



photo by Sandy Campbell

Tommy Solyom drives around center Dave Holland while trying to beat T'Birds defense in Bear's successful campaign to capture the Canadian Western Conference title.

## And then there were two

The Pandas basketball team finished their schedule over Reading Week, losing twice to the league champions University of British Columbia Thunderettes.

Poor shooting by the Pandas combined with the strong play of UBC's Liz Silcott and Bev Barnes to give Thunderettes 66-46 and 61-36 wins.

With the two losses U of A finished the season with a 9-11 record, good for fourth place in the Canada West University Athletic Association. UBC took the league title and will represent the CWUAA in the

national finals this weekend.

Two Pandas were selected to the CWUAA's All-star teams: Wendy Martin, the league's second highest scorer, made the first team; and Amanda Holloway, a rookie, made the second team.

While Pandas didn't make the playoffs this year, their season was still a successful one and a good improvement over their 4-16 record of last year. They're looking forward to continued improvement next season with the possibility of all their players returning to competition.

## Panda gymnasts give strong show

The CIAU/CWIAU National gymnastic championships were held Mar. 1 and 2 at York University in Toronto. Four U of A gymnasts competed on the Western conference women's team: Pamela Gilverson, Wabe Wah-King, Barb Rutherford, and Lenka Svatek. Janet Terry and Kari Micheltisch, both of UBC, completed the western team.

In the women's conference championships, the OUAA (Ontario Conference) took first place with 167.70 points, GPAC (Great Plains) was third with 101.40 and the AIAA (Atlantic provinces) was fourth with 66.75. This was a strong showing for the Western team as the OUAA team includes three Canadian Olympic Team members - Jennifer Diachun, who is the Canadian champion at present, Sharon Tsukamoto, and Lise Arsenault.

From the conference championships, the top six competitors in each event competed Saturday for individual honors. Ms. Gilverson placed fifth in the vaulting finals

and finished at 9th all-around, while Ms. Wah-King finished in 11th position. Ms. Rutherford took fourth place in vaulting, finishing at 6th all-around with a score of 30.15. Ms. Svatek was 5th all-around with a score of 31.90, and Ms. Terry placed 4th all-around with 32.45 points. The top three placings, in order, went to Ms. Diachun of U of T (36.80 points), Ms. Tsukamoto, York U. (34.80), and Ms. Arsenault, York (34.35).

In the men's competition, the CWUAA team took top honours with 234.65 points, followed closely by the OUAA (229.55), GPAC (186.71), the Quebec conference, QUAA (176.68), and the AIAA (165.50). The University of Alberta was not represented on the CWUAA team. The top 6 all-around honors went to Steve Mitruk, U of T (52.00 points), Bill Mackie, UBC (49.60), Keith Carter, U of M (49.15), Gord Mackie, UBC (47.45), Bob Blanchette, U of C (47.05), and David Hunter, York U. (46.35).

# B'Ball Bears bow out in Waterloo

Last weekend's Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union Championship game in Waterloo, Ontario was played with University of Alberta Golden Bears sitting in the stands. Coach Barry Mitchelson's disillusioned crew looked on as University of Guelph Gryphons continued their series of upsets by edging defending champion St. Mary's Huskies, 74-72, to capture the Canadian basketball crown.

Bears had earned the right to represent the Canada West Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference the previous weekend by eliminating a tenacious University of British Columbia Thunderbirds team in a necessary third playoff game, 59-51.

The Alberta corps left last Tuesday for Waterloo to do battle with at least two of seven other successful Canadian university teams. Whether they came unprepared or else Fate had determined it to be, is uncertain, but in their first game against hometown Waterloo Warriors, Bears came out flat, losing 88-54.

An aroused and ready Warrior offense hit an amazing 66 per cent of their attempted shots in the first half to bury Alberta under an insurmountable 29 point deficit. All-Canadian Mike Moser led Waterloo with 18 in the half. Fine outside shooting by Trevor Briggs counted another 14. To off-set such a fine performance by Waterloo, Bears garnered a dismal 20 per cent average in their attempted two-pointers.

Warriors big team (starting line-up average - almost 6'4") dominated the physical game on the boards. Led by 6'6" Moser, rebounds were at a premium for Bears.

Golden Bears had started by keeping pace for the first five minutes or so but suddenly were down 25-10 at the ten minute mark. Bear centre, Mike Frisby, who had played so well against BC, was seemingly hand-cuffed by Moser's defense and was in foul trouble early in the game. Relief centre, Len Davidiuk, could fare no better nor poorer. At one point Bears suffered a 16 point barrage before replying.

Trailing 52-23, Alberta came from the dressing rooms evidently determined to redeem themselves in the second half. A hustling 9 point half by Terry Valeriotte sparked the Bears sufficiently to enable them to play at par with Waterloo for the remainder of the game. A defensive change worked well but was all too late to effect the outcome. Mitchelson put Wallace Tollestrup on Mike Moser and the result was that Moser hooped only 4 points that half, all on free-throws.

In another opening game, St. Mary's University upset over-all-favoured Manitoba Bisons by winning a see-saw

finale, 66-65. All-Canadian forward, Mickey Fox (American), and All-Canadian, Lee Thomas (American), pumped in 23 points each to lead Huskies. A second-half rally, instrumented by an effective full-court press, put St. Mary's ahead with 3:20 remaining. Manitoba regained the lead with 48 seconds to go but Fred Perry's corner shot put St. Mary's ahead by one with :09 left on the clock. Haste and miscue caused Bisons to run out the clock themselves without getting a reply shot.

Other opening games saw Sir George Williams University defeat Ottawa Gee-Gees, 96-85, and highly-ranked Acadia Axemen were surprised by Guelph's squad and lost in the dying moments of the game.

The Axemen-Gryphon game was sensational as Guelph showed inspiration and stamina in posting the victory. A fourth-place finisher in their own conference and only representing the local area as host team, Gryphons took a one-point lead on a stolen ball with only 13 seconds remaining. Acadia's Joey Wells had a chance to regain the lead or at least tie when he was fouled and had two free-throws. Under crowd pressure as well as his own, Wells choked on both shots and Guelph advanced to the next round against Sir George Williams.

Friday's championship action also involved St. Mary's against Waterloo, a game where the tables were really turned at the half. As they had done against Alberta the night before, Warriors were bolstered by hometown support and impressively commanded the opening half both offensively and defensively, taking a 43-29 lead to the dressing room. Again Moser was top-scorer at the half with 15 points.

The first six minutes of the second half saw Huskies apply a devastating press and an unbelievable barrage of baskets to wipeout the Waterloo lead and take an 8 point edge of their own. This lead held for the remainder of the game. Warriors were within 4 points with 1:22 left but a poor throw-in by Bob Smeenk enabled Huskies to increase the edge and kill the clock - the final score 79-71. Mickey Fox hooped 32 points to cancel Moser's 31 point performance. He sank eight consecutive shots in the 2nd half to pace St. Mary's.

The other championship game topped the cake as Guelph pulled off another astounding performance by beating Sir George Williams 104-94 in a wild double-overtime session. Impressive forward Bob Sharpe provided 34 points for the Gryphons. The pressure of overtime play did not cause the Guelph team to fold in the least.

In fact they fed off the pressure and turned it upon the Georgians in the final 5 minute frame.

In consolation play, a lack-lustre game resulted between disheartened Manitoba and Alberta. With a lack of "desire" showing in both teams, a fairly even first half left Bears heading to the dressing room trailing 34-30.

Golden Bears were anything but spectacular at the commencement of the second half, dropping behind 50-32 before contributing any offense. An eternity of over 10 minutes passed before Bears hooped their first field goal of the half! Immediately after however, they were in gear and closed the gap to within 6 with over three minutes remaining. The bonus rule in force hurt Alberta as they attempted to press Bisons. Little gain was made, as things had come all too late and the game ended in defeat for U of A Bears, 77-69.

Freshman guard Martin Riley led Bisons with a 25 point attack followed by Rick Watts with 15. Bears were paced by Wally Tollestrup with 18, 14 in the last 10 minutes, and Steve Panteluk and Tommy Solyom with 11 each.

Acadia beat Ottawa 65-60 in the other consolation match. All-Canadian guard, Rick Cassey (American), had 19 points behind leading Axemen, Wells with 24 points.

Saturday morning saw Manitoba Bisons meeting Acadia in the Consolation final and Waterloo Warriors played the Georgians for the championship-side losers' playoff. Manitoba handled Acadia by the tune of 86-67 and Waterloo trounced Sir George 93-66.

The championship match was televised on CBC as the nation watched Guelph continue their heroics in handing St. Mary's a 74-72 set-back. A hard fought and exciting game was played throughout. Gryphons' Phil Smith won it all in the dying seconds with the game winning 2 points. The totally unranked team had shown them all what basketball was all about.

### FREE THROWS:

Alberta's Steve Panteluk was chosen for the second all-star team at the Spalding All-Canadian Banquet held last Wednesday in Waterloo.

St. Mary's two All-Canadians, Mickey Fox and Lee Thomas, were a joy to watch throughout the tournament. Fox had a deadly shot and is almost impossible to contain while Thomas plays potent defense as well as offense - I'd swear he has wings.

Greased lightning - that is what Acadia's Ricky Cassey reminds one of. The quickness and quality of a pro-guard.

It's good news locally to know that Barry Mitchelson will be able to count on an almost full slate of returnees. Tollestrup is the only player unable to return next season.

### FOUL SHOTS:

Home-court officiating is tough. Anytime the home team is in a split-decision, do you have to guess who comes out on top.

Three All-Canadians are Americans. Somebody tell me what's with the American import rule now anyway.

Waterloo's new Physical Education Complex can and does seat 4000 hooping and hollering Warrior supporters. They stand and cheer until the first basket is made by the home team. A booming, blaring band leads them on. What is wrong with our people?

## Tennis tourney at U of A

On Saturday and Sunday, March 23, 24, the University of Alberta Tennis Club will host the Second Annual U of A Indoor Tennis Tournament. The tournament will be played on the hardwood surface of the four indoor courts in the Main and West Gymnasias of the Physical Education Building.

The purpose of the tournament is to promote the growing interest in tennis as a year around sport. It will provide competition and experience for players of all ability levels. A consolation event will be held for all first

round singles losers.

Men's Singles and Men's Doubles events will be held. Singles will be limited to the first 32 entries received and Doubles to the first 16 team entries received. Entry forms are available from the Physical Education General Office or the Kinsmen Fieldhouse. All entries must be received before 6:00 p.m. Wednesday March 20.

Matches will be played from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. Spectators are welcome.

For further information contact Bob Bell at 434-8123.