

Second chance—second wind

Special to the Gateway by Shaune Impey - JACA, SPAIN - Sometimes a second chance is all a team needs.

When the Golden Bear volleyball squad got a crack at the Saskatchewan Huskies in the Canada West volleyball final - after losing in earlier round-robin play - they came up with their first conference win since 1975, and earned a berth in this weekend's Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union National final in Toronto.

The Canada west finals - for both the men and the women - were held February 21, in varsity gym after the conclusion of the fourth, and final, round-robin tournament of the volleyball season.

After taking the first two games in the best-of-five match (15-9, 15-7), Alberta dropped the third 10-15. But that one win was all the Huskies could muster as the Bears thumped them 15-3 in a fourth contest to take the series 3-1.

In round-robin play Saskatchewan won all five matches, including a 3-2 decision over Alberta, and were in the top spot after four Canada West tournaments with a 17-3 record.

The bears were second at 15-5.

Coach Brian Watson said, "Our guys were just better prepared to play. We knew that if we got the jump on them, which we did, we could put their backs against the wall and really force them to play. From then on we just outthusted them."

Forcing Saskatchewan to play a different style of volleyball than they were accustomed to was certainly a key for the Bears. Alberta employed a lot of movement and showed a few new wrinkles that the Huskies couldn't adjust to.

Saskatchewan was forced into errors at the net by the Bears' attack and had to dig for more balls than usual for a team of their size.

Watson said the Canada West title is only one stop on the road to being CIAU champions. "It's just a stepping stone - we want that little red pennant that says we're number one."

In women's play, the Saskatchewan Huskiettes continued their seasonal domination with a sweep of the playoffs over British Columbia.

They won 3-0 in the final after losing just one match all year. That loss came earlier in the tournament to the same UBC club.

The Pandas, for the fourth tourney in a row, won only one match. They beat Lethbridge who ended the year at 0-20.

Three Golden Bears made the tournament all-star teams. Terry Danyluk was on the first team, while Lawrence Sedore and Dave Wilson were on the second team. Three Huskies, Darcy Busse, Don Saxton and Brian Gamborg, and two Calgary Dinosaurs, Brian Nawman and Art O'Dwyer, rounded out the first team. No Pandas made the first or second women's all-star team.

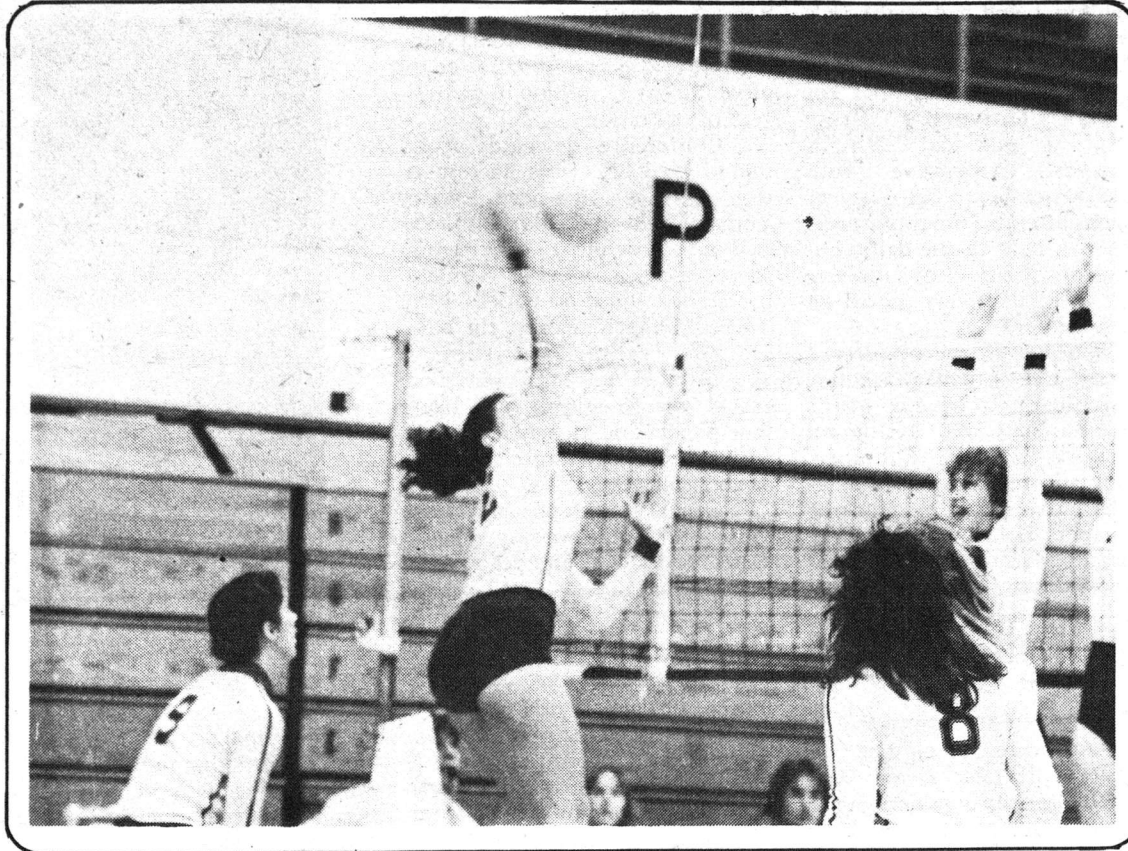


photo Tom Freeland

Going out for a dive

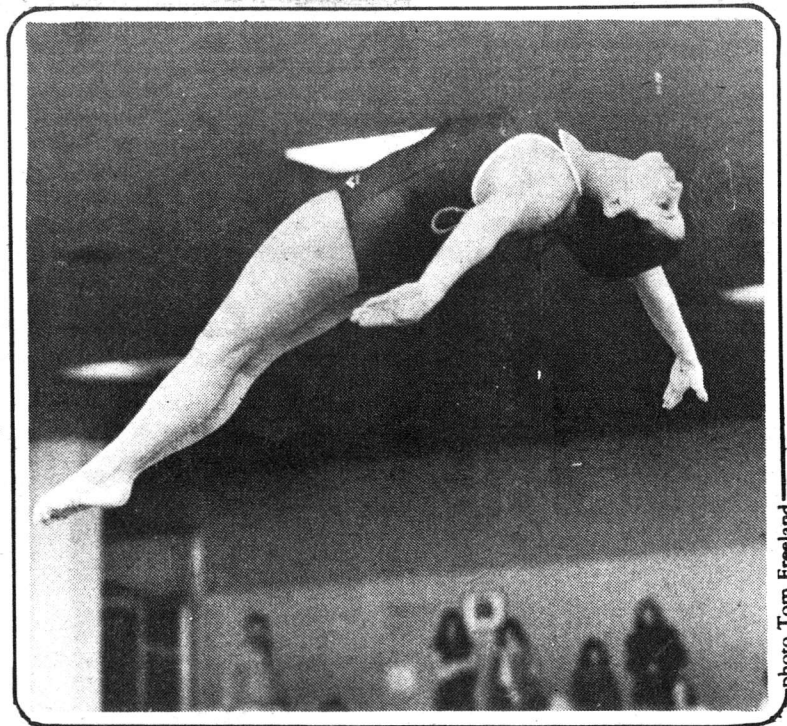
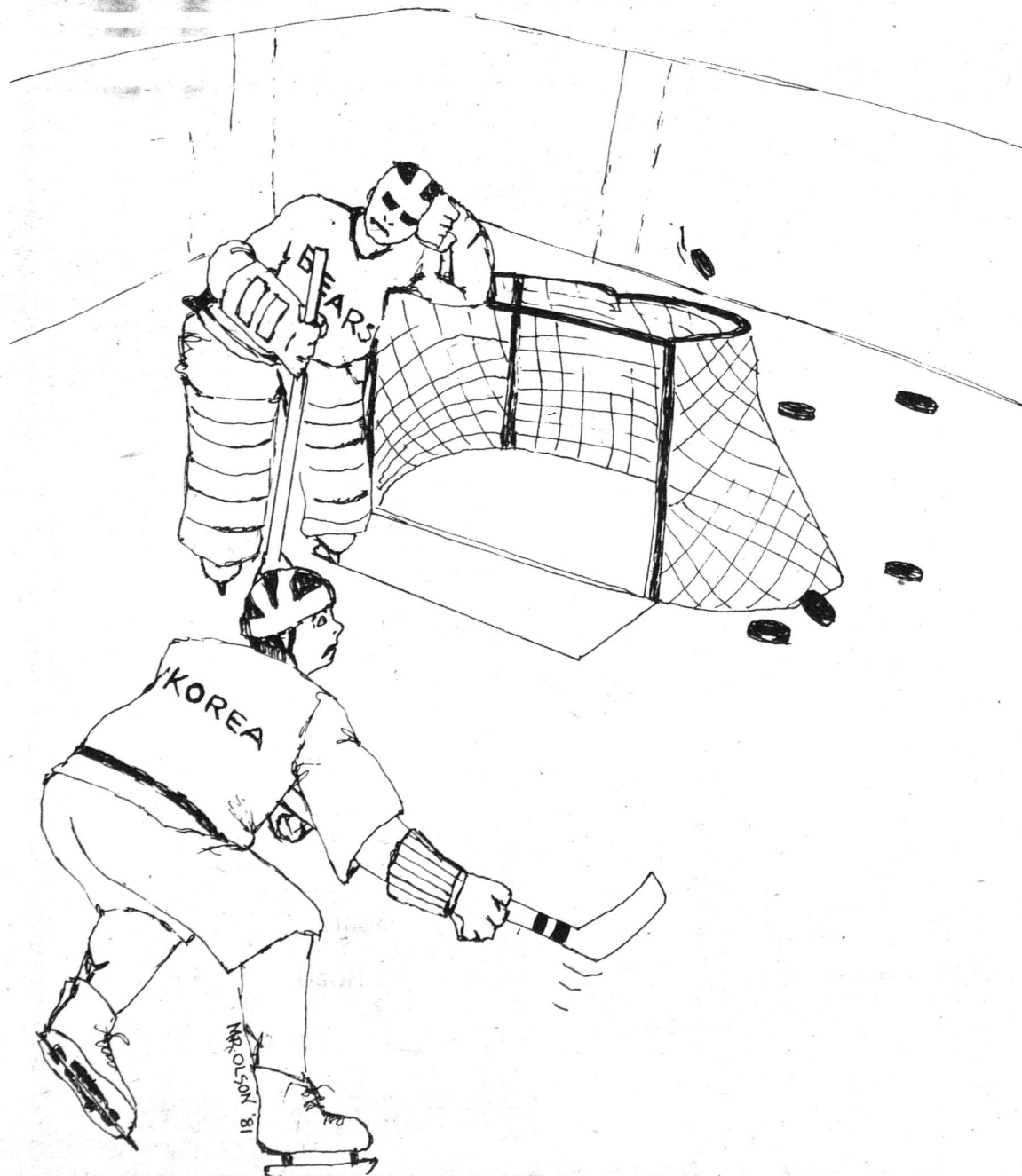


photo Tom Freeland

World Student Games in Jaca, Spain:
Canada: 31pts. Korea: 0pts.



Calgary dominated the Canada West swimming and diving championships by taking 24 of the 36 events as U of A hosts stood by and watched.

The highlight of the three day event was Graham Smith's setting of three world records in the 200 meter individual medley, the 200 meter backstroke, and the 100 meter breaststroke.

The university of Alberta's top performer was rookie diver Cindy Swartzack, who won both

the one meter and three meter diving events.

U of A swimmer Brian Carleton took the 200 meter breaststroke and the 400 meter individual medley.

The six swimmers who qualified for the CIAU Nationals at the University of Toronto on March 5-7 are: Brent Desbrisay, Brian Carleton, Bruce Lecky, Dwight Manning, Jack Ashton, Dave Long, and Colla McDonald.

SWIM TEAM STANDINGS:

WOMENS' DIVISION:

CALGARY...148
UBC...99
EDMONTON...65
VANITOBA...63
VICTORIA...62
LAKEHEAD...19

MENS' DIVISION:

CALGARY...177
UBC...127
EDMONTON...89
LAKEHEAD...38
MANITOBA...19