

SPORTS

Hockey team: "Wait 'til next season"

(SASKATOON)—by Martin Coultts
Experience and depth. These are two qualities that any team with championship aspirations must have. Two qualities that the Saskatchewan Huskies hockey team has in abundance. Two qualities that the Alberta Golden Bears do not yet have enough of. The two qualities that decided the outcome of the Canada West Conference hockey championship this past weekend in Saskatoon.

The hometown Saskatchewan Huskies swept the best-of-three Conference final from the Golden Bears in straight games to win the Hardy Cup and advance to the National playdowns in Moncton, New Brunswick. The two-time defending Conference champions prevailed by scores of 4-1 and 5-1 over the upstart Bears, who were making their first appearance in the playoffs in three years.

There's no doubt that the better team won the championship series. However, the Bears definitely earned the right to say wait 'til next year! As Coach Clare Drake commented after it was all over, "it was a really

positive experience for the younger players. They now know what it takes to win in the playoffs." He was speaking of a roster that featured 11 newcomers on a squad of 22. He was also referring to the line-up that he iced on the weekend, which included only two players with previous University playoff experience. Saskatchewan, on the other hand, went with a line-up that featured only one player who had not previously played in the nationals.

In addition to the gap in experience, the Bears' offensive power in the series was spread too thinly due to the absence of wingers "Ace" Brimacombe and Craig Dill. Alberta simply lacked the back-up strength to overcome the injuries suffered by Brimacombe, who was selected to the Conference's first all-star team, and Dill, who was the club's top rookie forward and one of its premier playmakers.

The effects of these shortcomings were evident, both on the scoreboard and on the ice. The Bears managed just one goal in each game and repeatedly lacked the killer instinct around the net,

especially in game one. They also never got their powerplay back in gear after it fizzled on them during the late stages of the regular season. Alberta failed to score on no less than 9 powerplay attempts in the two games. "We just didn't have the depth on the powerplay to have enough poise with the puck," analyzed Drake. The Huskies, in contrast, fired 4 or their 9 goals, while enjoying an advantage in manpower, and collected a fifth just three seconds after a Bears' penalty expired.

Throw in a freak bounce in game one, and a couple of critical errors, and there you have the story of the series.

In Friday night's opener in front of a packed house in Rutherford Rink, Saskatchewan had the lead just minutes into the game. Randy Wibe deposited a rebound into an open net at 3:21, with the Huskies on the powerplay. The Bears got back on even terms just five minutes later when Bill Ansell was credited with a rather fortunate goal. Goalie Bob Dougall of the Huskies blocked Ansell's shot only to watch team captain Willie Desjardins slide into his own net with the rebound.

The teams remained even until 12:23 of the middle stanza when Saskatchewan scored on a one-in-a-thousand play. Huskie defenceman Doug Archibald cleared the puck into Alberta territory along the right wing side.

As it rounded the boards it suddenly hit a protrusion and took a crazy bounce into the slot to Tim Hodgson. He calmly fired the disc past Bears' goalie Ken Hodge, who was scrambling for position after expecting the puck to continue on past the back of the net. The unfortunate bounce was a devastating blow to the Bears. "Boy, that took a lot out of us!" sighed Coach Drake following the game. Hodge, who was outstanding in turning back 36 of 40 Huskie shots, added that, "it's a lot to fight against when the fans are

going for them (the Huskies) and lucky goals like that are going in for them."

Saskatchewan went on to make it 3-1 before the period ended, as the Bears failed to clear the puck out of their own zone just as a minor to Rick Carriere was expiring. Dennis Fenske of the Huskies popped in a rebound before Carriere was even back in the play. Fenske added his second of the evening late in the third period to round out the scoring.

On Saturday night, Saskatchewan once again scored early in the game. Not once, though. Three times. By the 5:01 mark of the opening frame it was 3-0 for Saskatchewan.

Desjardins started things rolling at the 29 second mark after the Alberta defence coughed up the puck right in front of Bears' goalie Terry Clark. Alberta's Perry Zapernick was then tagged with a five minute major for high-sticking at 0:55. Saskatchewan fired two goals with Zap in the box. Hodgson connected at 3:39 and Brent Hamilton made it 3-0 at 5:01 with Alberta two men short.

To their credit, the Bears regained their composure after the terrible start and dominated

the play in the latter half of the first period. However, Saskatchewan goalie Owen Felske had a hot hand and, at times, the Bears simply couldn't buy a goal. "Alberta couldn't get anything going because of Felske," said Huskies' coach Dave King. "He made five or six big saves after we took the 3-0 lead."

In the second period, Saskatchewan increased their lead to 5-0 on Hamilton's second goal of the game, and Fenske's third of the short series. Alberta finally hit the scoreboard at 14:12 of the middle frame when Ron Parent shovelled the rebound of Terry Sydoryk's shot through Felske's legs after a two-on-none breakaway.

Just over a minute later, the Bears had a chance to mount a comeback after Huskie defenceman Peter Anholt was ejected from the game. Anholt was assessed a major for high-sticking, and a match penalty for spitting which carried with it an automatic major. But the Bears failed to score even once with the man advantage and ended up nullifying the last four minutes of the ten minute powerplay by taking two successive minors themselves.

Bears hungry for win

by John Algard
All right! Stop the presses. The Golden Bears basketball team and the Old Spaghetti Factory are

offering the tree dinner package again this year — only this time it's two thousand dinners for the fans, win or lose.



The Bears are hosts for the CIAU Regional National Tournament this weekend, after finishing fourth at the Canada West finals. The tournament will feature defending National champions Victoria Vikings and 4th ranked St. Frances Xavier X-Men.

The rest of the draw will be announced this afternoon.

My Prediction?
Look for Victoria to repeat as National champions!

Arts Students' Association

University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J9

Hello.
This is your Arts Students' Association speaking.

We're holding an election for our executive and our reps to G.F.C. & S.U. next week. For your entertainment various candidates will be meandering around babbling all sorts of stuff. We'll also be holding a forum on **March 17 at 4:00 pm. in HC L1** so the candidates can do their song and dance.

If you are interested in being on the entertainment committee, nomination forms are available in our office (**Humanities 2-3**). We'll also have an info session just for you at **5:00 in HC L1**. Act soon 'cuz nominations close at **4:00 pm. that same day (March 10)**.

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