

# e as an athletic and academic star

games, you learn to play 80 games in a season.

That's something in itself to learn; that is not an easy thing to do either. They're different leagues. They're different types of games. Talent wise it's very difficult to

being successful and knowing that you are going to be successful is back again. And that goes a long way. It comes with confidence and it comes a little bit from winning but it's there. That's the biggest similarity.



the best group since I've been with the team."

photos by Bill Inglee

compare. There's a little age difference at times.

I'm biased, I've always felt that the brand of hockey and the talent in the Canadian College League is far superior to the junior leagues.

**Gateway:** How would the Golden Bears compete against an American college hockey team?

**Peacocke:** I have no doubt that our team, this year, would compete very well against any American college team. Certainly it would be close and we might even beat those teams.

**Gateway:** In your five year tenure in college hockey, how have you seen Canadian college hockey change over those years?

**Peacocke:** It hasn't changed a lot. I suppose it's gone along the lines of all hockey in that we're starting to incorporate a more European style. A game with a lot more of a flow activity, a lot more speed rather than the rigid: stay in your lanes.

**Gateway:** If there was one aspect you could change in your league what would it be?

**Peacocke:** One thing that might improve it is to play more teams. It's certainly a challenge to play, as we do, each team eight times. It gets down to the point where it's really whoever is at the top of their game on that particular day is going to win. There's not really that many new surprises.

When you've played the team on the eighth game, they're not going to surprise you with anything new. I'm not sure on this, but I think that there is a proposal anyway to include GPAC (Great Plains Athletic Conference) next year in an interlocking schedule. That would be very beneficial just because it gives you a little change of pace.

Financially, I don't know how that works out. That's probably the biggest reason why we don't travel more — is the finances.

**Gateway:** With the team's record (15-3) being so good, how does this year's team compare with other Golden Bear teams, say the 79-80 championship team?

**Peacocke:** Very, very close. Again, and I've said it to other interviewers, that the big thing is attitude on the team. The attitude of

As far as ability goes and things that you technically; that's very hard to compare. To think back and match up players in terms of ability. I would say that this year, the new players on the team are easily the best group since I've been with the team.

We've got a fair number of new players and they've done just a fantastic job of picking things up very quickly and fitting in and playing very well. They've carried the team just as much as anybody.

**Gateway:** You have had two of the finest coaches in Canadian college hockey in Clare Drake and Bill Moores. Can you compare their styles and philosophies?

**Peacocke:** Yes, I can but it's a difficult question. Obviously I have a great deal of respect for both of them and they do have

different styles. Bill motivates in a different way than Clare Drake does. They both have individual strengths and they realize what their strengths are and they work towards that. Bill Moores wouldn't be successful trying to be a Clare Drake type of a coach and vice-versa. That's one of the reasons they were such a good combination, too.

As far as their knowledge goes, certainly Clare Drake is easily one of the most knowledgeable hockey men in the world. And Bill, having worked with him for seven years now, has picked up a lot of that. He is as much a student as anyone else and he has learned very well.

Technically, they are coming very close. Obviously the experience that Clare Drake has still puts him a little bit ahead of Bill. I know I can say that because I know Bill would totally agree with that. It's a tough question. If I would have disliked either one of them or thought that one of them was a poor coach — and I've had poor coaches in the past — then I'd tell you.

But they've been both very successful and I've enjoyed the years spent with both of them. I started with Bill in my first year and then had Clare for three years and now this year with Bill again.

It's been a real valuable experience for me because coaching is one of the areas I'm interested in. To have the chance to play for both of them has been extremely valuable.

**Gateway:** Do you play any differently in front of 500 fans as opposed to a full (2500) arena?

**Peacocke:** No, I don't personally. It's something that you learn not to do. In order to be consistent the crowd has very little to do with it. It's certainly a good feeling and this year has been far better than the last few years in that we've had 700, 800 as compared to 200. Still maybe not as much as you would like to see, it's obviously not as great as filling the arena.

It's very positive for the team as a whole when you start bringing in people because it means that you're generating some enthusiasm and you're creating some enjoyment for other people. At least we'd like to think that. The slight comeback we've made in terms of attendance, we feel very good about as a team. As far as individual performance and team performance it's great to have fans cheering.

I should mention that the Golden Bears Swim Team has just been great this year. That kind of enthusiasm and support is really valuable in terms more of after the game and how you feel about the team as a whole. It can get you through from rougher games.

**Gateway:** Does this year 1983-84, intend to be your last year as a member of the Golden Bear hockey team?

**Peacocke:** It's my last year of eligibility with the team. Certainly I don't have any five year plan for my life or anything like that. I have certain goals and objectives that I set for myself as far as I want to go in my future, but there's nothing specific.

If some type of an offer came along whether it was in Europe or wherever to play hockey in the future I would certainly consider it. I haven't totally decided that this will be my last year of hockey. There's probably more than a 50/50 chance that it will be. Again, it's something I haven't really thought about. If something comes up, I'll consider it.

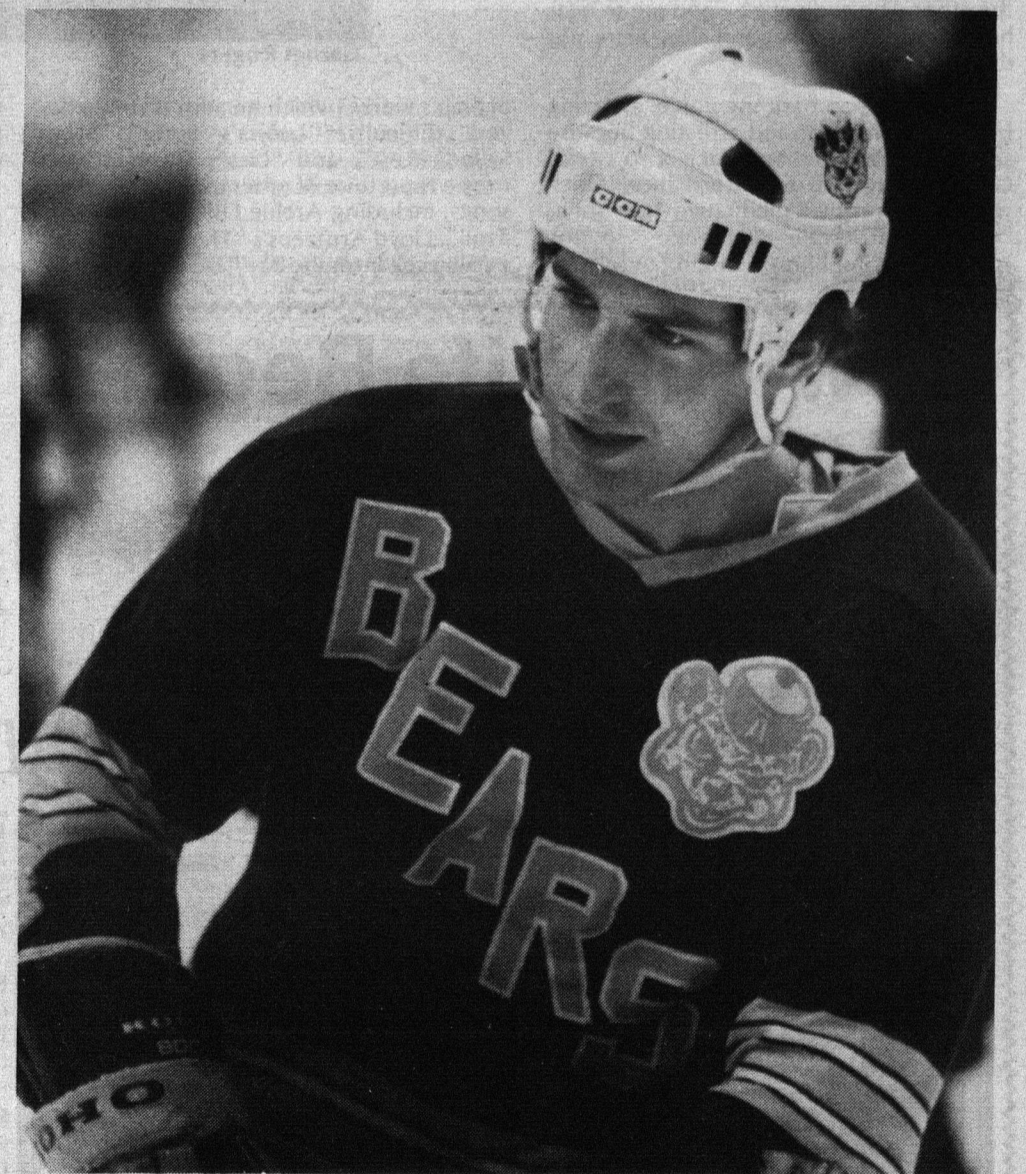
This year has been very positive and a real good year and I'd like to finish off on a real positive note.

**Gateway:** What was your most memorable moment as a college hockey player?

**Peacocke:** I think what's got to stand out is the national finals my first year because I was a rookie that year. It was a type of year where I had to come in and get hurt in training camp — my shoulder — and I was kind of on the bottom of the totem pole as far as playing goes. I felt I worked fairly hard and ended up playing a regular shift with that team that year. It was particularly exciting because we had gotten beat, in the Canada West final, by Calgary, and then got in as a wild card team. Just the whole feeling of being there, we were talking about sneaking in the "back-door".

That's the one single thing, if you had to pick one, that stands out. There's so many other little things that all add up.

Very often there's times where something happens in practise that is more meaningful, and more enjoyable than anything you do throughout the week or in a game. It all depends on the players and the situations.



"It's great to have the fans cheering."

**Super-huge-and-mighty-  
Important Gateway staff meeting on  
Thursday, February 16, room 282 SUB.  
Be there, or be circular.**

(Honest about this one)