

Tigers lose but make CIAU finals

by Luke Napier

The Dal basketball Tigers lost in their bid for the Atlantic Universities Basketball Conference crown by dropping a 73-72 decision to the S.M.U. Huskies in A.U.B.C. semi-final action last Friday, but they still have a shot at the C.I.A.U. title. The well-qualified Tigers have a chance at the national title after earning a wild-card berth in the Brandon Regionals this weekend.

Friday's Metro Center loss shocked the Tigers as they were still riding high after quenching a 10 year drought against the Huskies at S.M.U. gym in their last regular season game. But the Huskies had silverware on the brain and gave the Tigers unexpected trouble.

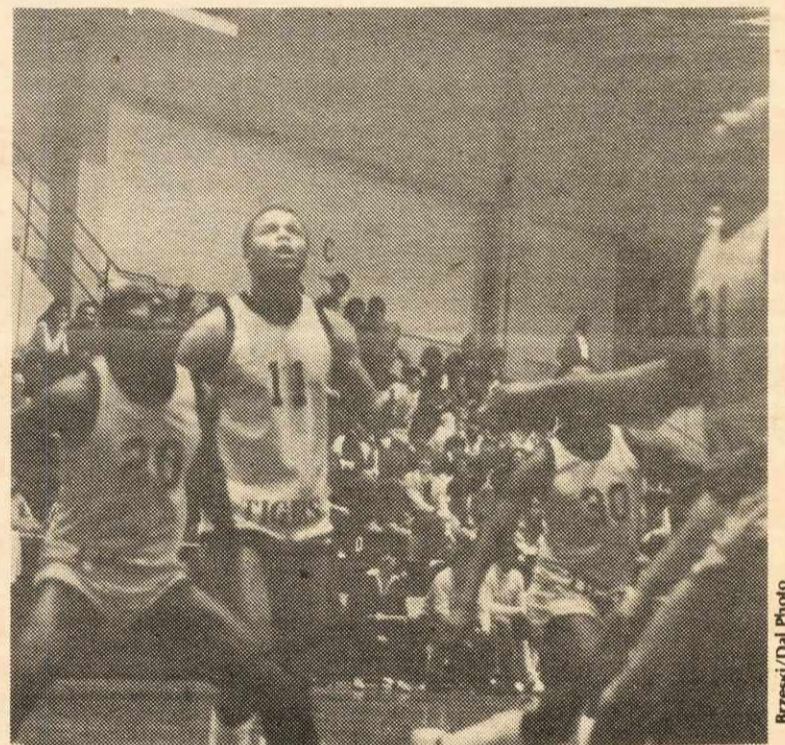
The Tigers were unable to pounce on the S.M.U. ball-handlers on the way up the large Metro Centre court and the Huskies' inexperience here was minimized. Downcourt, the two teams went toe-to-toe all game and the decision went down to the wire. With one minute to play and Dal down four, Steve Lambert calmly sank a pair of free throws and brought the score to 70-68. At the

other end, S.M.U.'s Rob Latler drew a foul but could only convert one of the free throws.

With 39 seconds remaining, Lambert again hit for two from the foul line. Then the Huskies' Mike Williams hit from the baseline and Stan Whetstone replied for Dal. The Huskies then had possession and a 73-72 lead, leading the Tigers to foul to prevent S.M.U. from eating up the remaining few seconds.

Husky Brian Ross missed his bonus attempt but the Tigers couldn't manage a last-second score and the result was the 73-72 heart-breaker. The Tigers were led by Pat Slawter's 18 point performance, followed by A.U.A.A. first team all-star Bo Hampton's 16 point effort. Stan Whetstone, a 2nd team all-star, collected 15 points and nine rebounds while Lambert, another of Dal's A.U.A.A. first team all-stars, finished with 10 points. For the Huskies, Rob Latler had 27 points and 15 rebounds.

Saturday's final saw the St. F.X.-Men also fall victim to the Huskies, but the X-Men too have earned a wild-card, theirs to the Alberta Regional.



Brzeski/Dal Photo

Tigers lose to Huskies but are given new life with CIAU wild-card berth!

Men's Volleyball

by Andrew Lorimer

The conference champions have been decided for the CIAU finals and the Tigers have drawn a tough assignment. Two round robin preliminary pools will send two winners each to the semis and there are two sharks in the Dalhousie pool.

The UBC Thunderbirds and the Manitoba Bisons have consistently ranked first and second throughout the season while the Tigers are currently ranked fifth. Tiger fans may remember the T-birds and the Bisons as second and third place finishers in this year's Dalhousie Classic.


The UBC team fell into Dalhousie's pool when they were upset by U Vic in the Canada West Conference, but as the host team they had a guaranteed berth in the final. U.

of Toronto ensured their first play-off appearance by downing York in the OUAA finals. Laval won in the QUAA to accompany U. of T. and U. Vic in the second pool.

There is no doubt in coach Al Scott's mind that the Tigers have a difficult assignment. "We are the underdogs and the pressure will be on the Thunderbirds as hosts and the Bisons as the number one team going into the finals."

The young Tiger team, however, has had more room to improve over the season, than their competition, and will definitely make the games interesting.

The Tigers fly out to the west coast for the All-Canadian Banquet Wednesday evening before meeting UBC on Thursday in first round action.

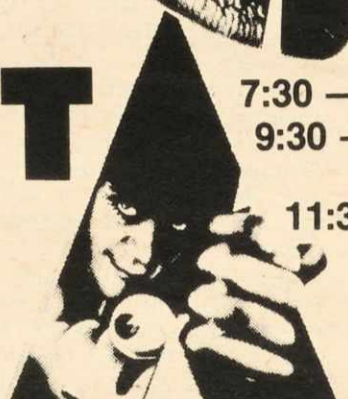


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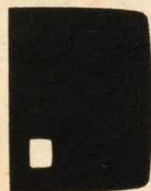
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