



SPORTS



Bears hoping for upset

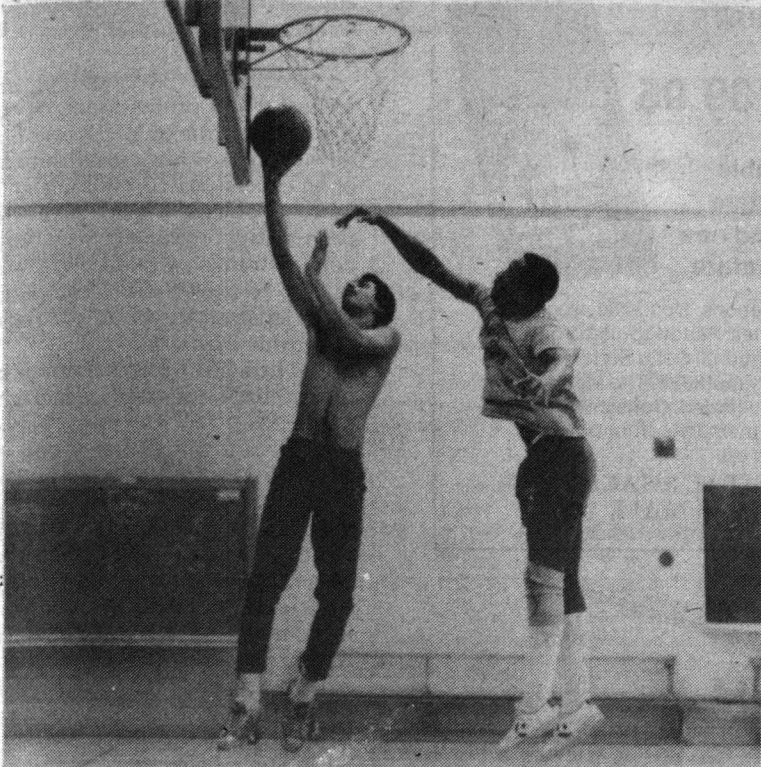


Photo Martin Beales

Bears practicing to get ready for Vikes.

By Andrew Watts
By all indications the U of A Golden Bears basketball team have their work cut out for them this weekend. The No. 1 ranked team in the country, the Victoria Vikings, are coming to play two games against our Bears.

All the press releases describe the Vikings using just one word: awesome. This appears to be a very applicable adjective as the team has not lost in Canada this year.

"They are a very big team, who can simply out muscle players for the ball," commented Bears coach Brian Heaney.

This is stating it truly considering the fact that the average height of four of their starting five players is a little over 6'6".

"We have to be realistic and say to beat them would be an upset," says Heaney.

But the Bears have shown terrific improvement over the first half of the schedule. In the Calgary Dinosaur Classic last weekend they led the Vikings in their first game by three points 15 minutes into the contest. Unfortunately for the Bears one of their key players, Grant Ashlee, got into

a little foul trouble and had to go to the bench. The Vikings went up by nine at the half. The Vikings then opened up a lead early in the second half which the Bears could not overcome. They lost 97-73.

"That was a gruelling game, our players took a lot of punishment and against a team like Victoria, fouls are almost unavoidable," recalls Heaney.

However the team did play well in the rest of the tourney, beating 7th ranked Saskatchewan 63-56.

"We gained some respectability as a contending club and some respect in ourselves," says Heaney who also commented that the Bears now know they can win on any night.

"We don't have the depth of some other teams so we have to be consistent, if we falter, we'll get knocked off," comments coach Heaney.

"We are competitive with any club in our conference save perhaps Victoria and a playoff spot is a real possibility especially since the schedule is in our favour in the second half," finalized coach Brian Heaney.

To beat the Vikings the Bears

will have to be near perfect. Some believe this team is the finest ever assembled in Canada. Four of their players, Gerald Kazanowski, Eli Pasquale, Kelly Dukeshire, and Ken Larson spent the summer with the Canadian National team. But they are not totally invincible. The Bears can stay with them, at least in the early going, as they proved last weekend. If they can maintain this through the game an upset is possible. Getting up for a team like Victoria should be no problem for the Bears. They will need excellent games from their big guns, Shawn Izzard, Ken Haak and Leon Bynoe. These three appear to be in fine form as they hit for 46, 21, and 36 points respectively in two games. They also need a strong game on defence from Grant Ashlee.

These two games on Jan. 8 and 9 should be excellent basketball games. A large crowd in the main gym would certainly help the team so get out and support them.

"We are on the road to where we want to be," summed up Heaney, let's hope that the Bears move a little farther down that road against Victoria.

Pandas enter post-break play

The Pandas Basketball team was far from inactive over the holidays, taking part in seven games. The team played in two tournaments of three games each and played one exhibition game.

In a three game, round robin tourney in Brandon the Pandas came up a little short in each game. Against Brandon they lost 71-60, against Dalhousie they lost 68-63, and they lost 71-63 against Winnipeg.

"We were competitive with all the teams and the game against Dalhousie could have gone either way," says Pandas coach Debbie Shogan.

In another tournament in Waterloo, Ontario, the team fared much better, winning the tourney with a 3-0 won-lost record. The girls beat host Waterloo 78-55 and Toronto 62-52 and Western 72-47.

"I think we showed that we are competitive with some of the best teams in the country," commented Shogan.

The Pandas are hosting the University of Victoria Vikettes this weekend and the coach feels the Pandas are in good shape for the weekend, and play after that.

"We could be a little higher in the standings (3-3) but everybody is healthy and we're in

good shape for the second half," says Shogan.

"We just have to be a little more consistent in our shooting," analyzed Shogan.

The team is doing very well considering they incurred two key injuries early in the year.

"Also considering the fact the team is so young, I'm very pleased," said Shogan.

So, remember that the Pandas are hosting the Vikettes this weekend. Be there, to support the team.

GAME TIMES:

FRI, Jan 8 at 6:45 p.m.

SAT, Jan 9 at 6:45 p.m.

Intramural activities

by Garnet DuGray

Now that the Christmas turkey has settled, it is time to wear off those pounds with campus recreation and intramurals for the second semester. This term kicks off with the men's basketball play-offs starting Thursday, January 7 in both the Main and Education gyms with the finals of all three divisions slated for Thursday, January 14 in the Main gym. Last year's Division I winners, L.D.S. "A" are favored to win their division again while the Wrecking Crew has two clubs in the Division III playoffs in an attempt to defend their title there. Meanwhile in Division II action, it is a toss up as to who the favorites are, but once again the Wrecking Crew has two teams vying for the crown while Law "B" also has a strong chance at taking the title.

Tuesday, January 12 at one p.m. finds deadlines for the men's cross-country ski race and three-on-three basketball double elimination tournament. The ski race will be held on Saturday, January 16 at 1 p.m. at Kinsmen Park.

The 3-on-3 basketball will be run in the Main gym from 7 p.m.

each night, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, January 18, 19 and 21. Any number of teams maybe signed for each unit, so put together those threesomes today.

Speaking of 3-on-3 basketball the women's version starts next Monday, January 11 and runs Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, January 11 - 26 starting at 7:30 p.m. each night in the West gym. Be sure to come out and support your unit.

The co-rec department has three upcoming fun events with deadlines fast approaching. Friday, January 8 at one p.m. is the deadline for innertube water polo to be run Tuesday, and Wednesday, January 12 - February 3 from 8 p.m. each night in the east pool. The co-rec bowling on Thursday, January 14 from 8 - 10 p.m. in the SUB bowling area has a deadline set for one p.m. on Monday, January 11. Finally in the co-rec area, the volleyball tourney is set for Monday - Thursday, January 19-28 starting at 7:30 p.m. each night in the Main, Education, Dance and West gyms. Deadline for tournament entries is set for one p.m. on Wednesday, January 13.

Listen-up

The Non-Credit Instruction department of the Campus Recreation offices wished to announce their expanded program for the second semester. To begin with, the NCI people are offering a Badminton clinic on Thursday, January 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the West gym. As well the Cross-Country Ski Clinic will be run at Kinsmen Park at 9 and 10 a.m. respectively on Saturday and Sunday, January 9 and 10.

In addition to these clinics, next Monday, January 11 will see the kickoff of a Dance Trim program running from 11 a.m. - noon in the Fencing Studio of the P.E. building. This program will continue Mondays and Wednesdays until March 17.

Lastly, there is also a Windsor Park Aerobics program to be held Mondays and Wednesdays starting at 8:15 p.m. for one hour. This program will run until March 31 after starting on Monday, January 11 at the Windsor Park Elementary school. Please contact the women's intramural office for any further info and sign-up now for these exciting and fun-filled activities.



V'ballers ready

The Pandas volleyball team is travelling down to Calgary this weekend to take part in the first post-Christmas tournament.

The tourney will consist of twenty teams from the Western region of Canada and one team from the University of Montana.

The team has been trying to get back to playing form with two six hour practice days on the second and third of January.

"I think the practices went very well and the girls are getting back their skills," commented Coach Hugh Hoyles.

The team has been very competitive all year in Canada West play and this tourney will

serve as a barometer, judging their progress in the first half, says Hoyle.

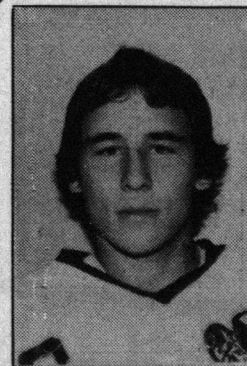
"I'm pleased with the way the team has performed and I think we have a good base for the weekend," said Hoyles.

All-star player Tracy Mills went to Toronto to participate in the Senior Women's National team practices. She'll be ready for the tourney and a very big help to the team.

Just a note on the Bears: They got back from Toronto yesterday from various tourneys. Coach Brian Watson was unavailable for comment at press time, but stay tuned for more in Tuesday's edition.

Athlete of the Week

Perry Zapernick
Golden Bears Hockey



This week's Boston Pizza Athlete of the Week is PERRY ZAPERINICK the 5'5" left winger of the Golden Bear's Hockey Team. In two non-conference matches against the NAIT Ooksiks, "Zap" scored two goals and added two assists as the Bears defeated NAIT 5-3 and 5-1. The four points brings Zap's overall point total to 22 for the season. He now has 8 goals and 14 assists so far in the 1981-82 campaign. For his outstanding performance, Boston Pizza is pleased to name PERRY ZAPERINICK as the University Of Alberta's Athlete of the Week.

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