



UBC goalie Vic Lemire had lots of help in the goal crease Friday, as Thunderbirds beat the Golden Bears 6-5 in the second period of overtime. Bears bounced back for a 5-4 decision Saturday.

SPORTS

Pandas short of .500

Debbie Shogan went home to Saskatchewan last weekend but the Huskiettes weren't on the welcoming committee. They dropped Debbie's struggling Pandas for the third and fourth times this season and sent her squad back to Edmonton with yet another injured ankle to add to the list.

"I'm not too concerned about beating my former coach," commented Coach Shogan before the Friday game, "but we're aiming to better Panda showings in recent years and finish with a 50% average."

Fresh off an exhilarating annihilation of the lowly lady Pronghorns from Lethbridge, the Pandas started strong on Friday and jumped into an early 18-8 lead.

Amanda Holloway led the charge and was into double figures before the halftime break. The tiring Pandas sagged in the late going, however managed to hang on to a one point lead to start the second twenty minutes.

They quickly enlarged that to five points and appeared to be on their way to an upset in the first minute of the second half. By the ten minute mark, however, they found themselves down 45-37 with top scorer Holloway on the bench with ankle problems.

The slide had begun at 16:37 when Nora Way fouled out but the injury to Holloway was the straw that broke the Panda's back.

From that point on there were individual spurts from Charlotte Shmyr and Deena

Mitchell but the Huskiettes defense proved too strong for the exhausted Alberta starters. Karen Kusler turned in a tremendous performance for the winners with 18 points and 14 rebounds while fine Donna Colburn played excellent defense while filling in for fouling Judy Seaman.

Saturday night, things went from bad to worse for the Pandas. Amanda started the game but was obviously affected by the injury and could only manage 6 points and a comparatively weak defensive performance. Trailing 35-13 at the half, Shmyr had managed only one point while Valerie Kallis and Nora Way added four each.

By the time the horn went to end the game, there were three Huskiettes in double figures including Kusler, who had picked up where she'd left off on Friday with another 14 points.

The final score was 58-43 as the Pandas held their own in the second half with an 8 point performance by Deena Mitchell. Nora Way finished the game with 9 points, which was good enough to top the Panda scoring.

"The key to the first game was when Nora Way fouled out," added coach Shogan who was generally displeased with the officiating. "With a weakened bench, we can't afford to lose a key performer like Nora in a tight game."

The Pandas are now 7 for 18 and cannot hit the .500 mark this year.

by Randy Lennon

UA, UBC split couple of thrillers

by Cam Cole

It was a 133-minute roller coaster ride that didn't want to stop. The Golden Bears and UBC Thunderbirds waged two heart-thumping battles at Varsity Arena this weekend, and gave the fans more to shout about than the ten previous home games combined.

UBC 6 - Bears 5

Friday's see-saw gripper had more turning points than a third-rate soap opera.

UBC played just like a team fighting for a playoff spot should play, and the teams were so evenly matched for the better part of the contest that the difference may have been desire. Certainly BC had more at stake than did the Bears.

"Actually, I thought we played very well, considering we've already wrapped up first place," said losing coach Clare Drake - and Bears did display a lot of pride.

Four times they overcame one-goal deficits (and even pulled ahead at one point), but T-Birds were not to be denied, and sunk Alberta for good at 3:40 of the second overtime.

X-C Skiing

The Golden Bear Cross-Country Ski team fared well at the Tete Jaune Cache Races held at Tete Jaune during the weekend. The race course, situated near Valemount, B.C. in the Caribou Mountains, tested the technical skills of all the racers.

In the womens 6 kilometre race, Faye McLeod (U of A) placed 2nd behind Anita Pettersen of the B.C. Winter Games Team.

For the men's 15 kilometre event, Jim Brohman placed 4th with a time of 52 minutes 30 seconds. Jim Heron placed 6th with 58.32, and Dave Pors placed 8th with 61.40.

The winning time of 46.07 was achieved by Rolf Pettersen of the B.C. squad.

period, after the teams had exchanged goals in the first (not sudden death) session.

Steve McKnight tied the score at 4-4 with just 8 seconds left in regulation, to put the game into overtime.

Bears had to fight great goaltending all night from both Vic Lemire and Dave Andrews (who blocked 14 shots before sustaining a 5-stitch cut on the chin in the first period.)

Alberta started off typically, outshooting BC 19-6 in the first 20 minutes, but found themselves down 1-0. Sean Boyd's soft 30-footer eluded a shaky Dale Henwood late in the period.

Jim Ofrim banged in a rebound early in the second, but T-Birds' Bill Ennos stuffed a sharp-angle shot in on the short side, and BC led again going into the third.

Ross Barros' blooming slapshot beat Lemire before fans were settled in their seats, and a good 25-foot blast from Abby Hebert put Alberta ahead briefly, but BC's Brian Penrose tied it at 3-3 a minute later. Then T-Bird Jim Lawrence scored what everyone (except the Bears) thought would be the winner at the 18 minute mark.

But Alberta kept winning faceoffs, Drake pulled Henwood for another forward, and McKnight's tip-in of a fine pass from John Simkin at 19:52 nearly tore the roof off Varsity Arena.

Arnie Pederson and Howie Crosley traded goals in the first over-time period, and BC winger Keith Tindle outguessed John Simkin at Bears' blueline, and then beat Henwood low on the stick side to end the match.

UBC head man Dr. Bob Hindmarch just shook his head in amazement when it was over. "That Drake has to be a great, great coach," he raved, "some of the things he pulls off... just fantastic."

He summed up proceedings pretty well, too. "It was just one hell of a hockey game."

Bears 5 - UBC 4

Hindmarch also said one more thing after Friday's game - he said, "Ross Barros, is the best player in the whole darn league, forward or defense, he's just great."

He must have drawn a little consolation from the fact that his claim was confirmed Saturday afternoon. Barros was the outstanding individual on the ice, notching three assists in Bears' 5-4 victory.

He and defence-mate Brian Middleton have been suffering the effects of a terrible slump since Christmas.

"Points and I just don't see eye to eye anymore," says Middleton, who had 17 points in his first 13 games this season, but has only 20 now, 9 games later.

Barros has pulled back into a share of the league scoring lead, with teammate John Horcoff.

Brian DeBiasio and Sean Boyd gave UBC an early 2-0 lead, Clark Jantzie replied for Alberta in the middle frame, and once again Bears were down at the end of two periods.

Rick Peterson sacrificed himself to a going-over by T-Bird Rod Hare late in that period, and Hare drew two minor penalties. When Bruce Brill took a high-sticking call at the one-minute mark of the final session, Alberta had the opportunity to get back in the game.

Oliver Steward tied the score at 2-2, and then Bears erupted with three more in less than three minutes. Jantzie, Peterson, and Craig Styles tallied to give Alberta a comfortable 5-2 margin, but DeBiasio and Keith Tindle quickly made it 5-4, and Bears were hard pressed to hang on for the victory.

The loss, coupled with Calgary's 4-0 and 7-4 decisions over Saskatchewan Huskies, left UBC just 2 points up on the Dinos.

In the two remaining regular-schedule games, Calgary and BC meet head-on, while Bears are in Saskatoon.

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The team is coached by Ron Senda, managed by Robin McDaniels, and includes team members Neil Lessly, Jim Rogers, Bob Truman, Keith Taylor, Jim Douglas, Bruce Nikiforo, and Lyle Sakamoto.

Playoffs just around corner

When the Bears are finished in Saskatoon on Saturday, there will be no more road trips this year. If they keep on winning, they keep on having home games. If they lose in the post-season, they're out.

Their first test will be against the 2nd-place team in the CWUAA (Calgary or UBC) at Varsity Arena, February 21, 22 and 23rd. Tickets for games in that series go on sale today at SUB Info Desk, PE General Office, Mackenzie Hall desk, Mike's, and at McCauley Plaza. Adults - \$2.00, Students and Children - \$1.00. All seats are unreserved.

Subsequent series will be (if Bears keep winning) against winners of Great Plains Conference, Quebec Conference, and the Eastern Conference.

The CIAU Championship (against Eastern winners) will be on March 14, 15, and 16th. Prices for that series at \$3.00 and \$2.00.