

SPORTS

Open letter

Bearcats to get boot?

As manager of what probably is one of the finest junior varsity Bearcats hockey teams this university has seen, I feel largely responsible for the lack of coverage and public support this team richly deserves but has not received. Recently, I was asked by a *Gateway* staff member why it was that these guys were out here busting their asses nearly every day but never have game coverage in the paper.

I realized that as co-managers Frank Smith and I were probably neglecting one of the more important aspects of our job. Even the humblest of souls on a team, whether he admits it or not, delights in the applauding of his efforts.

It is sad to see that the university, one of the largest city-contained communities, provides such meagre fan support especially in contrast to the 200-300 fan load present in much smaller arenas such as Jasper Place, Stoney Plain or Leduc. I'm sure I needed no more than both hands and feet to tally the supporters we have had at each game and even, then, most of these are girlfriends and parents of the players.

This Friday at 8:30, Bearcats are playing what could be their last game in the city Junior BB league. In 7 league games thus far, their record stands at 7-wins and no losses. They have averaged no less than 12 goals in each of these games.

This has led the Junior BB Executive Committee to politely ask if the team would consider bowing out of the league because they are simply too strong for their competition. Although the committee has the final say, they have asked Bearcat team members and coach Dick Wintermute for their opinions of the matter.

It is unfortunate that the very tight budget makes it necessary for me to skulk around after practices and pilfer whatever equipment and supplies I can from the Seniors' dressing room and still make it go unnoticed. (By the way, Abby Herbert, I wish you would put smaller knobs on your sticks. It makes them top heavy and hard for me to slap-shot with.) It is more unfortunate yet that this budget restricts travel to immediate Edmonton communities.

The travel limitations choke the possibility of Bearcats joining the Alberta College League which would have provided a more exciting brand of hockey both for fans and players alike. A series of exhibition games with these teams might have provided the answer were it not for the fact that a 36-game schedule keeps the players busy enough as it is. Most team members also like to see an end for themselves which of course comes with going into provincial championships and possibly further.

This is why a series of exhibition games is unfavorable to most players. (At present, strong indications are that Bearcats will enter into an intermediate league if scheduling is convenient for the players to carry on studies as well as play hockey. Their playoff status is undecided as yet.)

I realize it is difficult for students to support all the teams the university sponsors but this Friday if you find two hours to blow I'm sure you will want to come out and see a winning team. Bring the kitchen sink (and the old lady too) and see why we call them "Ralphing Robert McVey," "Sloan the Knife," and "Uke Poplawski." I'm convinced a stronger home support would give these future senior Bears greater confidence, pride, and the desire to improve their efforts, providing you with another fine brand of university hockey.

Doug Merrill

Redmen, Huskies in Bowl

by Peter Best

It'll be McGill Redmen versus St. Mary's Huskies in the College Bowl this Saturday in Toronto.

Redmen and Huskies, respective champions of the Quebec and Atlantic Conferences won the right to compete for the Vanier Cup, symbolic of national supremacy, with two surprise victories last weekend.

Most people were expecting to see Manitoba Bisons and Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks reach the final. In recent years the Western champs have destroyed the Quebec winners and Ontario's best had treated the Maritimers similarly - witness Golden Bears' 58-6 crushing of Loyola and Waterloo Lutheran's (re-named Wilfred Laurier) 50-17 humbling of Huskies last season.

But last week it was a different story as Redmen beat Manitoba 16-0 in the Western Bowl in Winnipeg and Huskies came from behind to take Laurier 19-17 in Halifax's Atlantic Bowl.

McGill quarterback Uldis Auders (I just write the stories, I don't make jokes about names) led Redmen's offence that piled up 20 first downs and 395 yards total gains.

Auders used receivers Ross Brooks, Frank Dunn and Mike Goulet to gain 281 yards on passes.

Don Kelly kicked three field goals and a convert, and Brooks caught a five-yard touchdown pass for Redmen's points.

Bisons, playing their third game in eight days because of a play-for the western title, were held to 10 first 111 yards total offence.

McGill's cause was aided when Bison quarterback Bud Harden left the game with an ankle injury early in the second quarter and back-up Francis Puchalski had to finish the game.

In Halifax Laurier's wishbone offence appeared to have enough power to win as they led 17-10 after three quarters. Running backs Fred Mclean and Chuck McMann scored touchdowns for Hawks, and Gary Mueller added two converts and a field goal to complete their scoring.

But a touchdown pass from Bill Robinson to tight end Steve Telfer plus Ken Clark's convert and field goal had kept Huskies within reach and the defence got tough when it was needed to shut out the wishbone in the last period.

At the 8:25 mark of the fourth quarter Huskies' defence forced Hawks' Ted Passmore to concede a safety touch and then an eight-yard Robinson-to-Clark touchdown pass with 2:40 left to play put the Nova Scotia school in the College Bowl.

CBC television will broadcast the national championship beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday.



Intramurals

On Nov. 17th, the SUB games room was invaded by 94 girls. They left 4 hours later having added only a few minor dents to the bowling lanes and shooting only one cue ball onto the floor.

Out of the bowling emerged a top team with Yvonne Young (Lower Kelsey) and Betty Hall and Rita Pasical (Pharmacy). Mary Jane Henning was the individual who rolled out the best score of 563.

In billiards a Lower Kelsey team Marion Simpson and Marianne Hodge established a reputation as unbeatable pool sharks.

Women's Intramurals will be busy again this coming Saturday with the favorite tournament of paddleball being run from 1-5 p.m. at the P.E. building.

However the event everyone should sign up for is the Novelty Swim Meet Nov. 29th at 7 p.m. at the West Pool. It is bigger and better than ever with events designed for swimmers and non-swimmers. A sample of some events are the cracker relay, interpretation dive and dry man race. Come out to swim, dive or watch. You will 'drown' laughing!

Keeping fit

For the first time, Women's Intramurals is offering a Keep-fit Program to be held every Friday from noon until 1 p.m. in the West Gym of the Physical Education and Recreation Complex Center. The program will be in operation until the end of the winter session.

The instructor for the series will be Claude Moulin - a graduate student in the Faculty of Physical Education.

Miss Moulin who is French received her Bachelor of Physical Education and a Diploma from the National College of Physical Education in Sport, will be returning to Paris VIII or Vincennes University in Paris at the end of the winter session where she hopes to take up teaching at the graduate level.

STAFF MEETING

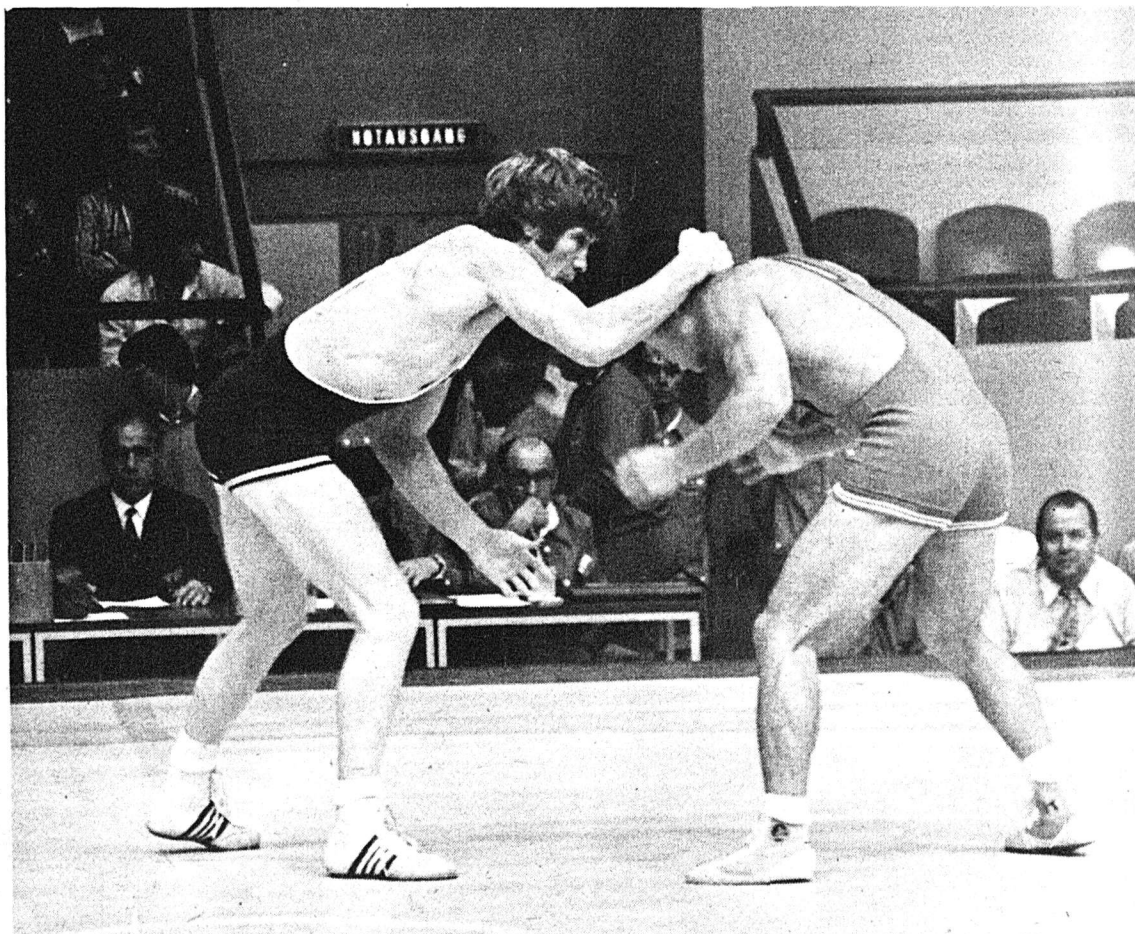
Thursday

night

room 282 SUB

6:30

Athletes in Action



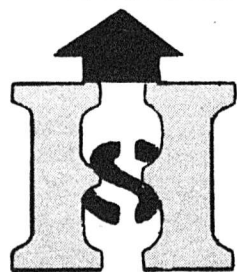
Athletes In Action, an international-level wrestling team, will be here this Monday, Nov 26 to compete against the Golden Bears in the Main Gym of the Phys Ed building. Gary Davis (pictured here in the black suit) competed in the 1972 Olympics in Munich and coaches the team. It promises to be an exciting evening with some excellent athletes in action (sorry I couldn't resist). The meet starts at 8 p.m.

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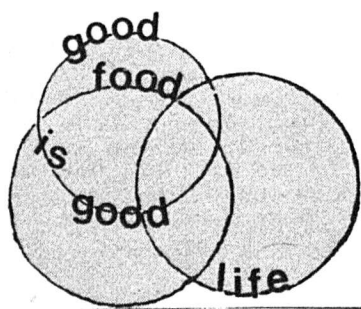


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