

SPORTS

Tough marks hurt Pandas

by Kent Blinston

Competition for the team titles at the CIAU National Gymnastics Meet doesn't begin until tomorrow but the U of A women's team may already be out of the running.

Stringent judging in Canada West meets this year have kept many of the women from getting scored high enough to qualify for the finals to be held at the Butterdome Friday and Saturday.

Although the Pandas won the Canada West meet last week only three members of the team qualified for the nationals; Heidi Ross, Elise Dworkin and Margie Drysdale.

Gymnasts are ranked by their highest all around score in recognize competition this season with only the top 36 qualifying for the finals.

Pandas coach Debbie O'Brien strongly disagreed with the final numbers that ranked her gymnasts

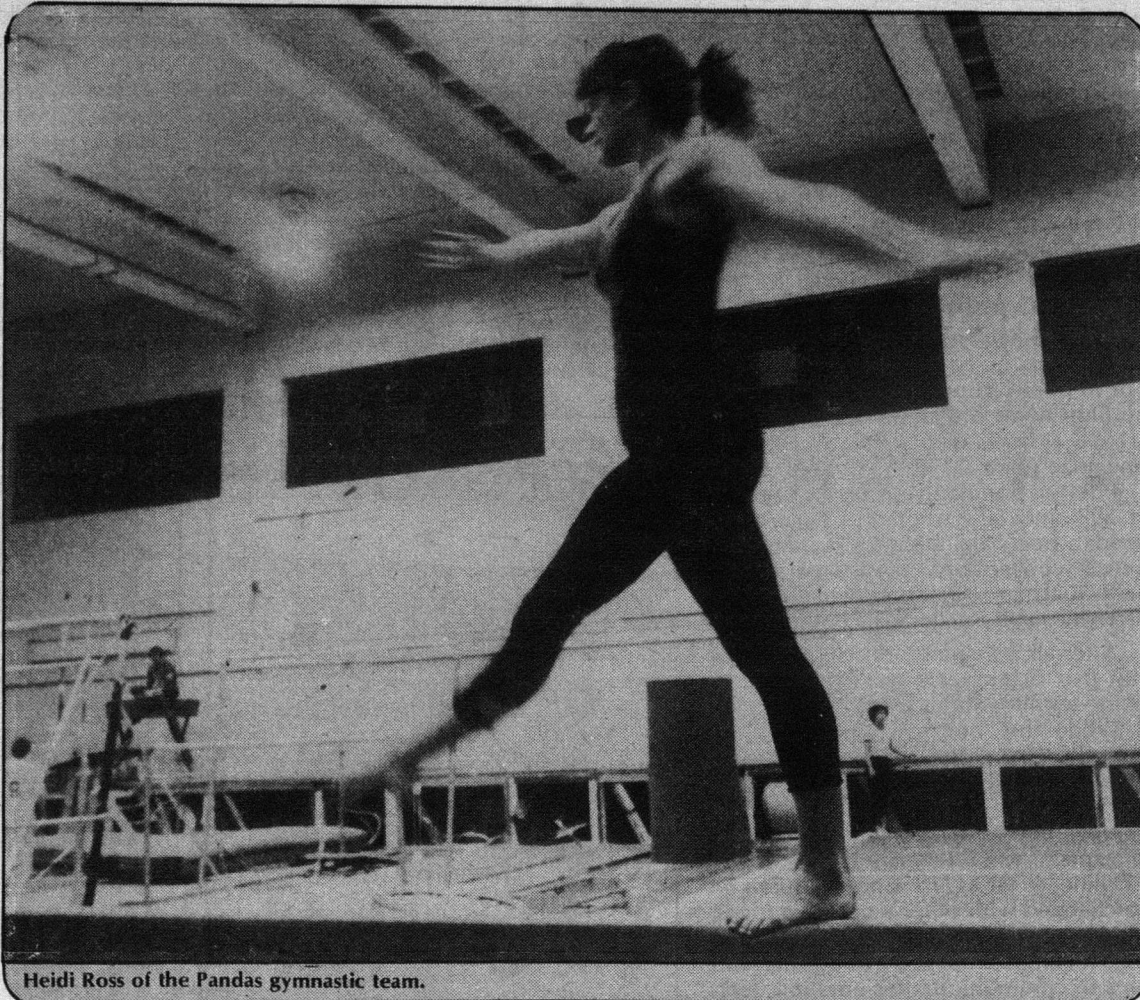
no higher than 13th, "I'll eat my shirt if those kids from the east are that much better than mine."

Team points are taken from the three highest scores of a team, which is allowed to qualify up to six gymnasts. For the Pandas to win the team title the three women will have to be perfect every time out - there is no one to fall back on.

O'Brien thinks the Canada West marks are generally about two points too low. Ross, who finished second in the nationals is ranked 13th. With two more points, she would be ranked 4th.

"The judges here (Canada West) are hard on us," said O'Brien. She cites their lack of experience as the reason. The team's scores support her. They were awarded their highest marks this year at a meet in Denver, the only meet this year where they faced internationally qualified judges.

continued page 13



Heidi Ross of the Pandas gymnastic team.

photo: Angela Wheelock

If Bears can beat it, you can eat it

by Kent Blinston

It's not that the Golden Bear hockey team is confident of winning their playoff series against Saskatchewan but they are planning this little victory dinner - just for a thousand or so of their friends.

This weekend's CWUAA hockey final pits the Bears against the Huskies in a best-of-three series at Varsity area. The winner goes on to face the winner of the Great Plains Athletic Conference to see who will represent western Canada in the national tournament.

If the Bears win the first game Friday night, every fan in attendance will also win. They will get a coupon for a free spaghetti dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

Athletic Services tried the same promotion once last year

with the men's basketball team. Unfortunately all that spaghetti never reached the mouths of hungry students, as Brian Heany's boys couldn't win the game. This time, with the Bears having beaten the Huskies in their last six straight games this year, the restaurant is figuring all that pasta is as good as cooked.

The Golden Bear players, however, are not underestimating their opponents. At Tuesday's press conference announcing the giveaway, team captain Dan Peacocke noted the Huskies have won the national title the last two years and have a lot of playoff experience.

And while the Bears have the leading scorer in the conference in Rick Swan, Saskatchewan had four scorers in the top six.

Early in the season there was little to choose between the two teams. Both won pre-season tournaments in the other's arena. The Huskies came back to Edmonton and beat the Bears the first two times they played in the regular season. The next weekend the Bears went into Saskatoon and won two close games and have not

looked back since.

After the Christmas break, while the Bears surged into first place, the Huskies slumped into second. Their last two games of the season were lackluster losses to the UBC Thunderbirds.

The Bears have more giveaways planned. At Saturday's game every student in attendance

will receive a free ticket to an Edmonton Trappers Baseball game. If the Bears win this series their next series against the GPAC champions starts March 9 at Varsity arena. At that game the first 500 fans will win a Coca-cola baseball cap and other door prizes will be awarded.

by Ian Ferguson



Bunky Sawchuck

Women's Awareness Week March 5 - 10

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF SPREADING THE WORD - a workshop on the use of film and drama in the women's movement 7:00 pm. HC-L1	WOMEN & TECHNOLOGY - panel by Women in Scholarship Engineering, Science & Technology (WISEST). Beer & Wine 7:00 pm. SUB 270A	CHILDBIRTH & MIDWIFERY - speaker Geraldine Matus sponsored by Campus Pro-Choice 12:00 noon SUB 270A PORNOGRAPHY - "Not A Love Story" - taking action in your community - speakers from Every Woman's Place 7:00 pm. P-126	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - "Loved, Honored and Bruised" - speaker Lisa Walter 2:00 pm. Ed N-2115 WOMEN'S NETWORKS in EDMONTON - Edmonton Women's Network - Business & Professional Women's Club of Edmonton. Beer & Wine 7:00 pm. SUB 270A	WOMEN & EDUCATION - Wine & Cheese forum 3:00 pm. SUB 270A	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY PARADE from Legislature to Centennial Library 11:30 am. - bring banners & friends. Lunch at Centennial Library. 1:00 pm. WOMEN'S FAIR - info tables, singers, films, women's self defense, drama 1:30 pm.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Info Tables in SUB			MARCH 3 - 11 Edmonton Art Gallery: "Hillmother" - Claire Weissman Wilks exhibition of drawings		

Sponsored by U of A Women's Centre & the Students' Union.