



George Beauchesne (L) checks this Bear from behind. The Huskie won this battle, but the Bears won the war.

Jeff Cowley

Golden Bears win two of the three rounds over Hustlin' Huskies

by Ajay Bhardwaj
Alberta 6 Saskatchewan 4

Three different games were played Friday night at Varsity Arena. The Golden Bear hockey team won the first and, most importantly, the last rounds, while the Saskatchewan Huskies took the middle stanza. The result was a 6-4 win for the fourth ranked Bears.

The Bears scored first, with only 2:28 remaining in the first period. Their top gun, Stacey Wakabayashi, picked up a pass from the slot from defenceman Grant Couture and one-timed it past goalie Pat Nogier for a 1-0 Bear lead.

The U of A dominated the second period firing 15 shots at Nogier. Although Nogier held his ground, he surrendered three goals during the onslaught. First star Sid Cranston followed up his pass to Brett Cox, who was coming out of the penalty box, and banged in a rebound past Nogier six minutes into the 2nd period. Cranston came 38 seconds later to make 3-0, intercepting second star Deric Karolat's pass in the slot and beating Nogier with a backhand. Gord Thibodeau made it 4-0 at 12:38.

"The Bears were much better prepared than us," said a dejected Brent McEwen, the Huskies' head coach. "We didn't come out of the gate well."

The Bears seemed assured of two points until the sleeping dogs woke up. 7:54 into the third period Karolat redeemed himself. Although he tried to get fancy on a breakaway, Karolat fooled Bear goalie John Krill when he fanned on his shot. A trickler went through Krill's legs and ruined his shutout bid.

"We finally got something to the net and it went in," moaned

McEwen, whose team only had 21 shots.

Indeed, the floodgates had opened. The Huskies pumped three more goals past Krill, including a short handed effort by Maurice Lemire against the conference's best powerplay.

"We were down and we fought back," McEwen said. "Anytime you quit you're a failure. We don't like to think we're failures."

The Bears kept their composure. Doug McCarthy scored the winning goal with less than five minutes remaining. He broke in on a two-on-one with Sid Cranston. "The defenceman stayed in right between us enough. I didn't look at Sid. I was just watching the defenceman. I decided to shoot when I was too close," said McCarthy. His first shot was blocked, but McCarthy's second drive beat Nogier.

"The previous shift I got riled

because a guy punched me in the face," McCarthy stated. It gave him extra incentive to go out and score a goal. "We had total control of the game for two and a half periods. They scored four goals when they out hit us. So the coaches just told us to pick up our intensity." Pick it up they did. Wes Craig put the icing on the cake 16 seconds later with his 30th goal of the season.

The Bears entered the game two points behind division-leading Calgary and six points ahead of the Huskies. The Huskies, meanwhile, were just four points on top of Manitoba. "It's time we started winning these games," McEwen declared. "Now we're just grabbing for a playoff spot." **BEAR FACTS:** About 600 fans took in the action...Guy Paradis, who had two assists, was the third star.

They may not have been convincing victories, but Stacey Wakabayashi, the west's leading scorer, will take them. After five years in the conference, he knows how much it takes to beat a team like Saskatchewan.

"They were really close games," said Wakabayashi, "I really have a lot of respect for them. They play with the same amount of work ethic as we do."

Alberta 6 Sask. 4

1st Period

1. Alta. Wakabayashi 28 (Couture, Cranston) 17:38
Penalties: McLellan, S 2:54, Gall, S 8:15, Cranston, A, Lloyd, S 13:47, Craig, A 17:46

2nd Period

2. Alta. Cox 6 (Cranston, Tarasuk) 6:00
3. Alta. Cranston 13 6:38, sh
4. Alta. Thibodeau 3 (Paradis, Yewchuk) 12:38
Penalties: Cox, A 3:50, Craig, A 6:25, P. Beauschesne, S 9:06, G. Beauschesne, S 12:54, Morrison, A 14:14, McKechney, S 15:12, Couture, A 18:37, Herbers, A 19:32

3rd Period

5. Sask. Karolat 10 (Shutter, P. Beauschesne) 7:54
6. Sask. Shutter 9 (Karolat, McKechney) 9:53
7. Sask. Lemire 5 (Shutter) 11:44
8. Sask. Gall 15 (Prefontaine, Lier) 12:58

9. Alta. McCarthy 17 (Paradis) 15:03
10. Alta. Craig 23 (Glasgow, Morrison) 15:19
Penalties: Draper, A, Pogany, S 2:12, G. Beauschesne, S 3:00, Couture, A, Pogany, S 7:11, Lloyd, S 10:14, Morrison, A 15:56, G. Beauschesne, S 19:46

Shots on Goal:

SASK 6 8 7 - 21
ALTA 12 15 14 - 41
Goalies: Nogier, S. Krill, A

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WARNING: U OF A STUDENTS

On Tuesday night I was looking for something to do more exciting than 'the usual' and ended up at The American Bar. I recognized a lot of U. of A. buddies there so I decided to investigate. No wonder, first you get a \$3 coupon, then throughout the night it's 2 for \$2.50. What a deal eh!

The next thing I noticed were a bunch of HOT BODIES going up on the stage. Of course I'm not into that sort of thing, but I must say the blonde on the right was too hot!

I happened to enter a contest for a trip to The Grammys. Ya, THE GRAMMIES! All you need is some glittery duds because it includes almost everything else, airfare, hotel accommodation, a welcoming party at The China Club, transportation to and from The Grammys, a tour of Universal Studios, and last but not least, a farewell party at The Hard Rock Cafe. The draw is tonight (Tuesday, Feb. 7), so let's make a deal right here, if I win I'll bring you and if you win, you take me. I'll be the one clutching my collectors' edition Wayne Newton album for good luck (I wonder if he'll be there?).

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