

# SPORTS

Playoffs start Friday

## Bears drop pair

by Martin Coultts

Oh well, they had already made the playoffs, anyway. That's about as positive as you could get if you were analyzing the performance of the Bears' hockey team at Varsity Arena this past weekend.

In what was billed as a chance to build up some momentum for the upcoming playoffs, the Bears did anything but, as they dropped both games of a two game set to the last place UBC Thunderbirds. Alberta was beaten 7-5 in overtime on Friday, and succumbed by a 4-2 count the next night to finish the regular season with 13 wins and 11 losses. But, despite a 4 and 8 record in the second half of the schedule, Clare Drake's troops still managed to hang on to second place in the Canada West Conference. That feat (?) earned them the right to battle the pennant winning Saskatchewan Huskies in the best-of-three Canada West championship series this coming weekend in Saskatoon.

The two teams will play Friday night, Saturday night and, if necessary, Sunday afternoon, with the winner earnign the right to represent the Conference at the national finals in Moncton, N.B.

Saskatchewan finished the regular season with a 16 and 8 won-loss record after a weekend split with the Calgary Dinosaurs. The Dinos just managed to hold off the hard charging T-Birds to claim third place with a 10 and 14 record. UBC brought up the rear at 9 and 15, but fashioned a 7 and 5 second half after winning just two of their first twelve starts.

"It was a strange week all round," commented Coach Drake after his squad's second loss in as many nights and its fifth consecutive home-ice defeat. He felt that "the players were a little bit

tired after reading week because we (the coaching staff) worked them extra hard during practice." Drake explained that the objective of the heavy workload was to bring the team up to peak form for next weekend's showdown with the Huskies. He went on to play down the season-ending setbacks to some extent because the team had already assured itself of the trip to Saskatoon by winning 6-4 and 2-1 in Calgary.

"I'm not suggesting that these games weren't important but when we had to win to get into the playoffs, we won," he said.

The UBC contests may not have been crucial to the master plan for playoff success, but they see next page



UBC finished strong but Bears are in playoffs.

photo Bill Inglee

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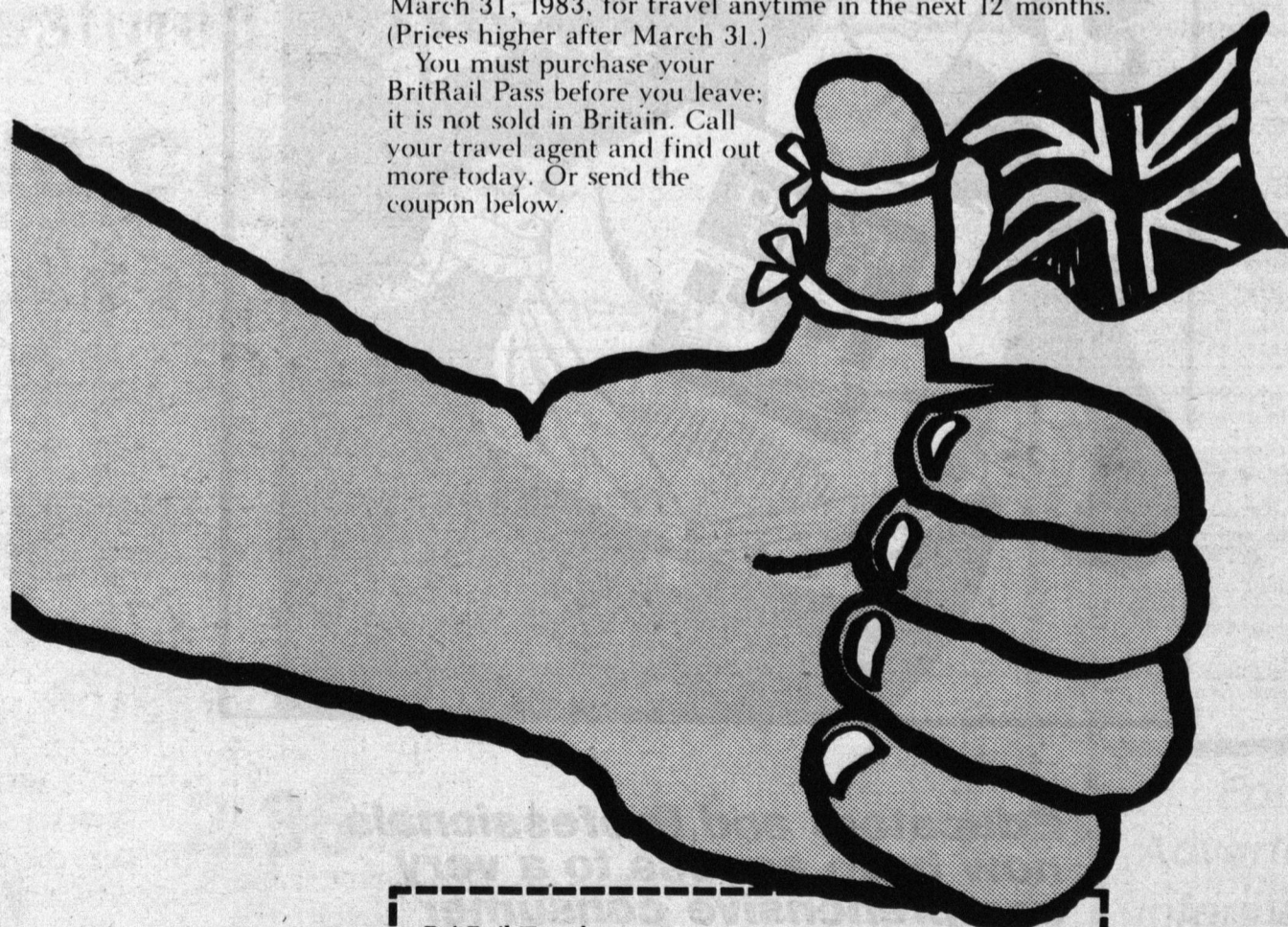
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### Martin dominates gymnastics

Besides a somewhat successful Pandas gymnastic team, there are also Bears gymnastics under the guidance of veteran coach Francis Tally. Tally's Bears this season unfortunately lost two veterans and consequently last weekend at the Canada West Gymnastic Championships, the Bears relinquished their team title of two years.

However in this Pre-Universiade event, Tally's remaining veterans shone. Reeve Martin, fresh from winning his Third Klondike Challenge in as many years, successfully defended his Canada West crown with a winning total of 52.55. Totally dominating most events, Martin won golds in the all-around, side horse, still rings, and collected bronzes in the parallel bars and the horizontal bar. Veteran Brendon Carrigy made the finals in floor exercise and qualified for nationals with a score of 46.05.

Tally was also immensely pleased with his new crop of young and up and coming rookies; leading the way is the outstanding Daryl Roberts, who shows great promise to help rebuild a winning team. Though Tally was disappointed by the team loss, he is optimistic that Martin and Carrigy will no doubt put in an excellent showing at the C.I.A.U. Nationals in Toronto the second week of March.

### Vlad wins silver

Vlad Dzavik won a silver medal at the Canadian Indoor track and field championships. Dzavik's final leap in the triple jump of 15.19 meters was only 21m behind the winning jump.

The event was held in Sherbrooke, Quebec, and is a tune-up for this coming weekend's Canada West meet in Saskatoon.

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