

Men's basketball team upsets UPEI

By MARK ALBERSTAT

IF YOU MISSED THE MEN'S basketball games over the weekend at Dalplex you missed a lot.

The Tigers were host to the UPEI Panthers, the number one ranked team in the country. Many people thought the games would be a blow-out, but the Tigers not only rose to the occasion, they also were sharper than usual, cleaned the boards better than Spic and Span, and were able to leap tall buildings (or short players) at a single bound, and all round hold the Panthers down. In short, they showed that they are better than what their record indicates.

Friday night's game ended with a 67-62 score for the Island team, while Dalhousie took Saturday's match with a 65-61 tally. These games left the Tigers with a four and ten record, and UPEI at twelve and three.

Friday evening's game started off on the right foot when UPEI got the opening tip-off only to see Bo Malott steal the ball and pass it to Louis Atherton, who went up for the first two points of the match.

The first half was a back-and-forth battle, but at the beginning it looked like it was going to be a one-man effort for the Panthers as Trevor Willock collected eight points in the first four minutes.

This half was much like a football game with a two-minute warning. This warning, however, was a technical foul on Tiger coach Doc Ryan when he complained about the lack of consistency in the officiating. The Panthers' Tejan Alleyne netted one point from this foul.

The half-time score was 39-34 for the Panthers, but the closeness of the score is much to the credit of the Tigers defence when it is considered that Dal gave the ball over to the visitors ten times through fouls compared to four for the Panthers. Another interesting stat for this half is that the Panthers had five one-pointers as opposed to Dalhousie's zero—the Tigers never made it to the line.

The second half was much like the first with several ties and one-point differences in the score, though the Tigers only had the lead once with 13 minutes left and the score at 47-46.

With a minute and a half left there was only a three-point margin with a score of 62-59 for the Panthers. The score closed to 62-60 and remained there till forty seconds left in the game, when UPEI got two fast breaks from Delroy Adams and Aion Pettigrew plus one free throw to put them to 67 while the Tigers got two more points from Louis Atherton to close out the Tigers scoring for this game.

Scoring leaders for Dalhousie were Atherton, who earned player of the game honours with a 19-point performance, Ronnie Wright with 16, and George Leacock with 14. Panther leaders were Trevor Willock who fouled out near the end of the game after

picking up four fouls in the second half, with 14, Tejan Alleyne with 15 and Aion Pettigrew with 14.

Saturday's game belonged to the Tigers. They did not totally dominate the scoring, as the 65-61 tally indicates, but they were ahead through most of the game. Tiger coach Doc Ryan summed up the game by saying, "we had a good performance out of everybody", going on to say that the players coming off the bench also did their job well.

In this game Dal came out to a quick 6-2 lead after only six minutes had gone in the game, keeping the lead until the 6:22 mark when UPEI went up 18-16. It looked like Tigers' Malott and the Panthers Pettigrew were in a scoring race through this half. Pettigrew came out on top of this race with ten points compared to Malott's eight.

Half time score was UPEI leading the Tigers by three, with a 30-27 score.

The second half saw UPEI taking their time to get off the mark as they took four minutes to score their first basket of the half. Dal came back and took the lead at the 11:30 mark with a 37-36 score, about four minutes later UPEI called a time out when Dalhousie was up by seven, 51-44.

The two teams traded points for the next while when with 34 seconds left coach Ryan called a time out. This was followed 20 seconds later with another Tigers time out with the score at 64-59. The last seconds of the game ticked off with Malott netting a free throw and Alleyne getting two one-pointers to take the Panthers to their final 61.

Top scorers for the Tigers were Ronny Wright with 18 (16 of which came in the second half), Louis Atherton with 12, George Leacock with 12, and Bo Malott with 11. The Panthers' leading scorer was Tyrone Norman with 16 and Tejan Alleyne and Aion Pettigrew, each with 10.

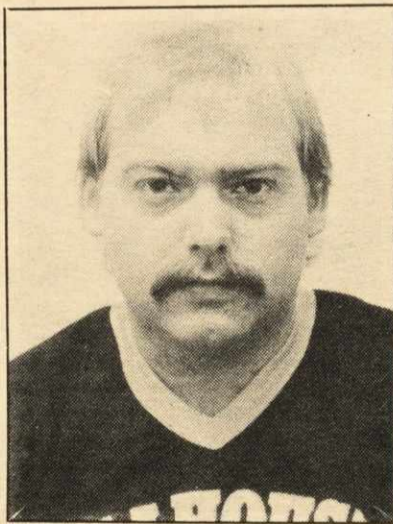
Panthers' main point getter from Friday night's game, Trevor Willock, was held down to four points. Willock was stymied offensively by George Leacock, although he did a lot of rebounding and shot blocking for the visitors.

"I don't think this was an upset," said Panther coach George Morrison, reiterating his thoughts from the previous night when he commented that Dal had a strong enough team to defeat the Panthers if they wanted to. Morrison also said that this win is "a boost for Dal's playoff hopes and it's a realistic possibility."

"We tried to slow down the tempo of the game and keep the game under a certain number of points," said Doc Ryan after the game.

The Tigers next home game is Feb. 21 against St. F. X. at 8:30 p.m., and Feb. 23 against UNB at 8 p.m.

Athletes of the week



MEN: Darren Cossar, a third year Arts student and goaltender for the Tigers hockey team, is Dalhousie's male Athlete of the Week for the week of Feb. 4-10.

Cossar backstopped the Tigers to two major victories last week and as a result, the Dal squad clinched a playoff berth.

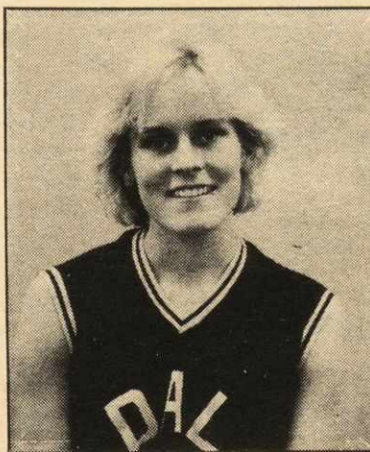
Cossar, a 22-year-old Dartmouth resident, had to contend with 50 and 51 shots in the Tiger victories over St. F. X. and Moncton respectively. Of the 101 shot total, only seven escaped Cossar's grasp.

A former AUAA Rookie of the Year and conference All-Star, the five-foot, eight-inch Cossar will be counted on heavily as the Tigers move into the AUAA playoffs.

WOMEN: Shelley Slater, a third year Science student and a forward on the Tiger women's basketball team, is Dalhousie's female Athlete of the Week. Slater played an important role in the Tigers two victories last week, including the team's upset win over UNB.

Slater recorded 16 points against St. F. X. in the Tigers' 65-44 score over the X-ettes, and 13 points in the team's 73-66 victory over UNB. Slater also pulled down 14 rebounds against UNB.

The five-foot, nine-inch native of Moncton has shown great improvement throughout the season and this is her second consecutive selection as Dal's female Athlete of the Week.



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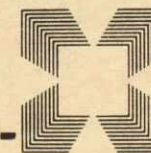
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