedicating my time to my studies and to Dalhousie. I'm going to school, I'm going to get my education and I'm playing hockey for the fun of it."

Men's volleyball stomp MUN

Tigers crash cholesterol hut

BY GIL J. KORN

This past weekend, Dalhousie's mens' volleyball team travelled to that ever distinct part of our country — Newfoundland.

The most recent contest between the Tigers and the Memorial University Seahawks saw the Tigers cruise to victory after dropping the first game by a score of 12-15. Even questionable officiating (the ref missed a really good match) and a large Saturday night crowd could not halt Dal from coasting to a "three up, three down" (games, that is) disposal of the Seamasters on this particular occasion. Captain Paul Villeneuve was designated player of the game for his fine play.

The following Sunday morning witnessed a smaller crowd, ena-

bling the Tigers, lead by standout Kirk Yanofsky, to again win three consecutive games. After "skunking" the Seabirds in the opener (15-0, honest), they gave up 5 points in each of the remaining two.

Rookies Danny Macleod, Anton Potvin, Chris Schwarz and Eric Villeneuve played well, displaying the poise and confidence expected of more experienced players.

After all was said and done, to ensure the trip was a memorable one indeed, coach Al Scott introduced some to, and re-acquainted others with, yes, how did you guess, "The Big R." As I understand it, this marked the 13th annual pilgrimage to what one player coined "a greasy fry pit", and another "the cholesterol hut."

No, I haven't been to Newfound-

land; but when I do go, my plans won't include a sampling of "Big R's" menu of, as described to me by veterans Paul Villeneuve and Dave St. Helene, "cod tongues, crab bits, and squid rings." However, it is tradition, and can be considered reward for a strong performance against the MUN squad.

While I can only wonder what the "R" stands for, I would make a point of finding out if I were a Seahawk (finally got it right), as perhaps it provided the Tigers with motivation (well, maybe). You can think about it this Friday as Dal plays their first matches of this weekend's Classic Tournament. They host Queen's at 2:30 p.m., and Laval, the #2 ranked team in the nation, at 7:00 p.m. Be there — "Big R" will be watching.



...and he drinks Johnny Walker Black!

DAL PHOTO: DANA COLE