

HOLT ON SPORT

by Gary Holt

The basketball Tigers were unable to accomplish step two in the three step process I outlined in last week's column, but it was certainly not through lack of effort. Omitting the first eleven minutes of the game every member of the team gave all they had. In spite of a good effort all around the final score was 62-51 in favour of the Acadia Axemen.

Actually the game was considerably closer than that final score indicates. With eight minutes to go in the game the score was tied at 42 points each. A few breaks at that point and the outcome could very easily have been in the opposite direction. The two baskets scored by Sean Casey on long jump shots were the key shots in the contest. They sent Acadia back into the lead after it had been tied.

As in almost every game I have seen this year the Tigers got off to a horrendous start. They do not seem to be able to get the jump on a team. To their great credit they did not lose their cool. They fought their way back into the ball game and were able to tie the score at the half at 28-28.

The same thing happened in the second half as they again started slowly. The Axemen scored eight consecutive points to take the lead 35-28. It is a difficult thing to try and do anything about. What can a

coach or any player do or say that will make a team get off to a fast start?

Looking to some of the individual performances of the Dal players, there does not seem to be enough superlatives available to describe the performance of Brian Peters. He did it all for the Tigers. He was tough on the defensive and the offensive boards. He scored from underneath, he scored on drives and he scored from the outside. His 22 points represents 43% of the Tigers scoring output in the game. Three shots that he made I remember particularly. They are quite representative of what he was doing all evening.

The first was a 20-footer with five seconds left in the first half. That tied the score. The next was a left hand hook from a rebound and the third was from a rebound when he was knocked flat as he shot but it still went in. A few weeks ago in this column I said that Brian had a terrible time making the close-in shot. At that time it was true; now I take it back. He was putting them all in.

Other individuals played well. Pete Sprogis scored 13 points and did an excellent job of guarding Steve Pound. With excellent help from his teammates when the victim of a pick play, Pete held the great Acadia guard to only six points on the first half. Pound ended the

game with 18 points but it took some great pressure shooting on his part to get that many.

The rest of the team played well, particularly on defense. On offence, everyone except Peters and Sprogis were too cautious. The shot or the drive would be there for an instant and could have been taken advantage of had they been looking to shoot right away. The shot was not taken because of the hope of getting a better one and many times a better shot never materialized.

One comment I heard was the question, "Why did Yarr leave Sprogis in the game at the end when he was losing the ball?"

I think it has been answered in the comments above. He was one of the only two aggressive offensive ball players on the floor. With him on the floor there was more danger of mistakes than with someone else, but also, with Pete, there is more chance to score, than with someone else. That would be my explanation of the question. For the official one ask Al Yarr.

Turning to hockey, the Tigers

came through in fine style on the weekend after that 9-2 horror show at the Forum on Monday against SMU. They trampled Moncton 11-2 and Mount A 7-1. It makes a person wonder about the back to back 4-3 losses to the same teams on the road a few weeks ago. The Tigers must have played — check that — what it amounts to is that they didn't play, period!

Ron Naud had a fine week-end with six goals and four assists. He looks like he is well on his way to his second scoring title in three years. He now has 24 goals.

Ralph McCully broke the jinx that has plagued him all season. He scored his first goal of the year against Moncton. Let's hope it's an indication of things to come. Kenny MacDonald is back in the old skating form of last season. That augers well for the rest of the way.

A lot of credit has to go to goalie George Millett. Two groin injuries, then last week in practice, a fifteen stitch cut in his forehead from a shot. The guy must really want to play hockey. I hope his desire rubs

off on the rest of the team.

A note about Charlie Barter. In the past couple of games he has been forced to play a strange position, right wing. Normally defenceman, and not too speedy, it took Chas. a while to get the hang of things, but he turned in a fine effort against Mount A.

Congratulations to Mike Sangster of the Dal wrestling team who took the 118-pound championship in the AIAA Wrestling at the Dal gym. He was the only class champ from Dal, who were second to Memorial in the meet. Dal had four seconds in Mark Wannamaker (158), Vernon Cain (167), Wolf Nowak (177) and John Breckenridge (190).

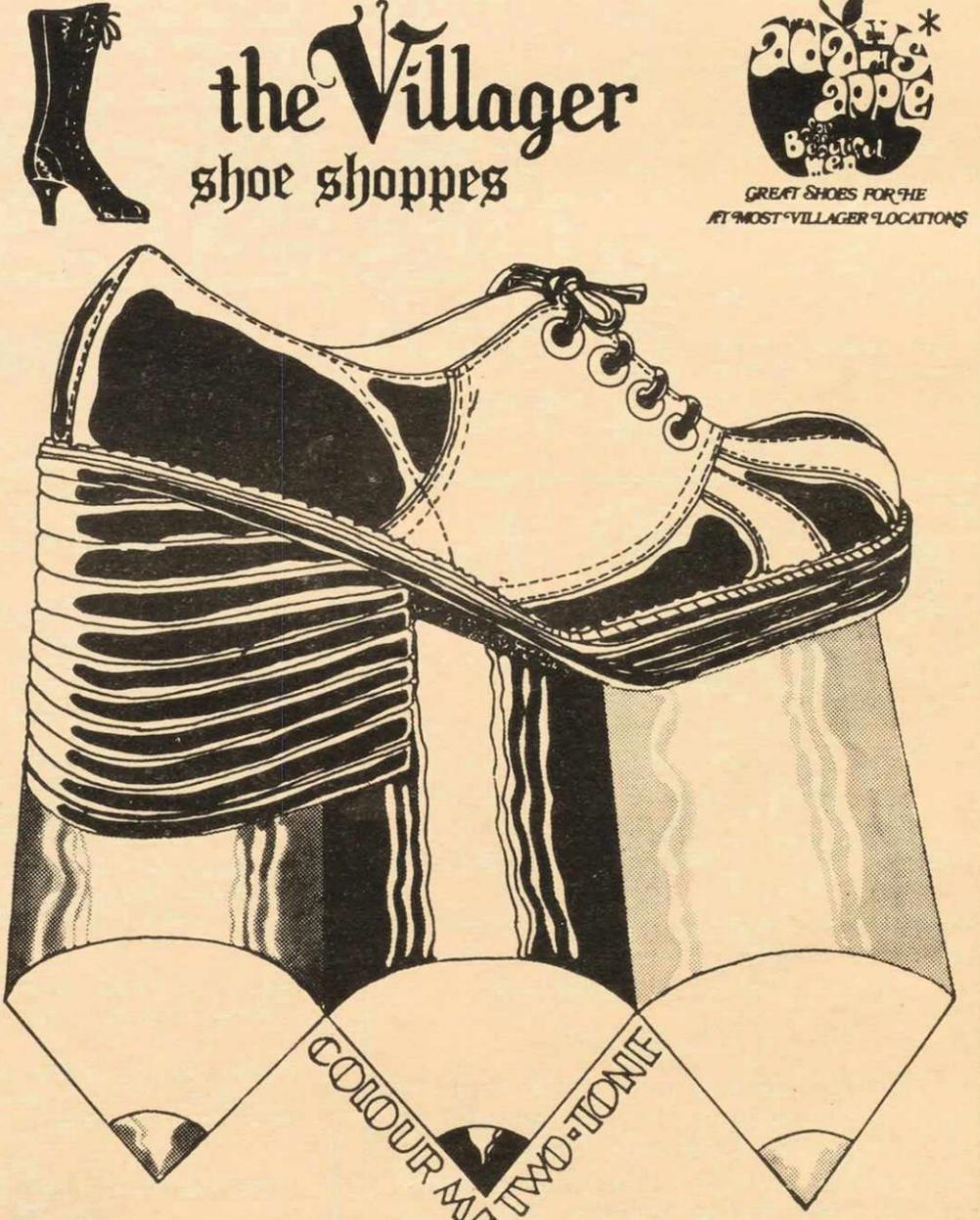
TIGER TALES:
*I have left volleyball out of the column and both the men's and women's teams are doing extremely well. I just haven't had the information or the time to get it.
* Girl's basketball — unfortunately a loss to St. F.X. in overtime 73-68.

TO ALL THE LOYAL DALHOUSIE BASKETBALL FANS WHO ATTENDED THE ACADIA GAME AND GAVE US GREAT LIFT WITH THEIR VOCAL SUPPORT, WE EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION AND SINCERE THANKS.
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