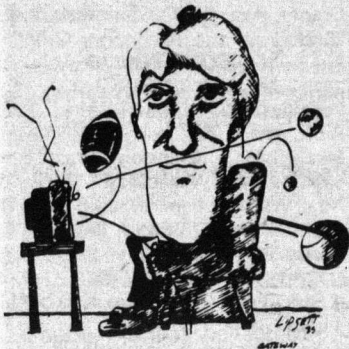


Hockey Bears make grudge match Otto-matic, p. 12

# Sports

Bears frustrated in volleyball tourney, p. 13



Mark Spector

## Bureaucracy grounds Bears

It's official. Sort of. The Golden Bears hockey team aren't going to Czechoslovakia to play at the World Universiade Games in February.

The original tab was \$50,000, but that was whittled down to about 30 grand when the hosts said that they would take care of all the Bears' hotel and ground transportation costs. They even threw meals in, they were so bent on enticing the reigning university champs from this country that calls itself the best hockey playing nation in the world.

What a crock that monicker has turned out to be.

How about the best country at embarrassing ourselves in the world? Or the most bureaucratic? Or the most hypocritical...

Check this out: the Bears would be at Travel Cuts right now booking their flights if it weren't for a sickening exercise in bureaucracy.

There's a million and a half in profits left over from '83 when Edmonton played host to the student games. That money is earmarked for things like sending sports teams to major competitions abroad.

Sounds positive, right?

Well, it would be if the people that were board members at Universiade '83 hadn't totally washer their hands of the experience. A that money is sitting there waitin' while a committee is being formed that will control and dispense funds. So, the cash is frozen.

Wouldn't it be neat if the organizers of the '83 got together and gave the normal O.K. to City Council to give the Bears, say \$20,000. Out of \$1.5 million, that is.

What a dreamer, you say? It's too bad that you're right. Things like that just don't happen anymore. And Sport Canada, Hockey Canada, the province, and the city don't really care. The same people that bend our ears.

Sport Canada, our national body for these things, is uninterested. "You'd think that they would be," said Clare Drake, Bears' coach. I'd think they would. Or Hockey Canada, the same body that spends frivolously to send minor league pros to the Izvestia Tournament, where they routinely get their clock cleaned.

What about the funds that are set aside for yearly World Junior tournaments, and Midget championships, and Pee Wees, for cryin' out loud.

This is once every four years, and you better believe that over in Czechoslovakia, they're laughing at us pretty hard.

I'd be laughing too, but right now that would be like laughing at a corpse.

# Bears slam Vikes, T-Birds

## Bears have won 5 in last 6 against champs

by Philip Preville  
Bears 91 UBC 71  
Bears 64 Vikings 60

"Coach Horwood, are you unhappy or concerned about any aspect of your team's play tonight?" "Nope," sayeth He, with a most cheshire grin. You can't be too critical, he elaborates, when you beat the best team in the country.

For the time being, everything is just ducky. The Bears are back at Number One. Once again, there is an excuse to celebrate. On Saturday the Golden Bears gave a solid, convincing performance, defeating the then-top-ranked Victoria Vikings 64-60 before 1,400 fans in a SRO Varsity Gym. The Bears are now 2-1 with a game at hand, as opposed to the 3-1 Vikes.

The locker room afterwards was frivolous but not high-headed. "Last weekend's loss to Saskatchewan was a very humbling experience," said forward Mike Suderman, who led all scorers with 19 points. Suderman's sincerity gave the impression that the Bears may have been quite overcome by the realization that they are not invincible. "That loss got us back to earth. It's not going to be easy, and we shouldn't forget that."

The other side of the story wasn't nice by any means. "Not to take anything away from the Bears' win," said a dark and solemn Ken Shields, "but we could have played better." The UVic coach seemed in search of a release valve for his anger and frustration. Driving the team bus through the Pavilion wall might have helped. Kicking the proverbial water cooler wouldn't have been enough.

The Bears controlled the pace through most of the game. This was largely due to a defense which constantly pressured the Viking ball carriers. Double teams were constantly being applied at midcourt, a tactic that can be as tiring as it is effective. Bears Sean Chursinoff, Mike Kornak, Chris Toutant, and David Youngs looked as though they had recently gone swimming by game's end.

"It's just my job," says Chursinoff, making it sound easy. "I have to make their guards earn every inch they get."

If nothing else, the Bears are very well conditioned. "If we don't hold a team to under 70 points, Horwood makes us do a one-on-one fullcourt drill for 15 minutes straight," explains Chursinoff.

Like Listerine — it's hell, but it works.

The game had no turning point. The stingy defense forced some early turnovers and gave the Bears an early 7-point lead. Until the end, the game was never closer than a 5-point spread.

Despite Horwood's lack of concern, however, the Bears were not perfect. Their rebounding was undoubtedly below par. Perhaps their saving grace was that the Bears' field goal percentage was 46 per cent.

The Bears also panicked miserably as the game was winding down. Alberta led 63-50 with three minutes left. The game ended at 64-60.

"There was a definite switch of momentum," said Suderman, who didn't seem too concerned. "This team has the experience to get through lapses like that. We pulled



Dave Youngs (23) applies full court pressure on Lloyd Scrubb.

photo by Alex Miller

ourselves together."

Perhaps, but just in the nick of time.

The Bears were equally impressive on Friday night in a 91-71 victory over the UBC T-Birds in front of a smaller crowd of about 900 fans.

This game was much the same story. Tough defense and turnovers spotted the Bears to a 23-8 lead with 11 minutes to play in the first half. There was no need to look back.

Mike Kornak, who has been playing like there's no tomorrow, led all scorers with 20 points. David Youngs, Chursinoff, and Dean

Peters each added 13.

Friday's game was an extremely physical one, with a few shoving matches, and lots of fouls. Horwood was not pleased with the officiating, and he put on quite a show. He calls the officials by their first names when he complains, and as a result he sounds as though he has been betrayed by a good friend in a time of dire need (as in Jack, oh Jack, what kind of a call was that? How could you do this to me, Jack?!).

The officials obviously did not respond to this. Horwood then turned to the crowd for help: "Let

him know it when he stinks," said the manipulator to his following. They loved it.

The biggest crowd-pleaser of the game came with two seconds left to play. Six foot-seven inch forward Scott McIntyre found a clear lane to the UBC hoop, and did not waste the opportunity. The resulting gorilla-style slam dunk was nothing if not powerful. The blood-thirsty crowd erupted into a frenzy, giving the game a fitting end.

The Bears travel to Calgary and Lethbridge next week as they approach the midway mark of their schedule.

## Everyone was into the Poole

by Philip Preville

The Harry Ainlay Titans have always been a force in Edmonton High School Basketball. Year after year, a team is introduced to the league that is almost guaranteed a trip to the semi-finals. This year's team is no different, but it is lacking a most familiar element.

Rob Poole is not scheming from the sidelines or screaming in the practices this year. The longtime Titan mastermind is on a one-year leave of absence from the Edmonton Public School Board.

So, what's he up to now? Traveling the world?

Not at all. Once a coach, always a coach. After a couple of months, they start getting itchy lips for that whistle.

Rob Poole is in coaching heaven.

He is presently serving the basketball community as an assistant to miracle man Ken Shields, coach of the University of Victoria men's basketball team.

Actually, the coaching thing is only a bonus for Poole. He is enrolled as a graduate student at UVic, studying towards his masters in sports psychology.

Once a coach, always a coach.

As always, Poole is in great spirits. Our chat is being constantly interrupted by former students of his, bringing good tidings and invitations to various nightclubs. He's a popular guy, as sure as the banners hanging in the main gym are proof. They read; A legend in his own mind; welcome back Rob.

"Ken's record speaks for itself," Poole says of Shields, who has won

seven consecutive CIAU titles. "He's the best coach in Canada. He's very competitive. He's also very good at handling players. That is the most valuable aspect of coaching that I have learned from him."

Poole will be back at Ainlay in September, but he'll go back to Vic the following summer to finish his thesis.

"My only ambition right now is to get my degree," he says. He gives no indication that he might be unhappy where he is, either now or whenever. "If other opportunities come along, well, I'll make that decision at that time."

With a coaching record like his and a masters in sports psychology, Rob Poole had better be prepared to make quite a few decisions.