

Speaking on Sports

By STEVE RYBAK

Telegrams for the Bears; we believe

"You made them all believers. You got to be the greatest. Congratulations to a team that understands that spirit and desire are still supreme in university sport."

That telegram to the Bears came from Maury Van Vliet, the Dean of Phys Ed, one of the biggest 'non-believers' at the start of the season. The Bears dispelled a lot of doubt and a lot of disbelief by winning the national hockey championship.

There were a lot of other telegrams too, from former players, parents, students, friends and hockey fans.

From the 1963 Championship team . . . "Winning makes the trip back short."

From Pregnant Lucy and the boys . . . "The bath tub is full and cold. Bring back a puck and fifty goals." Upon receiving that one Dave Couves said, "If we win, they'll really get drunk . . . come to think of it, they'll get drunk anyway. Those guys don't need an excuse."

And then there's the one from Vancouver . . . "Sock it to 'um" from Val, Mavis, Cheryll, Trudy, Dianne, Gail, Karen, Shari and Sharon.

The Lambda Chi boys got in on the act too. The fraternity has been the backbone of support at every hockey game played at home this year. It's too bad they couldn't have sent Stu Olsen and his drum to Montreal.

Girlfriends refrain, fear jinx

The Edmonton Oil Kings, in Saskatoon for the WCJHL play-offs, and the Bohemian Maid gang also sent the Bears telegrams.

"Sock it to 'em, sock it to 'em, sock it to 'em," from Dolly Drake.

The Bears football team, who can really understand the meaning of these words, "Always the underdogs, but always the best."

From Brian Harper, last year's captain now with the National hockey team in Winnipeg, "Good luck boys. Beat the Blues. You can do it". The Bears didn't have to beat the Blues, but the best Eastern Canada could offer.

Some of the players were a bit disappointed when their wives and/or girl friends didn't send any messages. The girls got together and decided not to send any until after the game, fearing it would be bad luck to do it before the final.

And there were 169 students on campus who put their names on a telegram sent early Friday morning.

And next year . . . Drake for basketball?

Come to think of it, why not 'Ducky for basketball coach', then there would be no way the Bears couldn't win a national basketball title.

Next year could be a good year for national titles at the U of A. Football looks good, with only half a dozen or so graduating, the hockey team is losing only two or three, and the basketball team will lose only one starter from this year's squad.

That means they're going to have to raise the UAB fees to get enough money to send the players and Gateway reporters to the national finals.

And while I'm at it a few more parting shots . . .

- for Ron and the rest of the boys at the rink, a paint brush and paint, and maybe even a stencil to paint a Bear emblem at centre ice.
- for the Marching and those mysterious "pep" bands, a complete schedule of all major sporting events.
- for Chuck Moser, some money, enough to run his public relations department effectively and maybe even publish a program for basketball and hockey that will resemble something more than a scrap of toilet paper with printing on it.
- for the Alumni association, a plea to get off their butts and do something active in the way of supporting campus sports. Take a cue from U of C's Dinosaur Society.
- another general plea to all the people on this campus . . . the athletic teams have been able to do it on their own, just think what they could have done with some of your support. You're supporting them by paying UAB fees, why not make it vocal.

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—Forrest Bard photo

A FUTURE OLYMPIAN?—The second national championship and Olympic trials the University of Alberta will be hosting are the Boxing Trials. More than 150 boxers from across the country will converge on the University May 16, 17 and 18. Four boxers will be chosen to represent Canada in Mexico at the Olympics in October.

Bob-sledders get lumps at Eastern meet

The U of A bob-sledding team took their lumps at the Canadian championships held in Upper Canada last-weekend.

"Crash" Halmutt (left hanger-on) reported a seriously sprained ankle. He was out testing the slope at Mont Royal when one of the carriages ran over his left ankle.

Mutt finished first in one of Friday's heats, however he was later disqualified. It seems he beat his sleigh to the finish line by five minutes.

The team had been taking lessons on, "How to heat your runners to increase speed," from the East German team. Alberta came to grief when team captain Joe Rocket bungled the process. The runners on both luges melted.

Almost simultaneously, Rocket was ousted from his position as pilot of the "Corona 2" and team captain. One of the revolting sledgers said, "While he ignited the sleighs, he just couldn't ignite the rest of the team."

The team finished strongly passing three cabbies on the crowded uphill run held Saturday on St. Catherines in Montreal. It wasn't enough though as the team finished fourth in the three team field.

They'll share the 'Coc'n Bull' trophy presented for showing outstanding courage in the face of nothing.

Hockey crown was a team effort

By BILL KANKEWITT

Happiness is the Golden Bear hockey club.

Cliches such as Cinderella team, underdogs and golden ones readily apply to this gutsy group of athletes.

They had the nerve to believe that they were number one, and they had the gall to go out and prove it.

Seventeen inexperienced but highly-motivated and well-coached players want east last week to win the Canadian intercollegiate hockey title. To do it, they beat a team that was better, man for man, on paper.

But it is on the ice that hockey games are won.

It is only too bad that the hard core nucleus of 1500 fans who supported their team through darker hours all year couldn't be in on the kill.

Time after time this season, the fans sat through dismal displays of hockey as the team experienced growing pains.

When it counted most, the team started to win. They had to win their last six games and that's just what they did.

The sweet taste of victory was greatest for four Bears who won't be back next season.

Dan Zarowny, Sam Belcourt, Ron Cebryk and team manager

Gord Tucker are all graduating this year.

Zarowny had to be one of the most under-rated players on the Bear defence. His consistent play early in the season helped the Bears weather a shaky start.

Belcourt's value to the team this season just couldn't be stated in measurable terms. He carried the brunt of the offensive load all season until the team finally started to score in the nationals.

Cebryk was a disappointment to fans as he failed time and time again to score the big goal. It's too

bad his knockers didn't see him in action in the final six games of the season. He scored ten goals in those games including the big one that gave Alberta the championship.

Tucker, as team manager, is one of those un-sung heroes who works hard in the background but receives no glory. He has spent five seasons with both the senior and junior Bears. As fate would have it, he didn't even see his team's winning goal in Montreal. He was in the dressing room getting one of his boys a new stick.

Bear wrestlers ready for Canadian open championships at the weekend

Friday, Saturday and Sunday will see the U of A hosting the Canadian Open Wrestling Championships.

Friday and Saturday will have the best in the land competing in the free-style event for national honours and a possible try-out with the national team. Sunday the Greco-Roman wrestlers take to the mats. In Greco-Roman wrestling the wrestler may not use either his own or his opponent's legs for take-downs or holds.

Except for Mas Kinoshita and John Marchand, coach Taylor is entering a full team. Bill Jensen, Bill Smith, Dave Duniec and Ron

Lappage all have very good chances to win national titles. NAIT will enter a full team and the Edmonton AAU will field such local notables as Brian Heffel and Russ Ruzyllo.

FOR SALE

The Photography Directorate has two 35 mm Asahi Pentax SIA cameras and 3 Yashica-Mat twin lens reflex cameras for sale.

The cameras are for sale "as is" and may be seen at the directorate, rm. 236 in SUB, during the day.

Sealed bids for one or more will be received by the directorate until 5 p.m. Monday, March 18.

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