

Titans Start Playoffs With A Win

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The Red Deer Titans First Division squad opened its post-season men's rugby schedule on a winning note Saturday at home, while the Titans III went down to defeat on the road.

The Titans I defeated the Sherwood Park Druids 28-16 in first-round playoff action at Titans Park, getting tries from Finlay Lamont, spring winger Dean Plant and fullback Kyle Kaus. Wade Moore nailed three penalty kicks and two conversions for the winners, who led 13-6 at the half.

With Red Deer up 28-6, the match took on a fiesty tone with eight minutes remaining and Titans flanker Dave Hardy was sent off with a red card and will miss the rest of the season. Two additional players from each team were forced to sit out the remainder of the contest.

The Titans First Division side will be in Calgary this Saturday to take on the Saints in a provincial semifinal.

It will be the first meeting of the season between the two squads, as the Saints forfeited to Red Deer earlier in the year. The Titans have qualified for the final four for the first time since joining the Alberta Cup Men's First Division.

At Calgary Saturday, the Third Division Titans fell behind 10-0 in the first half despite spending considerable time in the Canucks' end, and eventually came out on the short end of a 20-14 count.

The Titans were awarded an early second-half try when the referee penalized the Canucks for continuously killing the ball near their own line.

Lonnie Amundson converted the major score to reduce Calgary's lead to 10-7, but the hosts took advantage of a series of missed tackles to score the next 10 points and take command of the match.

Ashley Brabon scored a late try and Amundson converted for the Titans, who completed their season with a 9-4 record.