

NAIT's Spencer Bear'ies Alberta

by Mark Spector

The first 25 minutes of *Face Off '86* were almost a carbon copy of last year's game. But what occurred after that was akin to the behind-the-scenes stuntman finally getting his chance and stealing the show from the big star.

The NAIT Ookpiks out-skated, out-hustled, and just plain out-performed the favoured Alberta Golden Bears to cruise to a 7-5 win, and their first Ronald McDonald cup.

And if ever there was a straw that stirred the drink, it was NAIT's Mike Spencer on this night. Spencer potted four goals plus an assist to run away with player of the game honours for the Ookpiks.

For Alberta, Gerald Koebel had a goal and two helpers to claim the pair of Daoust skates as the Bears' MVP.

In a reprise of '85, NAIT jumped to a 2-0 lead early in the second after Spencer banged home a pass from the corner while cruising

unguarded in front of Bear goalie Darren Turner's net.

Once again, the first period was a blistering affair with at least twelve solid bodychecks filling up the opening ten minutes. Spencer opened the scoring at the 8:28 mark, as NAIT dominated period no. 1 offensively.

But at this point, it became obvious that there was something missing in the Golden Bear attack — it was the team speed and intensity that has kept them afloat through what has become a season fraught with injuries.

Four second period goals, two by Spencer and one each by Darren Schmidt and Ross Kenney, and the great Golden Bears were rendered human partly by their own fatigue, but mostly by a potent NAIT attack that refused to quit.

The Bears did possess enough jam to attempt a last minute comeback for the 8,564 fans in attendance at the Coliseum, and it took a perfectly timed time-out by NAIT

"Carnival like" scene gets ridiculous

by Mark Spector

As a whole, they looked like an African explorer with a size 11 safari hat who had just stumbled upon the village of a headhunting tribe.

They did not want to be there and they would have done anything to be able to leave.

The subject here is the Golden Bears hockey team who, after just absorbing an embarrassing defeat at the hands of the NAIT Ookpiks, were forced to stand for a good ten minutes in front of their bench before the postgame ceremony began.

NAIT, for that matter, obviously didn't enjoy being forced to watch a group of children do aerobics to the theme from *Fame*.

"Who's the main event and who's the sideshow?" asked one Bear after the game. "That showed a total lack of respect for the players on both teams," commented another.

Both coaches expressed, in their diplomatic manner, that maybe next year the focus should be aimed more squarely at the two teams involved.

The show started before the pre-game skate, about 40 minutes before the 6:00 p.m. advertised game time. The players actually had to delay their warmup to wait for the

Ukrainian dancers to exit the ice. This was after the juggler that dropped the balls.

Two raffle cars delivered the brass to center ice for the ceremonial face off between the two Ronnies, team captains Vertz and Amyotte.

They even lengthened the second intermission by over five minutes to accommodate some acts which are now but a haze in one's memory.

I mean, for Christ's sake, didn't they get enough in during the game?

All of the entertainers were excellent and none tried harder than the youngsters whose fate it was to be slated for the postgame effort in futility and, in fact, the poor kids were booed by a few impatient fans who were just waiting to see the MVP's.

Hockey teams have, over the years, set a workable limit of 20 players per team. Having anymore would be useless because each game only lasts for 60 minutes.

Perhaps, in future *Face Off's*, the organizers will learn about something called the saturation level.

Perhaps, like both coaches did in September, they will make a few cuts.

Sports

Ookpiks 7 Bears 5

FIRST PERIOD

1. NAIT, Spencer 1 (Kenney, S. Melnyk), pp. 8:28.

PENALTIES — McEwan, NAIT, 2:05; Havrelock, Alta, 2:15; Goodwin, Schmidt, NAIT, Patrick, Alta, 3:39; Helland, Alta, 6:49; Spencer, NAIT, 9:03; M. Melnyk, NAIT, 9:44; Kenney, double minor, Bartman, NAIT, Brandolini, Clouston, Alta, 16:33.

SECOND PERIOD

2. NAIT, Spencer 2 (Walker, Bartman), pp. 3:55.

3. Alberta, Koebel 1 (Dill, Cranston), pp. 4:45.
4. NAIT, Spencer 3 (Amyotte), 5:33.
5. NAIT, Schmidt 1 (Schultz), 13:35.
6. NAIT, Kenney 1 (S. Melnyk), 16:06.

PENALTIES — Kenney, NAIT, 0:26; Ansell, Alta, 2:56; Roebuck, NAIT, 4:11; Amyotte, NAIT, 9:14.

THIRD PERIOD

7. Alberta, Clouston 1 (Cranston), 1:02.

8. NAIT, Spencer 4 (Amyotte, McEwan), 2:52.

9. NAIT, Clarke 1 (Bartman, Spencer), 5:27.

10. Alberta, Tarasuk 1 (Draper), pp. 13:48.

11. Alberta, Cranston 1 (Koebel, Brandolini), 14:00.

12. Alberta, Walter 1 (Chisholm, Koebel), pp. 17:11.

PENALTIES — Goodwin, NAIT, 0:44; Tarasuk, Alta, S. Melnyk, NAIT, 2:25; Havrelock, Alta, McEwan, NAIT, 3:13; Dill, Alta, Sicolo, NAIT, majors, game misconducts, 4:11; Cranston, Alta, 4:27; Dombowsky, NAIT, 11:56; Bartman, NAIT, 13:42; Lamb, Alta, Goodwin, NAIT, 16:28; Havrelock, Alta, 17:28.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Alberta	5	10	20	35
NAIT	10	10	8	28

Goal — Alberta, Turner, Krill; NAIT, Lastuika.

MVP's — NAIT, Spencer; Alberta, Koebel.

Attendance — 8,564.



Photo Bill St. John



Photo Bruce Cardave

NAIT celebrates yet another goal while a hoard of dejected Bears exits the bench.

coach Perry Pearn to slow them down.

"Some time-outs you call to discuss strategy," commented a satisfied Pearn, "but this one I called for only one reason: to stop Alberta's momentum."

The Bears' Al Tarasuk scored to close the gap to 7-3 in favour of the Ookpiks, when referee Lance Roberts fingered NAIT's Jamie Bartman for a five minute highsticking penalty. Dennis Cranston and Bret Walter would later score for the Bears to

make things close, but for anyone who was there, this was not a two goal hockey game.

Other third period goals came from NAIT's Dean Clark and Mike Spencer as Shaun Clouston replied **continued on page 10**

Pandas roll over Huskiettes

Pandas 61 Huskiettes 42
by Tim Enger

There are those who will say that playing the Saskatchewan Huskiettes is like beating up your little sister.

It's not very challenging but sometimes it is necessary.

The Huskiettes are the owners of the worst record in the league (0-5), and the Pandas had just come off a 69-49 slaughter of them last weekend. So how do you get up for the game?

"I'll admit it was hard to get the

girls into this game during the week" said Panda coach Sherry Melney before the game. "But you can't take a team like this lightly because sometimes they can bring you down to their level."

The Pandas started mostly veterans with the plan being that they would sub in the rookies as soon as they built themselves up a solid lead.

But things didn't go exactly as planned. When the Pandas were plagued by some suspect defense

and found guilty of forcing the ball inside too often, coach Melney decided to keep her subs on the bench while the vet's worked out the bugs.

"I don't think we've turned the ball over that much all year," said Panda forward Annette Sanregret "and it really took a long time for our offense to click."

But the points finally poured in and the and subs came on. At half-time the Pandas had doubled the Huskiettes 30-15, and they never looked back, winning 61-42.

"It's nice to have games where everyone plays," added Sanregret. "It really makes you feel like a complete team." Everyone for the Pandas did play and all but three players were involved in the scoring.

This leaves the Pandas tied atop the Canada West Conference at 5-1, tied with the Victoria Vikettes who they will meet next weekend.

"It will be our toughest road trip of the year no doubt," said Sanregret. "Because not only is Vic tough but UBC will give us a good game as well."

A win against either team will most likely assure the Pandas a spot in the playoffs but in reality they are playing for positioning in the playoffs. Finishing first or second will greatly increase the chances of the Pandas going to the Nationals in Winnipeg.

"It's hard to speculate right now," says Sanregret "but we feel that the nationals are a very reachable goal."

Panda Poop: The Pandas were lead in scoring by **Debbie O'Byrne** with 18 points. . . Alberta was missing rookie sensation **Kathy Keates** who hadn't practised all week, and forward Dawn Schooler who had an injured Achilles tendon.

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