

Pandas, Bears beat U of L but lose to Calgary

by Alan Small

Both the Bears and Pandas volleyball teams had mildly disappointing weekends at home.

They both lost to the University of Calgary Dinosaurs on Friday night, although under slightly different circumstances.

The Pandas came out of the gate slowly in the first game, losing 15-2. After that bad defeat, they couldn't recover, dropping the other games by scores of 15-12, 15-7.

This was a big disappointment for the Pandas, considering they had beaten the same club for the first time in four years at the Tri-U tournament in Calgary (3-2) earlier this season.

"We've got to learn to play from the first point of the first game," said Panda coach Suzie Smith. "We had a poor warm-up and our concentration level was low," Smith also mentioned.

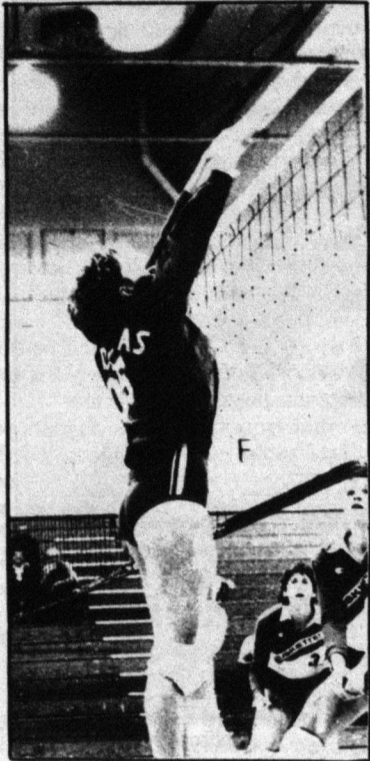
The Pandas seemed to come back in the second game, but they let the Dinnies come from behind and win from an 8-2 deficit.

The Bears came up with a better performance, but ended up with the same result, as they lost a five-game heartbreaker, 11-15, 15-12, 15-12, 4-15, 11-15, to the Dinos.

The Bears had trouble with their service reception all game, and especially had problems with Calgary's power server, Randy Gingera.

"He had a great serve at the beginning of the game, but the crowd caught on and started to dis-

tract him," coach Pierre Baudin said. Matter of fact, the large boisterous crowd were harassing the Dinos all night. In the second and third games, the Bears came back in the match, winning both and seemingly on their way to victory. Dean Weller, the Bears' power hitter, was brilliant in these games, as the Dinosaur defense seemed



A split for Pandas. (File photo)

powerless to stop his blasts.

But much to Calgary's credit, they came back, giving the Golden Bears a 15-4 drubbing and going on to win the exciting fifth game 15-11.

Calgary veteran Art O'Dwyer came off the bench to anchor the Dino attack.

"It was great to come back from 2-1 and win," said Calgary coach Greg Ryan, "our team is young and will have its share of ups and downs."

Alberta, on the other hand, knew exactly what went wrong. "We had poor execution and abysmal passing," hitter Steve Kentel said. "If we get our passing down, we'll beat anyone in Canada West," he added.

"We had poor passing and poor service reception," coach Baudin

added, "it really takes away from our quick offense."

Then on Saturday night, both the Pandas and the Bears came back with impressive victories over the youthful Lethbridge Pronghorns.

The Pandas came out very quickly this time and throttled Lethbridge 15-6 in the opening game. Then, led by captain Brenda Kadatz and Shelley Brewster, the Pandas kept up the barrage which led to 15-11 and 15-8 victories to complete the rout.

"We played better tonight, but the serves were easier and we were playing a poorer team than Calgary," Smith said. "We learned our lesson against Calgary."

The Bears had the same kind of game against the Pronghorn men,

as they crushed them in three games 15-2, 15-2, 15-7. Again, Dean Weller was outstanding as well as middle blocker Ben Spiller.

"It's hard to get up for a game like this," Weller said, "but we got our veterans and rookies playing well together."

This was very true because many times in the third game, the whole team on the court were the second line players.

"We expected to win easily," coach Baudin said. "Lethbridge has almost all rookies on their team."

The 2-2 Golden Bears and the 1-3 Pandas go to Saskatoon to take on the tough University of Saskatchewan men's and women's squads for two matches each, Friday and Saturday.

Foul loss in U of S tourney final

by Tim Enger

Ever have one of those weekends where everything is going your way and life is beautiful, until your dog gets run over on Sunday night? No, huh?

Well, that's the way the Panda basketball team's weekend went as they travelled to Saskatoon to compete in the Huskiettes Invitational Tournament. After blowing out their first two opponents, the Universities of Regina and Saskatoon, Alberta reached the final only to lose by two points (54-52) to their arch-nemesis, the Calgary Dinnies.

To make things worse, the victory came as a result of a highly controversial call.

After leading for most of the game, Alberta was tied with Calgary and had possession of the ball with just 25 seconds left. What happened next remains a bit of a

mystery, however. The Pandas worked the ball down for a shot, took the shot and missed, and in the ensuing scramble for the ball, Lisa Janz was fingered for fouling a Calgary player.

This wasn't just your ordinary foul, though. The referee ruled that Janz had intentionally fouled the Calgary player and, thus, according to the new rules, the Dinnies were awarded two foul shots and possession of the ball with just six seconds left. Calgary made the two shots and won the game.

"I'm just sick about that, it's an awful way to lose," said head coach Diane Hilko. "Especially after playing three solid games." The fact is the Pandas' performance in all three games showed some signs of the play that has made Alberta a force in this league for the last three years.

Against Regina in the opener, the Pandas hit 52% of their shots from the field and 82% of their shots from the foul line, on their way to a 78-54 rout of the flatlanders. Zofia Yeomans led Alberta with 23 points, while Kathy Keats chipped in with 18.

In the second game versus the hometown University of Saskatchewan, the Pandas spread out the scoring and turned on the defense to crush the Huskiettes 67-41. With only seven minutes remaining in the first half, Saskatchewan had only scored 14 points. Yolanda Kruyer led the Pandas with 11 points and 11 rebounds, with Keats right behind with 10 points, and Yeomans and Janz with 9.

The defensive clamp continued into the final game against the Dinnies, as the Pandas held All-Star point guard Debbie Patterson (who had bombed the Pandas for 39 points the week before) to just 11 points in the first half and only 16 points overall. Veronica Vander Schee, Calgary's other major scoring force, was kept completely off the scoreboard in the first half.

"For the first time this year we were in control against Calgary," added Hilko. "It just comes down to handling the pressure near the end of the game. Everything else is solid, it will just take a little more time and experience and it should all come together."

Panda Patter — The leading scorer for the Pandas against Calgary was Lisa Janz with 17 points... Alberta gathered in 40 rebounds in the final... They also committed only 13 turnovers, as opposed to 25 last week against the Dinosaurs... The Pandas travel to Victoria to play in the UVic Invitational next weekend.

Fun in the gym

by Alex Shetsen

The University of Alberta gymnastics teams held their first open meet on Sunday in the main gym of the Physical Education complex.

A preparatory exhibition, the event was staged as an intra-squad competition between three groups.

At the end of the meet, the three groups (Blood, Sweat, and Tears) also performed non-gymnastic skits before a celebrity panel of judges, including Myer Horowitz, president of the U of A.

Overall, the meet was won by the team "Sweat", on the basis of both the gymnastics and the skit.

This first public showing was

obviously done partly in fun. However, both coaching staffs feel the University of Alberta can do well this season in conference meets.

Both coaches said that they had several good gymnasts on the team. Thus, the University of Alberta should be represented in the conference finals, and there seems to be a strong possibility of going all the way to the national finals to be held in March.

For Heidi Ross, this is her first year as coach of the Pandas. Having been on the team last year, she says that being in charge of the team is quite a change from being a member.

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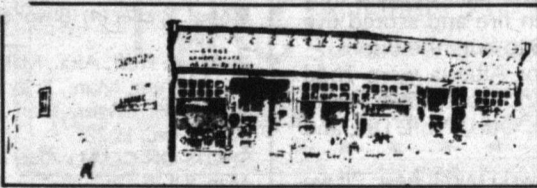
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