

Hoop Bears win big at Dino National Classic. (below)



Alan Small

## Juniors brawl for our country

It may have been a disgrace, but it might be the shot in the arm (or head) **Hockey Canada** needs.

Canadians have been frustrated too much by the stickwork of the **Soviets** over the years. On Sunday it was the last straw. Fourteen years of poor treatment of our national senior and junior teams in Europe had come to the fore.

For the umpteenth time, hideous refereeing showed.

Remember the **Sarajevo Olympics**? It was the first time I had seen a referee take a dive, as **Pat Flatley** brushed him as he skated by. Flatley was assessed a match penalty. That spelled the end of hopes for a medal as one of Canada's best players was sent off for the rest of the game.

Sunday was no different. **Norwegian** referee **Hans Ronning** must have been wearing a tinted visor to miss some of the stick infractions that both teams were committing before the fight. When the fight broke out all three refs showed their lack of ability to handle it, then pleaded ignorance when both teams cleared the benches.

It's not all their fault of course. The **International Ice Hockey Federation** showed all of their ability by doing really dumb things like shutting off the lights in the arena. What is most stupid of all is that with the gradual escalation of violence in international hockey, they didn't adapt their idiotic rules on fighting and stickwork.

Remember the '84 **Canada Cup** when **Mark Messier** almost beheaded **Vladimir Kovin** of the Soviet Union with the "elbow heard round the world"? He got just a two minute minor. The same thing goes with high-sticking infractions.

It's no wonder that most of the **Swedes** playing hockey today wear visors. No one would leave home without it.

So what can the Canadian side do when the stickwork keeps escalating, and the calls aren't? On Sunday they took the law into their own hands.

This should never happen, but Sunday was the right time for it.

Don't forget what club was the first to leap the boards. It was the **Russians**.

There have been many heroic Canadians in our country's history. All of the ones that fought in wars, and the people at the **Canadian embassy in Iran** for example.

Although this episode pales in comparison, we should remember there is no such thing as volume of heroism. Also, like the Canadians who fought and died in the **World Wars** and the **Korean conflict**, the Canadian Junior team fought for what they believe in.

That alone should be considered heroic.

# Sports

Drake's club takes round robin but still can't beat Dinos (below)

## WE'RE NO. 1 !!!

### Bears tops in Canada for first time ever

by Mark Spector

Alberta 84 Toronto 66

Alberta 73 Victoria 64

Alberta 60 Western 59

**CALGARY** — For all the fifth place teams in the sporting world that have crammed the camera with fingers raised and shouts of "We're number one!", the Golden Bears basketball team is a group that has actually earned that honor.

With a 60-59 victory over the Western Mustangs, Alberta laid claim to the championship at the Dino-National Classic in Calgary. In doing so they left in their wake 6th ranked Toronto (84-66), number one ranked Victoria (73-64), and the Mustangs, who were number two in Canada going into the weekend.

And Alberta (5th in Canada) feel that it's their turn to ride the top of the heap. In their own self-contained way, that is.

"I'll be disappointed if we're not (voted #1) come Monday morning, but I've been around this league too long to count on it," said coach Don Horwood. "It would sure be nice for our guys."

"You gotta remember, though, that those guys vote in the boardroom but we have to play on the hardwood," said Horwood in workmanlike tones reminiscent of his

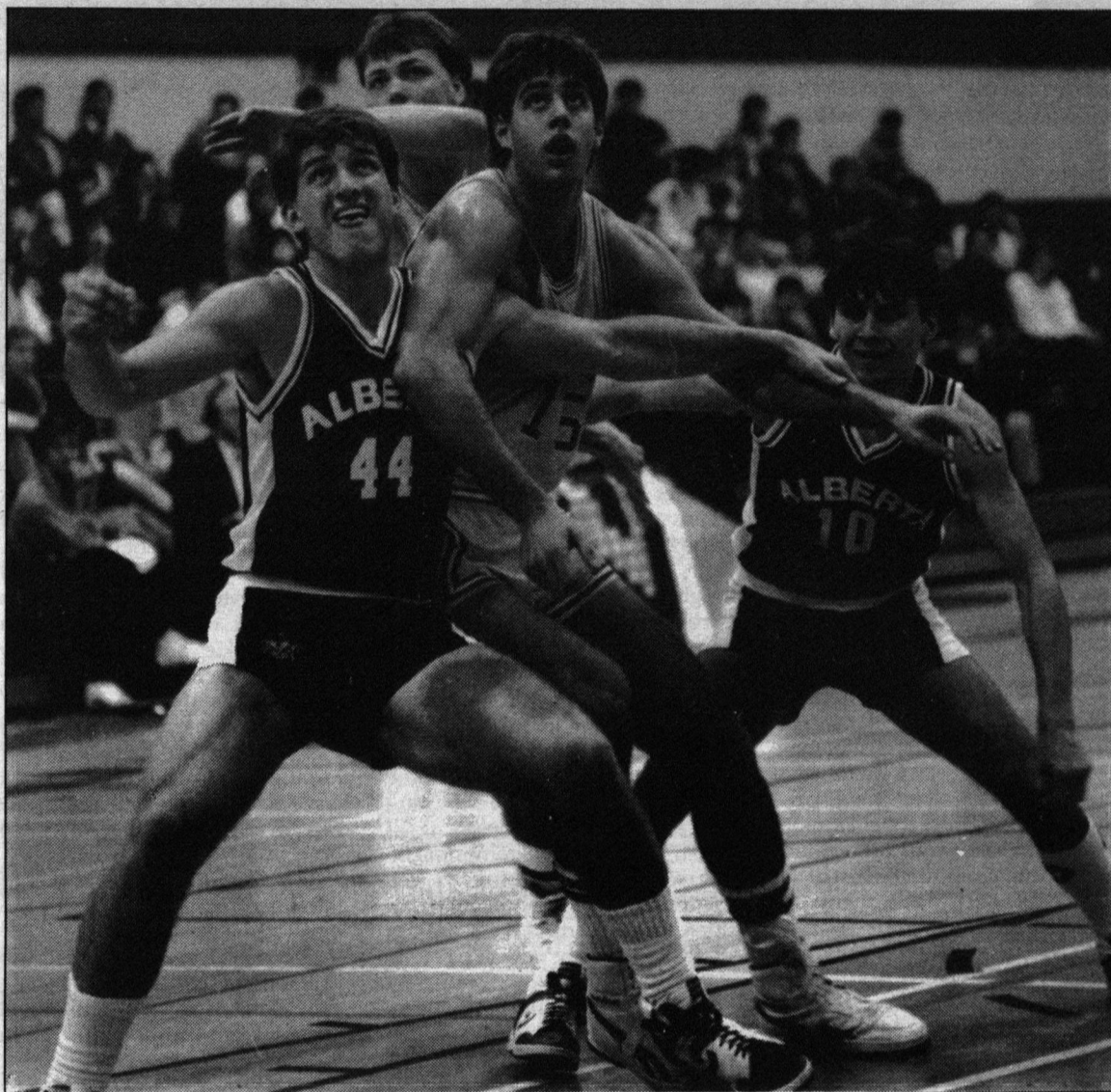


photo Mark Spector

Tournament MVP Mike Suderman (44) blocks out Victoria's Spencer McKay in a semifinal game while Sean Chursinoff (10) looks on.

## CIAU Rankings

### BASKETBALL - M

Previous rankings in brackets

1. Alberta (5)
2. Western (2)
3. Victoria (1)
4. Calgary (10)
5. Brandon (9)
6. Manitoba (NR)
7. Winnipeg (3)
8. McMaster (8)
9. U.P.E.I. (NR)
10. Toronto (6)

Newfoundland roots.

Monday afternoon Horwood and Co. were rewarded as the first word under the title CIAU Men's basketball was Alberta.

"I think we should be number one," stated tournament MVP Mike Suderman. He, along with Dean Peters and Mike Kornak, are on a mission this season: For once in their five years at the U of A they want to have something to remember other than what could have been.

"Talk about hunger," said Suderman, "for Dean, Mike, and myself, we know it's the end. And that's a feeling you can't have until your last year."

"This is my program that I played in for all these years. It's pride that's on the line for all of us guys."

And after defeating the top two teams in Canada, neither of whom had lost to Canadian competition yet this season, the Golden Bears have earned the right to be proud for a short while anyways, as the Canada West regular season opens this Saturday with Alberta travelling to Saskatchewan.

In their opener versus the 6th

ranked Toronto Blues Kornak copped the Player of the Game award with his 25 point performance as Alberta missed three easy layups in the early going but fought back for a three point deficit (43-40) at the half. In the second half Alberta's stingy defence took over and they coasted to a surprisingly easy 18 point win.

But their toughest test was yet to come, as they would once again run up against the seven time national champion Victoria Vikings, a team that has spelled defeat for the Green and Gold many times over the last decade.

However, a confusing Bears press and some consistent team scoring (five Bears in double figures) upset the Islanders. Actually, the game wasn't really even close through the second half, as Alberta dominated the boards to the tune of 18-10 offensive and 22-12 defensive rebounds.

In the tournament final, however, nothing would come easily, as it came down to Western to win or lose it.

Alberta trailed 59-58 with a minute remaining when Suderman was fouled after the Bears had forced a Mustangs turnover. The Bears had previously blown a 10 point second half lead.

"Suds" hit both free throws for what would be the final scoring of the game, but with just 24 seconds left Western planned just one last shot. Again it was Suderman rising to the occasion, as him and Peters combined on a steal to thwart the attack.

After Dave Youngs missed from the line the men from Ontario charged up the floor with 0:09 left and the clock and ticking. Two attempts later (a miraculous Kornak block from behind and a miss by John Stiefelmeyer) and the Golden Bears had their third trophy of the year — the Dino-National, the Regina Cougar Classic, and the Golden Bear Invitational.

Bring on the regular season.

**In The Paint** — Calgary defeated Victoria 59-55 to take third place, while 3rd ranked **Winnipeg** beat **Lethbridge** 78-72 and Toronto downed **Ryerson** 90-60 for 7th place . . . it was Alberta's first final berth in 12 years at this, the 12th annual classic . . . the rest of the **All Star Team** consists of Winnipeg guard **Joey Vickery**, Calgary guard **John Vigna**, and **Jeff Petter** and **Chris Cavender** of Western.

## Puck Bears take the tourney but jinx lives

by Mark Spector  
Alberta 5 Huskies 3  
Alberta 4 Brandon 1  
Calgary 6 Alberta 5

**CALGARY** — Going into the final game of a hastily devised Christmas get together in Cowtown, the Golden Bears had already been assured of the Molson bags and hats that represented the spoils of this three game, round robin, best-your-team-in-shape exercise.

They had defeated Saskatchewan 5-3 Friday and shut down the Brandon Bobcats 4-1 Saturday, and the Calgary Dinosaurs were so busy trying out new guys that they had fallen to both of those teams.

But Clare Drake and his boys would have gladly passed on the laurels in exchange for a win over

the Dinos, a team that they have defeated only once in their last eight meetings.

"I don't think there's any particular reason that Calgary has given us trouble," said Drake. "We were pretty tired in the third. We had only 20 guys playing all three games..."

Whatever the excuse, Calgary prevailed once again 6-5, and the Bears trundled back to Edmonton with Coors caps on their heads and chimpanzees in red sweaters still on their backs.

So, John Krill, is Calgary becoming somewhat of a mental block? "Definitely. They must think they have us," said the sophomore

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