



—Jim Peachy photo

THAT SMARTS!—George Robbins (eng 3) of the U of A Skydiving Club bites the dust but scores a 2.53 metre hit during the 1969 Collegiate Parachuting Championships held in Edmonton over the Thanksgiving weekend. U of A jumpers dominated the events, and Robbins finished second in the senior category.

U of A takes home all the marbles at Collegiate Parachuting Championships

The University of Alberta, represented by the U of A Skydiving Club, captured the team championship at the National Collegiate Parachuting Championships. The competition was held in Edmonton over the weekend. Teams were present from SFU, U of C, NAIT, SAIT, U of S (Saskatoon and Regina), B.C. Institute of Technology, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Science, and the U of A. The name of the game was target jumping, with the contestants trying to hit a four centimetre disc from 2,500 feet. Add to this a little wind, and you have a test of skill, indeed. U of A jumpers also captured two of the four individual com-

petitions, and finished second in the others. In the static line competition, Gerry Shea of the U of A finished first, with Saskatchewan jumpers taking second and third. Jim Peachy captured the junior title for himself and the U of A. Dave Durksen of SFU was second, and Lyle Wright of the U of S finished third. In the novice competition, Lloyd Suru (U of S) took all the marbles, while Mike Fisher of the U of A came in second. The senior award went to Joe Albitt from the B.C. Institute of Technology. U of A jumpers George Robbins and Gordon Hostland finished second and third respectively.

You the reader will recall that I levelled off at the schedule makers of the Western Intercollegiate Hockey League in this space last week for their seemingly incompetence.

Not being one to leave loose ends dangling around, nor one to criticize without putting forth at least one alternative solution, it becomes my onerous duty to come up with said alternative in an effort to clear up the murky waters.

My proposed solution to increase the number of games played and hence the quality of play is to divide up the eight clubs into two divisions.

Alberta, Calgary, British Columbia and Victoria would go together in, say, the Western Division, while the remaining clubs, Saskatchewan, Brandon, Winnipeg and Manitoba, would form the Eastern Division. Such a set up would leave one of the two new expansion clubs in each division.

So much for team alignment. Now for the schedule itself. Each team would play four games against each of the other three clubs in its division, two at home and a similar number on the road. That, by my calculation, adds up to a total of 12.

Okay. Then would come interdivisional play with each club facing off against each of the four teams in the other division twice, once on the road and once at home. That adds up to 20 contests overall, the



same number played under last season's schedule.

Plans for the upcoming format call for each of the eight clubs to play the others twice. My plan would mean an increase of only about \$300-\$400 per team for lodging and meals, plus the necessity of playing four games in four or five days once during the season.

Hell, is that too great a price to pay for the increased benefits that will accrue? As far as I'm concerned, you just can't put a price tag on such things as quality of player and calibre of play.

A league that offers a 14 game schedule can hardly expect to attract the athlete who wishes to develop and polish his hockey skills as well as attain an academic degree. If college hockey can't offer him enough, senior hockey, which is also making great strides these days, reaches out and grabs him, thus robbing univer-

Hoop Bears end training camp Coach Mitchelson finalizes starting lineup

By RON TERNOWAY

The 1969-70 version of the basketball Golden Bears is here.

Coach Barry Mitchelson cut his squad to the maximum ten players Friday.

The team shows a lot of balance, with five players returning from last year's club, and five newcomers cracking the lineup.

Larry Nowak and Dick Deklerk will be back up front again, and Dave Turner, who joined the club midway through last season will also be back. Two veteran guards have also returned. Al Melnychuk is back for his third season with the hoop Bears, and Bobby Morris for his second.

IMPRESSIVE NEWCOMERS

The freshmen on the team cannot be scoffed at, however, for they all boast impressive credentials.

Bayne McMillan toiled last year with the U of C Dinosaurs, and played two years ago with Western Canada Collegiate in Calgary.

Jack Schwartzberg played for Mississippi College last season, and two years ago made the Edmonton All-City squad while playing for Victoria Composite.

Paul Pomietlarz joins the cage Bruins after apprenticing with the Junior Bears last year.

Brian Johnson, who made the All-City team with Ross Sheppard last season, is another new addition to the team.

Rounding out the lineup is Bob Baine, who for the last three years has played for Waterloo Lutheran College, and who was instrumental in leading Waterloo to the Canadian Championships in 1968.

Mitchelson is especially happy that Baine decided to enroll at Alberta this year.

"We are very impressed by Baine, both by his desire and by his playing ability," he said.

DOGFIGHT AHEAD

In spite of the formidable group he has assembled, all is not at peace in Coach Mitchelson's mind. He put his problem this way:

"We have recruited good personnel, but everyone in the league has improved on theirs from last

year too. With new people, we'll have to work hard now and all season at putting things together."

The WCIAA basketball schedule has been expanded to accommodate ten teams this year. The league will include teams from Brandon, Winnipeg, U of Manitoba, Regina, Saskatoon, U of C, Lethbridge, Victoria and UBC as well as the Golden Bears.

Mitchelson envisages a dogfight for the top four positions. Playoffs have been instituted this year, with the top four teams in the league battling it out for the right to represent the West at the Canadian Championships in Hamilton this spring.

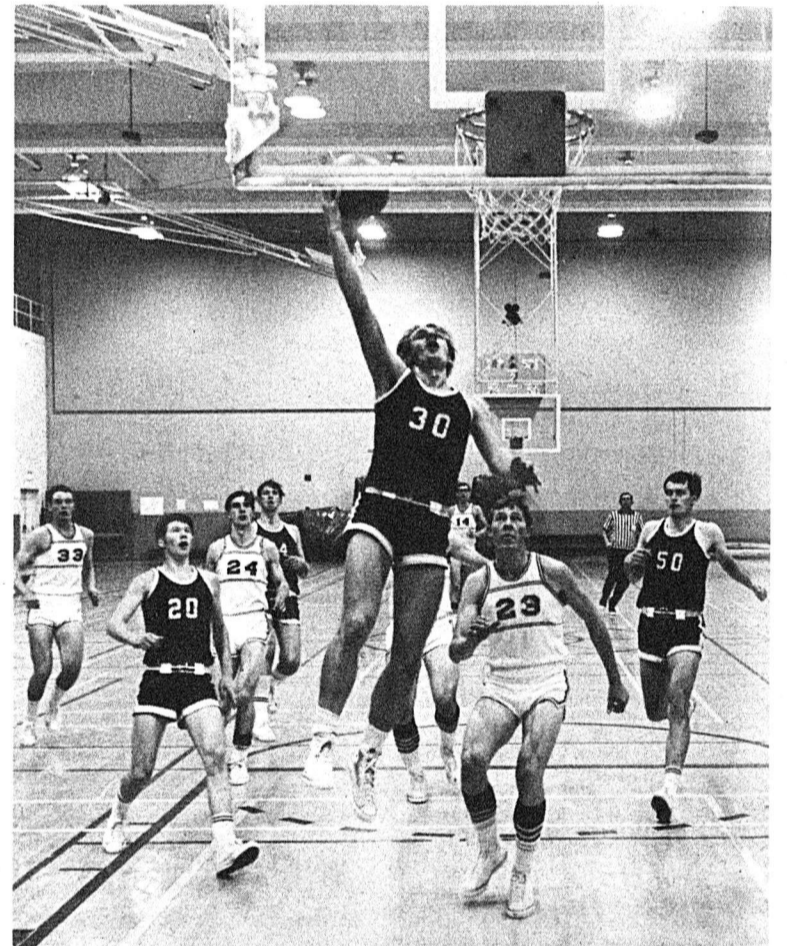
New entries into the league this year are UBC and Victoria, which

promise to be very strong. Calgary will be much improved this year with the addition of Wayne Thomas. Manitoba has all their first string back from last year, and have also added two American players.

"There is no way that any club will be able to go 18-2 like we did last year," said Mitchelson.

"The team that comes out on top will be the one that can win all games against acknowledged inferior teams, and is able to at least split games with tough opposition," he said.

"There won't be any runaway this year, and the basketball promises to be the most exciting that has been seen around here in years."



HERE THEY COME!

... Basketball Bears are back for another season

Bob Anderson ... one man's opinion

sity fans of some good entertainment and exciting players.

Junior hockey with its longer schedules is also more attractive, although the recent lowering of the age limit plus the sometimes too long season might lower its appeal.

At any rate, the college hockey people are going to have to take a long hard look at the situation in an effort to beef up their product.

BACK TO FOOTBALL

Returning to a more current topic, the football Bears with that lopsided victory on Saturday finally snapped themselves out of the doldrums of the past two seasons. But it may be a case of too little too late.

According to most of the coaches in the league, a club can afford to drop only one game if it hopes to finish in first place. This seems especially true this season

with Manitoba Bisons undefeated after three starts and apparently well on their way to the league title. What it boils down to is that some other club, either Calgary or Saskatchewan, must knock off the Bisons in the next two weeks.

Then, the Bears have to do the trick here on November 2, when the clubs meet in the final game of the season. And they have to do it by 10 points or more.

A league ruling last week declared that should a tie for first result, the club with the better for and against record in the two games that the two teams play each other will take the title. There are no playoffs.

But the Bisons now seem to be in an unbeatable position. Calgary Dinosaurs, who probably have the best chance of knocking off Manitoba, dropped a 31-25 decision to the Herd in Calgary last weekend after leading 13-2 at halftime.

And Saskatchewan, who earlier in the year knocked off Calgary 31-8, appear to have had their kick at the can for the year. Too many injuries to key personnel have left the Huskies a crippled and bedraggled outfit.

So, Harvey Scott and his gang just have to play the waiting game while at the same time knock off the Dinnies and the Huskies in the following two games. It's not an impossible situation, but the odds are against the miracle happening, to say the least.