Tough choice for Redmond

the fifth quarter

Soccer coach Gerry Redmond has quite a problem on his hands right now...he can only take sixteen players to the Western Intercollegiate Championships in Vancouver in about six weeks time, but deciding which sixteen to choose from the twenty-five or so really good players who have been turning out to the practices during the last week is proving to be a real headache. One especially encouraging feature of this is that a lot of these players are from local high schools, such as John Baretta, Matteo Piscopo, the Joines brothers, Bob Hrsak, and Stan Zurawicz. Paul Eagan, Terry Kindrat, Rolantd Leaute, and Barry Morrison also prove that you don't have to be European born and bred to shine at soccer. Alongside these local boys newcomers Geoff Bird, from Australia, English born Glenn Murphy, and Irishman Chris Kelly are all very highly thought of by Redmond and his assistant, Geoff Salmon. As Salmon warned, all these players are going to be pushing veterans Terry Whitney, John Devlin, Frank Tassone, Rick Korol, George Lovell, Tommy Schmidt, Dave Clayton, Peter Chiu, and Phil Craig for places in the squad. "Some really good players are going to get cut, was Redmond's regretful comment.

Last Wednesday evening the Bears played the Ulster Rangers. This game was late in starting thanks to the co-operative attitude of one of the football coaches who just had to practise on the soccer field, even though there was plenty of room off the field for what he was doing. Redmond used about twenty-five players in the game, which the Bears won 4-1. The highlights of the game were the play of John Devlin, who was brilliant in midfield, the distribution of the ball from defence of Terry Whitney, who twice found Terry Kindrat out on the wing with fifty-yard passes of pinpoint accuracy, (and Whitney said something about having a sore leg!), and the Bears' third goal, scored by Geoff Bird, finishing off a move which saw the Bears bring the ball out of defence with three or four fine passes. Bird, once he gets into top shape and becomes more familiar with his team-mates, is going to be an outstanding player.

On Saturday morning, in place of the cancelled fixture with the Royal Military College, the Bears played an inter-squad game. The heat wasn't exactly conducive to good soccer, especially as both teams started off at a pace more suited to December in England than to a 75 degree September in Edmonton. All three goalkeepers, John Baretta, Ed Stasiuk, and Paul Eagan impressed with good handling and anticipation. Geoff Bird showed some lovely touches in midfield, and Glenn Murphy, Frank Tassone and George Lovell were also impressive. Bobby Hrsak had two nice goals disallowed for offside, but in general nothing decisive was achieved, witness the final score, Probables 1, Possibles 1.

It's obvious that Redmond and Salmon will need to see the players in more realistic conditions, to see how various players react to competition. Hopefully, they'll have games against serious opposition soon. Salmon reckons that the defence will be watertight, although there'll be fierce competition for places, and some debate over whether to use a 'sweeper' behind the defence. The most problematic position in the team

is midfield, not because of any weaknesses, but because of extraordinary strength, and Redmond is worried about how best to use the array of talent he has there. Midfield is where games are usually lost and won. The midfield players have to gain possession of the ball before the opposition can do anything

with it, set up attacks, and support and cover other players. Ideally, all ten out field players should operate this way, and Redmond is leaning towards encouraging attackers and midfield players to interchange roles as much as is practical. They call this style of play 'total football', and a good example of it was provided by Holland in the last World Cup. It can be very effective in bemusing an opponent, but the danger is that

players will get caught out of position, bunch up, and leave the opposition open. You need players who know each other inside out, and it's debatable whether the Bears have enough time to reach this level. Besides asserting the fact that the Bears are a mighty tough football team, last weekend's game showed the need for a change in the ruling governing the number of players on a WIFL travelling squad. Teams are allowed to take only 28 players on the road while the home team can dress as many players as they want. Over the course of the season, this cannot be said to be much of an advantage seeing as they each have four home games and four on the road.

However, one cannot really think in those terms. Manitoba ended up having to play a flanker at quarterback when number one quarterback Bud Harden was racked up in the first half and their other signal caller Bob Gray ran into problems. Also, Bison coach Gary Naylor was forced to move an interior lineman over to the wide receiver's spot and put a linebacker in at fullback after their fullback had his hand injured.

Bear coach Jim Donlevy says "The degree of specialization in football today creates a need for not less than 32 men on a travelling squad for efficiency reasons".

The 28-men-on-the-road rule was made in 1959 to get football off the ground and, despite changes in the game, has not been seriously reviewed by the league governors. Coach Donlevy adds, "You need backups on the interior, linemen, running backs, and wide receivers offensively and defensively backup linemen, linebackers and on the contain unit. Also, owing to the importance of the kicking game, a kicking specialist should be there too."

"The 28 man rule detracted from our game last Saturday."

One cannot say whether it would have made any appreciable difference in the final outcome of the game or not, but it certainly would have made it more interesting.

It is about time that the league stopped dragging their butts on this rule change. In making the change, they would go a long way in bringing the college game up to the standard at which they want people to think that they are operating.

Aside from that, it was good to see the team come up as strong as they did. Bisons are in the same position as Bears were last year...they are the defending WIFL champions so everyone is out to prove themselves by beating them. Players on teams that took a rough ride from Manitoba last year are out to win.

The Canada-USSR series begins tomorrow night at 6 o'clock on CTV and according to all the hype, the Russians are better than ever. Whatever the outcome, we should be able to depend on seeing some pretty decent hockey unless the Soviet players took a few leaves out of the last pro series as a means of updating their game.

Golden Bear football coach Jim Donlevy was over in the USSR last January for two weeks and saw Spartac play the Red Army team (Yakushev and company). As I recall, he said that they had incorporated going down to block shots into their game and were hitting some.

Nobody is underestimating the Russians this time, but I have a sneaking suspicion that they may be overestimating them which is just as bad. It doesn't matter whether they are in great shape and skate six hundred miles a day to prove it or not, these two teams are pretty evenly matched aside from the fact that nobody here knows just who Valery Vasiliev is and they are human (mostly).

Something to watch for will be an even better passing game and more accurate shooting, seeing as they have decided that it is not a crime against looking before getting rid of the puck.

TEAMS

GOLDEN BEAR Volleyball tryouts begin on Monday, Sept. 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the EDUCATION GYM. As the organizational meeting has already been held, any new players should report to H. Hoyles in Room 146, West Phys Ed Building or phone him at 432-3614 to register an; get pre-season training program.

GOLDEN BEAR Gymnastics (Junior and Senior) will have an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Room E-05, the Gymnastics Room of the East Phys Ed building. Interested men should attend this meeting or contact coach Francis Tally in Room 142 C Phys Ed. A team manager is also required. A person who is interested in obtaining a judge's certification would be preferred. There will be an organizational meeting for the GOLDEN BEAR Wrestling team in room 142 of the Phys Ed building on Tuesday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. Coach John Barry is looking for people to wrestle in all classes from 109 lb. and up. For more information, contact him at 432-3466 pr see him in Room 154 in the PE building.

A Women's Information Open House will be held in the main ghm on Wednesday, September 18, at 7:30 p.m. Information on The registration meeting for Golden Bear hockey team tryouts will be held on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18 at 5 p.m. in Room 124 of the Phys. Ed. Building.

Any women interested in joining a figure skating club should contact Debbie Shogan at 432-5706.

Panda volleyball practises will start on MONDAY, SEPT 16 at 5 p.m. in the West gym. Practises

PANDA Track and Field team needs you! Last year there were four ladies running for the team and this year there is one less. Coach Gary Ness encourages any women who are interested to phone him at 432-3466 or come see him in Room 154 of the West Phys Ed Building.

PANDA Swim team organizational meeting will be held in Room W126 on Tuesday, Sept 17 (today) at 5:15. The coach is Sandy Smith and they are the defending national champions - but don't let that stop you from coming out.

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intramural, intervarsity, and club sports will be available.

will be Monday-Thursday from 5-7 p.m.

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE YOUTH

General Meeting

Wed. Sept. 18 Council Chambers SUB 270 4:00 PM Everyone Welcome

Meet:

Gerry Amerongen MLA

Speaker of the Legislature

Get involved in politics - for your sake.

The same group that predicted an eight game sweep for the NHL team two years ago is predicting that the WHA crew doesn't have a chance.

My blood alcohol content is 0 and my IQ is at least 39 but I'll still call the WHA by one in hopes that my blood alcohol count will once again become respectable...I can't do a heck of a lot about the IQ.

Paul Cadogan

