

Gateway

Sports



RAH, RAH, SIS BOOM BAH—The cheerleaders finally made it, some people were actually in the bleachers, but where was Western Canada's finest? The Marching Band missed two basketball games to kick-off the new year in a style resembling that of the old.

HELP

We need a cartoonist. If you can draw this well, or even better, come to Gateway, 282 SUB, and DRAW.



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Slow-starting Bears come to life to take two from visiting Wesmen

Bears 73, Wesmen 59
Bears 91, Wesmen 57

The U of A Golden Bears defeated the Winnipeg Wesmen 73-59 and 91-57 in exhibition basketball games played in the main gym over the weekend.

Friday, in the first half, the Wesmen outran and out-positioned a complacent Bear team. Bill Irwin and Rich Macey scored ten points each to led the Wesmen to a 36-35 half-time lead.

In the second half, the Bears came out of hibernation. Superior shooting and rebounding gave them a narrow 50-47 lead at the ten minute mark. The Wesmen were tiring and the Bears won an easy 73-59 decision.

Bruce Blumell led the Bears with 19 points. Brian Rakoz added 12. Irwin hit 17 and Macey 11 for the Wesmen.

Saturday, the Wesmen again dominated the first half, but superior shooting gave the Bears a 31-27 half-time lead.

BEGAN TO WATCH

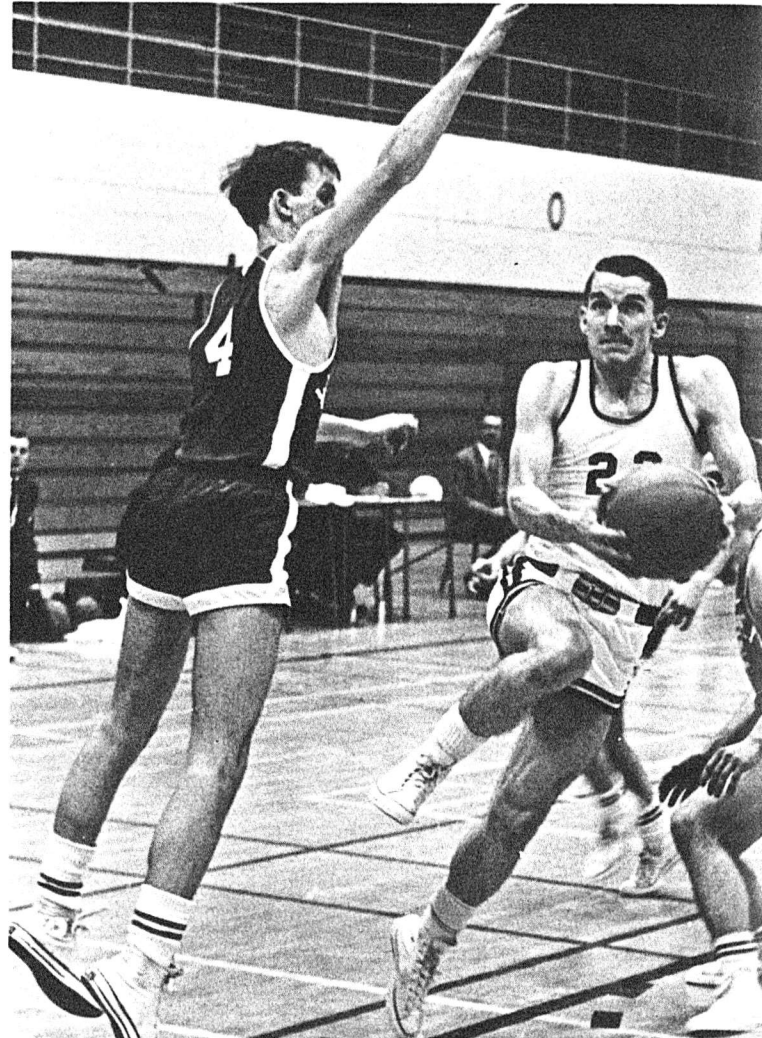
In the second half, the Bears began to watch the game. Within three minutes, the Wesmen had gained a 36-33 lead. During this period, they outrebounded the Bears 13-1.

With eight minutes gone, Coach Barry Mitchelson switched the Bears to a man-to-man full court press. And the Bears finally came to life. Guards Blumell and Al Melnychuk were extremely effective in breaking up Wesmen plays. The forwards began to rebound.

By the ten minute mark, the Bears held a 50-39 lead. They continued the press and were never in trouble again, winning 91-57.

Warren Champion led the Bears with 32 points, 20 in the second half. Melnychuk, playing his finest game, added 13.

"We were in for three quarters of the game, but Alberta took better advantage of their scoring opportunities. They deserved to win,"



—Hutchinson photo
BEARS' BRUCE BLUMELL DRIVES IN FOR TWO
... against Wesmen Dave Christiensen

said Coach Victor Pruden of the Wesmen.

"I have learned to live with the refereeing, but there is definite room for improvement," he added, referring to the 24 fouls called on

his team in the second half. Five of his top six players fouled out.

Next WCIAA action for the Bears is Jan. 26 and 27 when they play host to the University of Calgary Dinosaurs.

Golden Bears crush Stampede in warm-up game for Denver series

Before leaving for Denver, the U of A Golden Bears won another hockey game; but not much effort went into playing it.

The Bears defeated the Ponoka Stampede 6-2 last Wednesday. They came out of the first period with a 4-1 lead, and held it to the end of the second period. Scoring for the Bears were Sam Belcourt, Dan Zarowny, Barry Robinson,

Merose Stelmaschuk, Jack Gibson and Jerry Braunberger.

Tom Devaney, one of two players up from the U of A Bearcats for the game, seemed to be the only player who was on the ice to play hockey. The rest seemed intent on making the game as rough as possible with as few penalties as possible, resulting in a sloppy game. The Bears managed only

three sparks of enthusiasm—one for each time they had to play a man short.

Coach Drake had told the Bears to treat the game as a skating practice, but it even failed in that category as the players spent most of their time sliding all over the ice.

The Zamboni (ice-cleaning machine) created more excitement between periods than the hockey game itself. Controversy was raised in the stands as to whether or not its initial five minute mutterings would replace our national anthem.

The Bears returned from their annual two game series with the Denver University Pioneers late Sunday. On Wednesday the Bears face the Edmonton Nuggets in their second game of the city hockey championship. The Bears lost their first game of the round-robin series 3-2 to the Oil Kings in December.

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