

Bears looking to repeat victory of 25 years ago

by Alan Small

This weekend, the Golden Bear hockey team hunts for its eighth CIAU championship. This weekend's appearance by the Bears marks the first time since 1986 that the Bears have made it to the nationals.

The first time the Bears won the CIAU's was in 1964, at Kingston, when they knocked off the Sir George Williams Maroons 9-1. The Gateway's headline on Friday March 20, 1964 said "Golden Ones Best in Nation". Howie Green netted the hat trick, while Ian Baker scored two goals, and singles went to John Aubin, Ed Wahl and Dave McDermid.

Their next appearance was two years later in Sudbury, where they suffered an 8-1 defeat in the final game at the hands of the Toronto Varsity Blues.

Two seasons later, Bear head coach Clare Drake capped off an unbelievable season by coaching the Green and Gold to a 5-4 win over Loyola (McGill).



Dragos Ruiu

The Bears will shoot for their eighth national championship this weekend.

Earlier in the season, Drake coached the football team to a Vanier Cup title. The championship well ran dry

from 1969 to 1975, when they defeated the University of Toronto 5-2 in the deciding game of the best of three series in Edmonton.

Ross Barros led the Bears with two power play markers, while Bruce Crawford, Oliver Steward, and Jim Ofrim notched singles.

After losing the western regionals to Calgary in 1976, the Bears hosted the nationals in 1977, but lost the final game to Toronto 4-1. It wasn't until a year later in Moncton, New Brunswick that they defeated the Varsity Blues 6-5. It was the first of three consecutive championships for the Golden Bears.

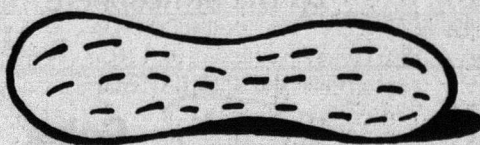
They defeated Dalhousie 5-1 in 1979 and in 1980 the Golden Bears defeated the Regina Cougars 7-3 for their third consecutive national title.

Danny Arndt and Joel Elliott scored twice, Chris Helland, Dave Broadfoot, and Jim Lomas scored in the 7-3 triumph over Regina.

Their final and most recent championship victory was in 1986, in the Agricom, when they defeated the Trois-Rivieres Patriotes 5-2.

The year before, in 1985, the York Yeomen defeated the Bears 3-2 in Varsity Arena in Toronto. Ironically, the Bears face the Yeomen in the same rink this weekend.

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