

ITS AN EXCITING YEAR FOR UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL
... and there are even brighter days coming

Larry Nowak—experience a key One of Mitchelson's triumvirate of big men

By Ron Ternoway

At 20 Larry Nowak is already a veteran.

On a young ball club like the Golden Bears' three years' experience with the team makes you an old-timer.

A most useful old-timer, however.

Larry's experience and natural ability have combined to make him one of the most important men on Barry Mitchelson's Bruins.

At 6'6" he is one of Mitchelson's triad of giants and counted on heavily to help guide the Bears to the playoffs and beyond.

The first-string centre for the squad, Larry's obvious advantage is his height.

Height alone does not make a basketball player, though. Larry is also an aggressive player and has a lot of desire. He is an excellent rebounder and thrives on tough inside play. His favorite shot is the jump shot from the head of the key, but more often than not you will find him setting up plays from that position.

"I like to feed the ball," he said. "Seeing a teammate sink an uncontested shot because of a pass gives me as much satisfaction as making the shot myself."

Although starting off very well this year Larry was the victim of a post-Christmas slump. As he put it, "Things weren't going too well,

and studies started to get me down. That seems to have passed and I feel pretty good right now."

Mitchelson was also concerned about Larry's lacklustre play. "For us to win it is important that Larry play well. He simply hasn't been playing up to his potential in the last few games. From the games in Helena I think he's coming out of it, though," he said.

Of the three Bear teams he's been on, Larry feels that this year's is the strongest. "We're at least as good as last season's squad," he said. "Dick (DeKlerk) is playing some of his best ball ever, and with Paul (Pomietlarz) coming along, I think we are finally starting to pull together."

And what of next season? If all goes well Larry will be back for his fourth season with the Golden Ones, taking an after degree education route. He hopes to teach high school and, for some strange reason, coach basketball.

Bears at home

The Bears open the 1970 section of their home schedule this weekend. Tonight they take on the always dangerous Victoria Vikings (4-5) who dumped the Bruins 78-70 on their home court. Tomorrow evening the UBC Thunderbirds, breezing along at the top of the Western Canada Intercollegiate Basketball League with an 8-0 record, fly into town to play Mitchelson's Bruins. Al-

berta is currently in third place behind UBC and the University of Manitoba Bisons (7-2) with a 5-3 won-lost record.

Mitchelson will have his team healthy for the first time since Christmas. Rookie forward Brian Johnson has recovered from a sprained ankle, and first stringers Bob Morris and Larry Nowak are over severe colds.

Action tonight and tomorrow is slated for Varsity Gym. Game times are 8 p.m. both nights.

BASKETBALL

	GP	W	L	GBL
UBC	8	8	0	—
Manitoba	9	7	2	1½
Alberta	8	5	3	3
Victoria	8	4	4	4
Winnipeg	9	4	5	4½
Calgary	9	4	5	4½
Sask.	9	3	6	5½
Regina	9	2	7	6½
Lethbridge	9	2	7	6½

Hint of the week

In an effort to equalize the importance of most sports on campus, Gateway Sports will present hint of the week on various sports throughout the coming weeks. Watch for them!

This week's hint is for all chess buffs:

KP-KP4

University track squad alive with activity as Alberta prepares to host WCIAA final meet

Although the fields are blanketed with snow except for the occasional track the University of Alberta Track and Field Team is certainly not dormant this winter.

The 25 member squad has trained determinedly seven days a week since September aiming for their ultimate goal, the Western Intercollegiate Athletic Association Track Meet. The meet will

be held here Feb. 7.

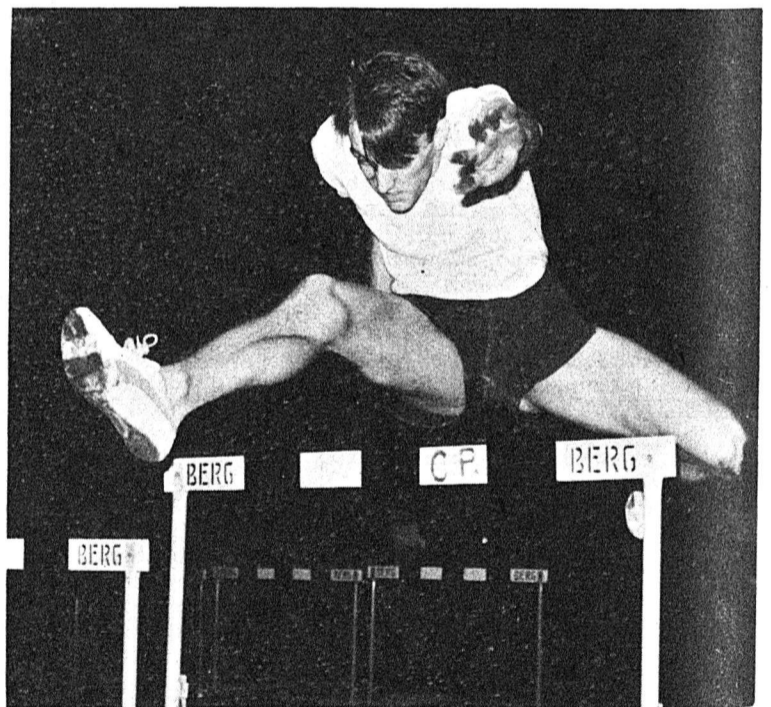
Each individual athlete has been improving on his own time, but the crew has also developed into a cohesive and enthusiastic group.

The coaches have been working hard organizing the meet and helping the members of the team in preparation for the big finale.

The Albertan squad, which finished a respectable fourth in last year's competition, will be hard pressed to improve their position in the coming meet.

Big hope for the Bears is Liz Vanderstam, who placed well in the high jump, long jump and 300 metres in recent meets in Calgary and Saskatoon. Others to watch include Bruce Lange, a freshman who shows great promise in the 500 metre distance, Dale Knudson in the 880 yard, and Geoff Watson in the 50 metre competition.

Other team members include Jerry Klapceki, John Dewar, Larry Brinker, Andy Fidoras, Dennis Campbell, and Brian Stackhouse.



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