



Bear Rick Stanley scores two of 32 against the Dinos.

Stanley smokes in sweep

by Alan Small
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When the Golden Bear basketball club wins ball games, a dominant player is usually the reason. This weekend's games were no exception.

Friday night, rookie post Rick Stanley held one of the hottest hands of the year when he drained 13 of 16 field goals and six of 10 free throws to score 32 points, while dominating his opposite number, Brian Mäskewich on defence. Mäskewich was only able to score nine points that night against his fellow St. Joe's grad. The Bears coasted to an 83-66 win.

"Our guards were getting the ball inside," Stanley said. "They executed the offence well, which opened up the inside."

"He (Stanley) was hot tonight," Bear head coach Don Horwood said. "Our game plan was to get the ball inside. Today that worked, but tomorrow will be a whole new ball game."

Horwood, in retrospect, sounded like Nostradamus, as Stanley was as cold as Saturday's weather, scoring only four points all game. The night after the first game, Stanley had migraine headaches and had to go to the hospital for treatment.

Filling the scoring void left by Stanley was veteran guard Chris Toutant, who scored 23 points and threw off the Dino defence with his many drives-to-the-hoop, which caused many a Dino foul.

"I'm impressed with the consistency of their perimeter game," Dino coach Gary Howard said. "Toutant has it going real well, but I thought they did a good job defensively."

Horwood also thought that the Bear defence was at their best this weekend.

"David Youngs is just doing an incredible job on defence against the other team's top scorer," Horwood said of the third year guard. "Our post players did a much better job defensively than they have all

year. Defence is the answer for us."

Youngs did a fine job covering Dino fifth-year guard John Vigna, who shot a dismal 10 for 25 from the field in both games, and was never a factor in the second game. Vigna got into foul trouble early, and eventually fouled out of the ball game late in the second half.

Both games were quite similar, as the Bears were able to jump out to a lead early in the first half and maintain it, if not expand upon it the rest of the game. In Friday's game, they led by eight at the half and led by as much as 20 points late in the second half. In the second game however, the Bears went on a 21-5 run in the first ten minutes, and led by 15 at halftime. The Bears led by as much as 25 points, but some sloppy defence late in the game when the outcome was not in doubt let the Dinos back to a pseudo-respectability.

"We should have buried them," Horwood said. "We stopped them four or five times in a row and went down and turned the ball over."

Basketball

The sweep was essential for the Bears, as now the Dinos have to win three of their last four ball games, two of them in UBC, where the T-Birds hold so much of a home court advantage. They must also play the four games all in one week, as they play UBC Tuesday and Wednesday, and then take on the Lethbridge Proughorns on Friday and Saturday in The Pit.

The Dinos won't exactly be over-stuffed when they go on the road trips as they only brought ten players with them to Edmonton and will now be without Andrew Vaughn, their starting post, who tore some cartilage in his knee late in the first game, and did not play at all in the second. Vaughn had two strong games against the Bears this year, including Friday night's matchup, when he scored 14 points and nabbed six rebounds.

POST UPS: Bear guard Sean Churnisoff was given limited playing time despite an ankle injury that nagged him all week. Horwood was able to get everybody in the game both nights, with former Ainslay star Brian Halsey looking sharp in little playing time. Rookie Bill Lavergne jammed one late in game one. The Bears take on the Victoria Vikings Friday and Saturday in the final regular season home dates of the year for the Golden Bears.

Degner dumps Pandas

by Alan Small
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The Pandas had their chance last weekend to upset the number three ranked Calgary Dinosaurus.

The Dinos played without Canada West leading scorer Veronica Vander Schee and without 6'2 1/2" forward Lisa Schirok. When a team plays without two of its best players, they might have some problems. But with a team that has as much depth that the Dinosaurus have, the problem was insignificant.

The Dinos won the first game with no flair. There were no big runs, neither side controlled the boards. The Dinos just outplayed the younger, smaller Pandas. The Dinos led by 13 points at halftime and then coasted to a seventeen point victory.

In the second game, Dino center Karen Degner was the most dominant force on the floor. She went 16 for 19 from the field, scored 35 points, nabbed seven rebounds, and controlled the area underneath the Calgary rim, blocking at least five Panda shots. Degner was definitely the difference between victory and defeat for the Dinos.

"She's a good athlete," Panda head coach Diane Hilko said. "She was keeping with Mitch (Panda guard Michelle Durand) as she dribbled down the floor. She cut her off." Durand is Panda fastest player, while Degner at 6'2" shouldn't be

expected to keep up with the speedy Panda guard.

The Panda's didn't exactly help themselves this weekend. They shot only 39 per cent from the floor both games and had the same problems they've had all year. They make it a close game, then they wouldn't be able to shoot the ball through a hula hoop.

They were down by twenty with four minutes left but closed the gap. At halftime the Pandas only were behind by ten points. Five minutes into the second half however, the Pandas got their first basket of the second half and by that time the result was not in doubt.

"It's frustrating," Hilko said, "they know they're beating themselves. They know that they can play better. What more can you say?"

The post-season aspirations of the Pandas look bleak and bleak, as they must get a split from the number one team in the country next weekend, so the job for Hilko's Pandas is even more difficult.

"We're going to train and hope," Hilko said. "I know Victoria wants first place. They want to host the playoffs."

FOUL SHOTS: Guard Patti Smith led the Pandas in the first game with 14 points, while in game two, Linda Mrkonjic scored 20 and Cheryl Galenza scored 16.

Wakabayashi joins one hundred club

by Ajay Bhardwaj

Many players never get 100 points in their careers, let alone 100 goals. Friday night was special for the Alberta Golden Bears' Stacey Wakabayashi, as he netted not only his 100th career goal, but also his 101st, in his 135th game as a Golden Bear.

"It's a great honor (to score 100 goals) just because of the history of the Golden Bears and to follow my teammate (and linemate) Dennis Cranston," said Wakabayashi.

It took Wakabayashi three tries and a little more than 30 minutes before he scored the elusive number 100. He was in close twice in the first period only to be foiled by the Bisons' goalie Jason Hodson the first time and the second time the puck bounced over his stick.

"Maybe it was because Dennis didn't set me up," Wakabayashi joked, after missing his first two opportunities.

But at 11:47 of the second period, while the Bears were short-handed, Dennis Cranston found Wakabayashi behind the Bisons' defence. He made a perfect feed to Wakabayashi and this time number 21 didn't make a mistake. His second goal of the game stood up as the winner in the Bears' win. "It was nice that (Dennis) set it up," said Wakabayashi of his linemate of four years.

Cranston, the maestro of both of Wakabayashi's goals, commended his linemate. "It's been a lot of fun (playing with Stacey), he's an incredible hockey player," Cranston said. "I'm glad he came to university when he did." Cranston reached the 100 goal plateau earlier in the season and he is definitely a force who helped Wakabayashi. "Welcome to the 100 goal club," he said. "Now we're both there, we don't have to worry about it," said Cranston of the relief felt by both players.

Wakabayashi, a fourth year Education student from Kamloops, has been a stalwart for the entire season. He is second only to Sid Cranston in team scoring. "I didn't really set any exact goals (when he became a Golden Bear), I just wanted to help the team win," said Wakabayashi.

For Wakabayashi, it was the fifth two goal game of the season and for his efforts, he was given, third star honors.

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