

FIRST RUGBY GAME UNDER SNAP-BACK SYSTEM TODAY

**Tigers and Canucks to Open Alberta Big Four at 2:30
O'Clock in Hillhurst Park— Crowd Will Have Superior
Brand of Rugby for Teams Have Been Cut
Down to 12 Players a Side**

Rugby is the big event on the sport calendar today, for the season opens at 2:30 o'clock in Hillhurst park, when the Canucks and Tigers clash. Followers of the gridiron game have been stirred up over the first game of the year and a big crowd is expected at the park this afternoon.

The Canucks are rugby champions of the province, while the Tigers form the oldest aggregation in the west, and they are anxious to recover lost laurels in this sport, for it was away back in 1914 that the University of Alberta boys wrested the crown from the black and yellow squad in home and home games. In 1915 the Canucks went back to Edmonton and beat the 'varsity tribe and captured the cup, which was up for competition again last fall, and the Canucks successfully defended it.

There is much speculation as to whether the Canucks can retain their hold on the silverware, for the Tigers have strengthened considerably, both on the back division and in the line. There is a great deal of new material and just enough experienced players to steady the younger stars, so that the veteran squad should make a savage attack on the championship this fall. They have been practicing

regularly and the snap-back system has been worked down to a nicety.

The Canucks, on the other hand, have filled in their empty positions with several promising players, and from their appearance in practice, it is evident that the management made no idle boast when it was stated that it will take a mighty fast team to rob them of their title. The back division is fast and there is plenty of weight to hold down the line, so that the clubs are fairly evenly balanced, which will result in a battle of wits between the squads, as to which one will take the lead. This will bring into effect the snappiest kind of trick plays, and the introduction of the 12-man game will give the teams openings galore to push through some unusually fast plays and the open work will take well with the crowd.

Mayor to Kick Off

Mayor R. C. Marshall is to kick-off the ball in the opening rugby game of the Alberta Big Four, at Hillhurst park this afternoon. The mayor is a keen athletic enthusiast and he takes great interest in the gridiron sport the same as all other branches.

At last night's meeting of the Canuck club, Scotty McLaws was elected captain of the champion squad and Capt. Fred Harvey, V. C. was appointed vice-captain.