



DARRELL LEBLANC BEATS ED LEPP  
... the second of four goals in Saturday's game

—George Yackulic photo

# Bears defeat Huskies to clinch Hardy Cup

By RICHARD VIVONE

Take two fine goaltenders, smother with some prolific goal scorers and add a pinch of defence. Mix well.

This is the recipe which brought the western title to Varsity Arena for the 26th time in 31 years.

The Golden Bears defeated the University of Saskatchewan Huskies 6-1 and 4-1 in Bearland last weekend to clinch the Hardy Cup.

The Huskies were the only club with a mathematical chance of catching the Bears. Two victories for the visitors would have severely rocked the Bear boat.

The weekend action concluded hockey action at Varsity Arena for the WCIAA season and left our club with a perfect 6-0 record at home and a slightly blemished 5-1 record on the road.

The Bears had their work cut out as the Huskies are a big, hustling hockey club who like to throw their weight around but they need a little polish around the net to be a solid threat.

Bears' Hugh Waddle and Husky goaler Ed Lepp waged a sensational war for fifty minutes Friday until the Bruin snipers opened up and cracked the Husky armour three times in the final ten minutes.

Waddle was particularly outstanding in the first twenty minutes Friday taking goals from Brian Randall and Dale Fairbrother before Wayne Statham's power-play penetration at 19:57.

The lead was short lived as Austin Smith embraced a Brian Harper pass and pulled the trigger at the 56 second mark of the middle frame.

Then Wilf Martin personally settled the issue. The WCIAA scoring leader stole the puck at the Bear blueline and went in alone at 13:26.

Just two minutes later, when the Albertans seemed unable to take advantage of a manpower situation, Martin wheeled at centre ice and mixing dekes and speed, superbly eluded the entire Husky ice brigade to notch number 17 and put the Bears two goals up.

Brian Harper wrapped the contest up at 8:08 of the final session. Burly Mike Ballash unleashed a blistering slap shot that caromed off the post to Harper's obliging stick.

Only seconds earlier, Doug Fox had drifted one off the other pillar.

Fox's first and Smith's second finished the Bear output.

The win sewed-up the western title. Despite the good season, coach Clare Drake commented, "We're not as consistent as I'd like. The boys are going to have to play better in Sudbury to win. They've played well in conference games but have let down against the Oil Kings. We should win our share of games with them but we don't."

Drake emphasized that he wanted three periods of hockey out of

the players. Bear fans are aware of what happened in the Oil King game last Wednesday when the Bears literally died in the last period.

Saturday afternoon Bob Wolfe was the villain as he broke Husky hearts early and often. Lepp was equally sensational at the other end again.

Martin's superb checking prowess accounted for the first Bear goal at 5:46 of the opening stanza. Husky defenceman Jim Brown was the unwilling accomplice as he allowed Martin to heist the puck at centre ice and cruise in unmolested.

Ten minutes later, Huskies' Jim Wright slipped through the Bear rearguard and beat Wolfe cleanly.

From here on, the Bear netminder guarded his cage like a miser hoarding gold coins.

Darrell LeBlanc tallied his 12th of the year, Harper his 16th and Martin his 19th in slaying the Huskies. Martin's goal total is one shy of the record held by Bear Vern Pachal in 1958. He also chalked up a record shattering 37 points.

### Short Shots

Doug Fox expressed displeasure at his own play. "Just can't skate anymore" grimaced the redhead... Mike Ballash had a good series on the Bear blueline... Many Bears were impressed with the play of Huskies' Wayne Statham... Hugh Twa will return for the Oil King game at the Gardens Thursday at 8:30... Gordon Jones has been playing for a month on an ankle swathed in bandage. The injury is enough to keep most players in civies... Team manager Art Hooks admits to a casualty list as long as his arm... Ballash was really belted by Randall Saturday.

## Oldtimers fly high at weekend

The alumni have come and gone. The old, old grads took to the ice as advertised but failed to display any signs of antiquity. Even old Nick Melnyk (class of '28) got around with vigour and vim.

Melnyk, fortified with a colourful toque and plenty of energy, even got a penalty for rough play.

Some of the oldtimers such as Bill Dockery ('52) and Don Stanley ('40) could be hearing from Nugget boss Ken MacAuley in the near future. These guys really looked that good.

The Green club battered the Gold to the tune of 7-4.

Harry Mandry, Dave Ellis, Don Stanley, Harry Irving, Ron Donnelly, Clare Drake and Leroy Field provided the winning margin for the Greens.

Doug Ringrose and Bill Dockery got two each for the Gold team.

Ringrose, Stanley and Jim Fleming were chosen as the stars by a competent panel of judges.

The young, old grads played to a 3-3 stalemate.

Stu Bailey, Ian Baker, and Jim Fleming scored for the Greens while Mike Laschuk, Leigh MacMillan and Ted Scherban were Gold marksmen.

The entire event was a great success and indications are this will be an annual gathering.

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