

Horwood takes Bear road show to sun cities

by Randal Smathers
 The basketball Bears need a new theme song—Willie Nelson's "On the Road Again."
 Just back from a weekend tour of beautiful downtown Saskatoon, the boys are back on the plane this weekend. First stop will be Victoria, then California and Hawaii on a gruelling tour of gyms and beaches and stuff.

"If we're not too beat up, we have a chance to be respectable."
 — Horwood

Coach Don Horwood would have liked a better send-off than the one he received last weekend, as the U of S Huskies took both games against the Bears. The scores were 87-68 and 77-68.

"They outplayed us, beat us badly," said Horwood of the Friday game. "On Saturday we played extremely well, without Scott McIntyre." McIntyre has a twisted knee, and is also doubtful for next weekend in at U Vic. "We need him (McIntyre) to battle inside," said Horwood.

Horwood said that more patience on offence and keeping the ball away from the Huskies' big men were the keys to the Bears improved showing in the second game. The Bears led 39-32 at the half, but the home team caught them with a minute left.

Horwood admitted that even a healthy squad would be in tough against U of S. "We had a chance to win (going in), that's the kind of position we like to be in. They are a very good team," he said.

Looking ahead, the Bears open the tournament in Victoria against Seattle U. "They're kind of like Lewis & Clark," said Horwood. His team gassed a close one here to Lewis & Clark State earlier in the year.

A win would likely match them against perennial Canada West nightmare-makers Victoria, who are bigger, and presumably better, than last year. They have seven footer Cord Clemens back from the National team this year. Lethbridge is the other team in the tournament. Their personnel is essentially the same as last year's last place squad, just a year better. The Bears split two games with the Horns earlier this year.

Next Sunday, the team heads for Lotus land south, where they face Cal Santa Barbara on Monday night.

UCSB is currently third in their division, behind Cal Fullerton and the UNLV Runnin' Rebels. Fullerton beat up the Bears in last year's Sun Tour, both physically and on the board (83-50).

Horwood sounds less than confident. "If we're not too beat up, we

have a chance to be respectable," he said.

Friday, November 20 will see the guys in Hawaii, where they take on the U of Hawaii, then the next night they go up against Hawaii Pacific College. Horwood says the latter team will "probably be better" than

U of H.

The trip is funded by guarantees from the host schools, who then make up the money at the gate.

Last year, Horwood was quoted as saying that his team was "learning a few lessons." We assume they'll study hard this time, too.



Bear forward Sam Safadi covers a Lewis-Clark dribbler. They'll face more American competition in the next week.

Let's step outside

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 personally take a bomb and...er,
 rather kick the, uh...mildly slap —

or perhaps feebly poke at...I'll at least make damn sure one of you gets a vicious prank call with obscene threats of, uh, make that a really, slang filled, darn witty put down, uh...well for sure I'll picket outside your house for a good, solid, uh, day, well at least MY house for, uh, a couple hours... maybe, I'll, why I'll... OK look, for sure I'll think a little less of all of you!
 But seriously, ease up eh? Only

cowards throw stones at sinking ships, right? Unfortunately your stones are so big now that even the shields of the new Enterprise might not be able to deflect them. Do you really want to point. Besides, I gotta go start an essay that was due a month ago Tuesday. For now, let's be as positive as possible, enjoy the playoffs, and discuss the league's problems another time. Who's havin' the Grey Cup party this year anyway?

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