

Improving Bears run into Huskies wall

by Alan Small
Huskies 3 Bears 1
Huskies 3 Bears 0

The Golden Bears volleyball team had their hands full with a big Saskatchewan Huskies squad last weekend, and overall it turned out to be a real up and down experience for Alberta.

On Friday, the Bears came up with their best performance of the year in a 3-1 loss to the third ranked Huskies. The scores were 12-15, 15-7, 6-15, 14-16. Steve Kentel led the Bears with 19 kills and 5 stuff blocks, and was by far the most outstanding Bear on the court.

"His passing was outstanding," said head coach Pierre Baudin. "With our short team, we have to

pass well to set up our quick offense. If our passing is poor, we end up having our six-foot hitters against their six-foot-four blockers, and usually two of them."

The Huskies were led by Brock Blomquist, who had sixteen kills for the flatlanders.

"We shouldn't have lost the fourth game," Baudin said, "we blew the last two points and the game. But we played well. If we played that well against UBC and Calgary (two previous losses), we would have won them both."

The second game ended up to be the "downer" of the road trip. After brooding around the hotel all afternoon, the team came out flat and lost three straight 6-15, 4-15,

8-15. "I'll shoulder the blame for not getting them up for the game," Baudin admitted. "It's a situation I had never faced before."

In the second match, Dean Weller led the Bears with 12 kills. Blomquist led Saskatchewan again with 18 kills, while Brad Danyk chipped in 12 more in the lopsided Huskies victory.

"Maybe next time I'll get them in a light practice that day to get them up for the game," Baudin said.

The Bears are now 2-4 going into the Christmas break. They still play all other teams twice so it's not time to panic yet. The conference is very competitive at the moment, with the top four teams being very

competitive. Victoria and Lethbridge seem to be the weak sisters in Canada West.

They may be close, but Saskatchewan is still the team to beat in the conference, as they have won all of their six matches so far.

Bear Pause — The **North-Am Tournament** takes place this coming weekend at **Varsity Gym**, with mainly senior teams competing... a team from **Calgary** could be a team to watch, as they have some ex-national squad members on their club... action starts at **5:30 Friday**

afternoon... the **Pandas** dropped a pair of 0-3 matches to the U of S women's team. Their record is now a sub-par 1-5 in Canada West play.

Volleyball

Men	MW	ML	GW	GL	P
Saskatchewan	6	0	18	3	6
Calgary	4	1	12	6	4
British Columbia	3	2	10	8	3
Alberta	2	4	9	12	2
Victoria	1	4	6	13	1
Lethbridge	0	5	2	15	0

continued from p. 13

Lethbridge had possession of the ball with 22 seconds left.

Having only to run the clock out, the Pronghorns made a fatal error when Panda forward Zofia Yeomans stole the ball with six seconds left and made a mad dash for the

Lethbridge hoop. Her lay-up attempt failed, but she drew a foul and was awarded the potentially game-tying foul shots. She could only hit one of them, though, and the final score read Lethbridge 58, Alberta 57.

Lisa Janz scored 21 points for Alberta, while Yeomans had 16 and Kathy Keats had 14.

Although this recurring nightmare would be tough for anyone to handle, the Pandas seemed undaunted on Sunday as they came out and crushed the hapless UBC Thunderbirds 64-36.

"We were upset about the loss to Lethbridge," said head coach Diane Hilko, "but we knew we had to put it behind us and come back and play our game."

Come back they did, as three Pandas (Kathy Keats with 17 points, Lisa Janz with 12, Yeomans with 10), hit for double figures on the day.

The weekend's results leaves Alberta with a 6-6 record going into the Christmas break. Even with a .500 record the Pandas have looked promising in preseason play. Their only bad loss has come at the hands of the defending national champion U of Toronto Blues, and they have shown that they can play with their tough Canada West Conference opposition.

"We're starting to work well as a team," said Hilko, "and we've seen the other contenders in the league (Calgary, Lethbridge, and Victoria) and we know we can do well against them."

Best of all, the one question mark the Pandas had at the beginning of the year, that of having no clear-cut guard to fill the shoes of the departed Shelaine Kozakovich, seems to have been answered. Second year Aggie Michelle Durand had taken over as quarterback and is now in charge of all of Alber-

ta's major ball handling assignments.

"She's just doing a fabulous job at the point," adds Hilko. "She runs our offense and leads our defense. She is improving with every game."

The Pandas don't play again until January 2nd when they will travel east to play in the McGill Tournament in Montreal. This should give them an adequate workout before the real test begins on January 10th in Saskatoon as conference play begins.

Panda Potshots — **Kathy Keats** was the lone Alberta representative on the tournament **All-Star** team... that marks the second week in a row she has received that honor. Her and **Lisa Janz** were named to the tournament **All-Star** team last weekend in **Saskatoon**... Alberta shot a solid 45% from the floor but an abysmal 54% from the line against the Pronghorns... Winner of the "Quote-to-Start-the-Bad-Blood-Flowing" Award is Lethbridge coach **Cal O'Brien**, with his classic "It should not have been that close" following the Panda game.

Nominations invited for Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Teaching Awards

In the interests of recognizing excellence in teaching and to encourage teaching of the highest quality, the Faculty of Arts gives up to three Undergraduate Teaching Awards annually. The Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Teaching Awards Committee is interested in receiving nominations for this award. Permanent staff with at least five years of full-time teaching experience are eligible. Nominations can be made by students, colleagues and/or department chairpersons. Because each department is permitted only one nomination and documentation is required, interested persons should discuss possible nominations with the appropriate department chairperson. The deadline is January 16, 1987. The Faculty committee also selects from the nominations it receives the Faculty of Arts' nominees for the University's Rutherford Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

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