

Basketball

First home games bring good and bad news

by Ken Fogarty

Tuesday night at Dalplex resulted in good news and bad news. Which do you want to hear first? Let's try the bad news.

The loud speaker utters the words "Lambert for two"; three people applauded. St. F.X. breaks quickly back down court and scores two points; two people applaud. Dal takes the ball back down the court but misses its chance to score and St. F.X. turns the play around and scores again; four people applaud. Dal gets the ball again but have their offence broken up again by St. F.X. who go back down court to score again; six people applaud. Dalhousie finally gets

its offense working and scores two points; we're back to two people applauding again.

That was the state of mind of the crowd at the Dal vs St. F.X. mens' basketball game, after the boredom set in; which was about twenty minutes after the game started. The Tigers did more than hold their own for those first twenty minutes. They led the X-Men by five points at the beginning but found little problem in reverting to the Tigers that we have come to know. They quickly fell to the superior offense of the X-Men and the under-the-basket magic of Mark Brodie, who led the scoring for St. F.X., with thirty-two points. That was when the crowd started to do what they had come to do;

their homework, their knitting, or curl up with a good book. The most exciting part of the evening was when the Dalhousie Modern Dance Club came on the floor at half-time to give a performance. The exhibition was interesting, but the best part was when two of the women got their equipment tangled and tried to untangle it as the rest of them went on with the show. There they were, in the middle of a performance, with hundreds of eyes watching them as they tried to untangle two ribbons. Everything was anticlimactic after that.

One of Dal's biggest problems was breaking the full-court press. St. F.X. kept trapping Dalhousie guards behind the half-court line, putting

pressure on Dal to get the ball over half in ten seconds. Many times Dal would panic and throw an errant pass and the X-Men would take possession of the ball.

When Dal takes to the home court again it will be more than a month from now, and until then, they don't have many games, so hopefully the Tigers can work on their weak spots before they take on Acadia here at Dalplex on January 13, 1981.

Now for the good news. Dalhousie took their revenge on St. F.X. before they were even dealt a loss at the hands of the X-Men. The Dalhousie Women's basketball team took the floor before the men and defeated the St. F.X. X-ettes easily, 82-43. The game

had to be looked upon as an additional boost in spirit for Dal. Even for the Modern Dance Club, whose display went unhindered during the intermission of the Women's Game.

Jill Tasker was the star for the Dal women, scoring thirty-six points. Carol Rosenthal followed with thirteen. If you were to add Tasker's and Rosenthal's points, you would get forty-nine. The score for Tuesday night's game, if just Tasker and Rosenthal took the floor for Dal, would have been 49-43 for the Tigers. There's a thought! How about putting just these two women on the floor for Dal. We would still win, but the games would be much closer and interesting. Well, it's just a thought.

Hockey Tigers drop another pair

by Sandy Smith

The hockey Tigers continue to sputter and wheeze in their attempts to get back on the winning track. Last week their record dropped to two wins and six losses following an 8-5 loss to Saint Mary's last Wednesday at the Forum and a 6-2 defeat at the hands of the Acadia Axemen in Wolfville last Saturday night.

Although the Tigers have a 2-6 record, coach Peter Esdale says 'Our record could just as easily be 5-3 or 4-4. We just haven't been able to put sixty minutes together.

'We've been letting guys free-wheel and it's costing us. We're giving away too many turnovers in our own end.'

Turnovers and an inability to make good on their scoring chances combined with the absence of a sixty minute effort were, again, the causes of defeat for the Tigers Saturday in Wolfville.

Gary Ryan scored his first two goals of the year for the Tigers in Saturday's game.

In last Wednesday's 8-5 loss to the Huskies, the Tigers once again fell victim to bad luck and over generosity

around their own net.

With the score tied at four after two periods, Tiger supporters watched with dismay as Steve Axeford of the Huskies demonstrated deadly accuracy banking a centering pass off a Dalhousie defenceman's skate into the Tigers' goal for the third of his five goals on the night. A little more than a minute and a half later, Darren Pickrem put away a loose puck in a goalmouth scramble after Tiger goalkeeper Ken Book could not keep the puck covered. Book also failed to keep the puck covered on the Huskies' third goal; in fairness, however, most present, save Tom McDonell (who scored the goal) and the referee, seemed to think that the puck had been covered long enough to warrant a stoppage in play. Two more Steve Axeford goals, both back hands, finished Dalhousie's hopes for the night.

Rick McCallum excelled for the Tigers putting two shots behind all-Canada Mark Locken. One was a pretty breakaway goal, the other an expeditious slap-shot corner. (See last week's Gazette for a picture) Kevin Zimmell, Adrian Facca, and Brian Gualazzi each scored once in Wednesday's game.

Esdale reports that the Tigers will be working on a change in their forechecking system for Saturday's game with the Universite de Moncton Blue Eagles. In an effort to 'tighten up,' the Tigers will abandon their system of sending two men deep into the other team's end to pressure the defence. Instead, they will send one man in with the wingers picking up their men immediately. You can all find out how successful the new system will be Saturday at 7 p.m. The game is once again at the Forum.



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



ANNA PENDERGAST — women's basketball — the Kensington, P.E.I. native was selected a tournament all-star as the Tigers won the University of Western Ontario Tournament. She scored 54 points in three games in addition to landing Dalhousie to its first AUSA win of the year with 28 points against Acadia. She also scored 22 in an exhibition win over York. Anna is a third year physical education student, who was named a CIAU tournament All-Star last year.



GREG WILSON — wrestling — the Ottawa native is in his fifth year of wrestling for Dalhousie and in his second year as coach. A past silver medalist at the CIAU's, Wilson has won the AUSA championship at 167 lbs. four times and has been a five time Atlantic Provinces titleholder.

Last weekend, Wilson led the Tigers to their best finish in almost three years as they finished second in Dalhousie Wrestling Extravaganza. Wilson won in the take down and freestyle competition.

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