

SPORTS

Basketball Bears hope history doesn't repeat

Bears' Tommy Solyom doesn't relish watching re-runs. Not even during summer.

But particularly not this weekend when Solyom and his Bear teammates challenge University of Lethbridge Longhorns to decide the Canada West Intercollegiate Basketball title at Varsity Gym.

A split in the two-game series would clinch it for Bob Bain's crew but a sweep by the Pronghorns would bring into consideration the record between the two clubs in their four meetings this season.

Solyom vividly recalls a similar situation taking place last season when the conference champion was also determined on the final weekend of the schedule. The Bears had to win both games with UBC on the road to take all the marbles.

They failed miserably. "I don't want to see that happen again," stated Solyom. "There's no way, baby."

Bears displayed in Saskatoon on the weekend that they have the mettle of a championship team, retaining their poise in the midst of harrowing circumstances.

Friday, they ran into hot Huskie sharpshooters but overcome shooting problems of their own to defeat the Saskatchewan team 74-67. Then on Saturday, they silenced a partisan band, which spouted obscenities and loudly played a limited selection of tunes, by whipping Huskies 84-56.

In the latter contest, Bears held a slim 30-28 lead with six minutes left in the first half, then pulled away to make it 47-32 at half time.

"The band really woke us up," said forward Steve Panteluk. "We played much better once they started up. It brought the players closer together."

Panteluk scored 13 points before being rested along with the other Bear starters midway through the second half. The second stringers vigorously protected the 20-point-plus margin.

"I think we played better than last night," said Bain. "We rebounded better, fast broke better, and took good shots."

Out of respect for Huskies' outside shooting, Bears played man-to-man defence in both encounters.

Bain MacMillan, who played the last 16 minutes of the game for Solyom, counted 12 points. Wallace Tollestrup led the shooters with 15 points.

Huskie coach Don Fry said after the game the key to beating Bears was to stop them from running. This can only be accomplished with a ball-control offence, which Huskies noticeably lacked. Bears, on the other hand, made only seven turnovers.

"We should have been more patient with our shots," noted Fry. "For a while, we were bombing them in from the outside, which was good as long as they go in. If you miss, its conducive to a fast break."

In Friday's game, Bears gave Huskie shooters too much shooting room and as a result were down 38-30 by halftime.

Overall, Saskatchewan hit 17 of 35 field goals attempts for a 48 percent average.

Saskatchewan's Dean Faris, a starter since Christmas, was dead-accurate from the outside, hitting six of eight field goal tries and two free throws for 14 points. Solyom shut him out in the second half.

A minute into the second half, they tied Huskies 38-38 with four consecutive baskets, the last one by Tollestrup.

Bears held a 10-point lead but Paul Jacoby and Bob Thompson brought Huskies within a single point of Bears with three minutes left.

Then, Tollestrup, who had foul trouble, came into the game and scored three baskets for the victory. Tollestrup ended with 14 points while Solyom had 16.

Terry Valeriote who unexpectedly asked for a tryout during Bears' training camp, led with 17 points. He was all over the court, scoring while seemingly suspended in mid air, picking up rebounds under both baskets, and stealing errant Huskie passes.

The series ended a disappointing season for coach Don Fry and his Huskies. Despite losing two all-stars, Bill Lacey and Tom Gosse from 1971, Fry expected a successful season as several veterans were returning.

But the vets didn't come through and Fry hurriedly replaced them with rookies. Foris, a six-foot 165 pound guard from Regina, is probably the most promising newcomer.

Bear Notes: Going into last weekend, Phil Tollestrup was the run-away leader in the league's scoring race with a 26.9 average. UBC's Stan Callegari was second with 15.2 average, while Bears Mike Frisby, hampered with pulled thigh muscles, dropped to 13.6 Tom Solyom was fifth with a 12.1 average.

Dinosaurs stun Bears

It was a rather disheartened busload of hockey Golden Bears that arrived back in Edmonton Sunday night.

Friday morning first place in the Canada West University Athletic Association looked like a sure thing for Bears. Friday night they dropped a 4-3 squeaker to Calgary in overtime, but Bear coach Clare Drake wasn't ready to push the panic button just yet.

By Sunday night, however, Bears had lost their second straight to Dinosaurs, 5-4, and he was doing some profound thinking.

The wins moved Calgary into first place in the CWUAA with 15-6. Alberta is now second at 14-5 while UBC remains in third place with 13-7.

Bears came out playing like winners Sunday afternoon in Calgary's Foothills Arena, slumped in the middle period and made a valiant attempt at a comeback in the third.

The teams were tied at 4-4 when Calgary's Tom Wiseman scored the winner at 12:10. Alberta goalie Barry Richardson was probably the only person in the building who knew what had happened. Even Wiseman admitted he didn't see the disc go in.

Bears were short-handed with Dave Couves in the penalty box when Wiseman went streaking down the left wing with the puck. Richardson came out of the net to cut down the angle, Wiseman drilled it hard from the point. The shot went wide, the red light flickered on, and the puck was sitting inside the net. Richardson just looked ill as a linesman examined the mesh for tears. The Calgary fans went wild.

Pandas lose to Huskiettes

The way Coach Kathy Broderick walked into the locker room after Saturday night's basketball contest in the University of Saskatoon's Education gym you would think that her cagers had whopped Pat Jackson's Huskiettes.

Despite showing intense desire and hustle, University of Alberta Pandas had just dropped another game to the second-place Huskiettes 47-34 to remain in fourth spot in the Canada West University Athletic Association standings.

However, the previous weekend, Pandas defeated the University of Calgary Dinnies 39-30 and 42-40 in Calgary.

All of Pandas four victories have been over Calgary.

On Friday night, a moderate, pro-Saskatoon crowd witnessed Pandas play their typical game — that is, a strong first half and a disastrous second half.

Initially, Pandas gave a solid team effort with fairly successful screens, strong zone defence and good on-court spirit.

Captain Wendy Martin paced Pandas with 11 points as Huskiettes led 21-17 at the half.

The second half was a complete disaster for Pandas as they notched only 12 points while Huskiettes sunk 41. Heather Witzel, a Canadian National team member since 1969, potted 22 points.

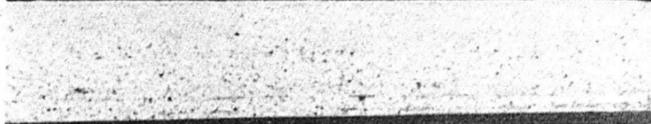
Top scorer for Alberta was Martin with 15.

Even though Pandas lost on Saturday, they displayed team effort for 40 minutes.

Guards were effectively blocking and rebounding to limit Huskiettes' top scorer, Witzel, to 16 points.

Kathy Moore totaled 15 points while Martin notched 10.

Pandas complete their schedule at home this weekend against University of Lethbridge Pronghorns, 6:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday in Varsity Gym.



Dave Margach robs Bears' Rick Wyrozub

"The shot bounced off the backboards and deflected off my pads as I was backing into the net," said Richardson later.

Bears kept the play in Calgary's end for most of the first period and gained a two-goal lead on shots from Marcel St. Arnaud and Oliver Steward. Calgary's Wayne Forsey picked up Bill Higgins' rebound and lifted it over Richardson to put Calgary on the scoreboard late in the period.

However, Bears came out flat in the middle stanza. Frequently out of position, they just couldn't seem to connect on passes or maintain control of the puck. Dinosaurs, however, displayed their own boistrous style of play, and Higgins scored twice.

Wiseman pumped in his first marker of the night just 36 seconds into the final period to give Calgary a two-goal margin. Then the Alberta squad snapped back.

St. Arnaud fired in his second goal, a low drive from the point on a power play. Two minutes later Rick Wyrozub made it 4-4.

Friday night Bears played without the help of centre Dave Couves who was home in bed with tonsillitis. Nevertheless, his linemates, Wyrozub and Jerry LeGrandeur, flanking Dwayne Bolkowy managed to score all the Alberta goals.

Wyrozub fired in his first at 6:35 of the opening period, a spectacular shot from the point. Little more than a minute later, LeGrandeur made it 2-0.

Ron Gerlitz landed Calgary's first goal when he tipped in a shot from Gord Engele at the blue line with three minutes left in the period. Wyrozub scored the only goal in a rather uninspired middle period.

Midway through the third period Calgary seemed to realize just how badly Alberta was playing as Shane Tarves and Bob Toner fired in two goals within 47 seconds of each other to take

the game into overtime. Bears held their ground through the ten-minute overtime period and the game went into sudden death. At 2:15, defenseman Ross Barros lost the puck to Tarves who tucked it away to give Calgary the game.

Coach Drake expressed severe disappointment over the series' outcome. "I thought we'd at least split with them, Calgary's in the most favourable position now to win the league. We've run into a string of bad luck, especially in losing Dave (Couves) for such crucial games."

Not only was Couves playing with his wrist in a cast Sunday, he was still quite ill with tonsillitis.

U of A gymnasts on conference team

Two University of Alberta women won berths on the Western Canadian gymnastics team this weekend at the Canada West meet in Victoria.

Dagny Hill and Barb Rutherford placed second and fourth respectively in all-round competition to make the conference team, which travels to Winnipeg Mar. 3-4 for the national finals.

Hill could have easily developed a 'runner-up complex', as she finished second in floor exercises, balance beam and uneven parallel bar events.

Rutherford meanwhile placed third in both the uneven parallel bars and vault events.

The top all-round gymnast was Janet Terry, a former U of A student who attends UBC.

UBC was the best overall team by 15 points over U of A, 117.8 to 102.8. University of Calgary was third with 67 points, while University of Saskatchewan garnered 55.7 points to finish last.

U of A wrestlers nip Huskies

University of Alberta wrestlers outpointed Huskies 70-67 to win the University of Saskatchewan Invitational this weekend in Saskatoon.

Golden Bears won four weight divisions, as did Huskies, despite leaving Ole Sorenson and John Barry at home to study.

Coach Dr. Bert Taylor had said Bears could take five of the ten categories.

With the Canada West conference finals set for this weekend in Vancouver, some of the Bears carried their opponents for an extra few minutes for practice.

Al Boychuk pinned Conrad Lavalley of Regina Y Carlings to win the 126-pound division. Boychuk went undefeated in the competition.

At 142 pounds, Bears' Earl Finnell was almost pinned en route to a 16-4 victory over Ed Jackson of Huskies.

Meanwhile, Bill Dowbiggin captured the 159 pound honors

by defeating stocky Rae Graham of Prince Albert Wrestling Club 11-0. Graham has reputedly bench-pressed over 400 pounds.

Bill Brooks disposed of RYC's John Kreikle 14-3 for Bears' other title.

Huskie winners were Gil Wist, 118; Charlie Hurton, 158; Rich Meier, 177; and Barry Mudry, 190. Coach Bob Laycoe maintained it was their best performance this season.

In other action, Phil Paskaruk of Prince Albert caught Bears' Bob Pugh with a surprise move to take the heavyweight class.

"Bob got caught in a move," said Dr. Taylor. "He should never have been beaten."

Pugh had pinned a 300-pound behemoth, Bob Gibbons on Friday night.

Dennis Cleaver, injured his shoulder in 118 pound class match against Wist, but should be ready to battle Gary Brow this week for the berth on the Bears' 10-man conference team.



ski club

READING WEEK:

SKI TRIP TO B.C.
2 DAYS AT BIG WHITE
2 DAYS AT SILVER STAR
 BREAKFASTS, SUPPER, TOW TICKETS, ACCOMMODATION
 & TRANSPORTATION FEB. 24 TO 28,
 PRICE \$72.00

ROOM 230 SUB

KEG PARTY
 BEER & FOOD FEB. 17 8 P.M.
 U OF A SKI CHALET - LAKE EDEN

SKI THE DAY & COME PARTY WITH US