



SPORTS



It's all tied in Canada West

Andrew Watts

The U of A Golden Bears hockey team gave their coaches an early Christmas present on Sunday: A 7-4 WIN OVER THE Calgary Dinosaurs in varsity arena.

The win created a three way tie for first place in the very tough Canada west conference, with Calgary and Saskatchewan.

It wasn't an artistic game but we were reasonably steady," commented coach Clare Drake.

In the process of the win the Bears established a number of firsts, the least of which being the fact that this was the first time in eight games that the team has beaten Calgary in Varsity arena.

"That wasn't really a jinx but it's still very nice," said Drake.

The Bears also got their first

short-handed goal of the season courtesy of Perry Zapernick. It was also the first time this season that Ace Brimacombe has scored the first goal against Calgary and the Bears have not gone on to lose the contest. Ace picked up his second goal of the game in the first period but couldn't get the hat trick despite some chances.

"Oh boy, I can't buy a hat trick," he laughed, "but at least we won, we really needed that one."

Both teams looked a little listless at times in the game but the Bears prevailed on their strong fore-checking running the Dinos into near panic at times. The Bears for their part were fairly composed in their own end although coach Drake felt that

they were a little more disorganized than in recent games.

"Well, maybe we coaches are little too critical at times," he added.

The Bears got on the scoreboard first at 4:28 of the first period on a powerplay when Ace Brimacombe took a Jim Lomas pass and beat Dinos goalie Royce Hopkins. Joel Elliot made it 2-0 at the 9:25 mark before Darrin Halasz got the Dinos first goal. Brimacombe regained the two goal lead for the Bears at the 16:36 point when he beat Hopkins on the short side from the far edge of the face-off circle.

In the second period Perry Zapernick got his short-handed effort when he stole the puck at the Dinos blueline and beat

Hopkins cleanly. Eric Miller scored for the Dinosaurs but Joel Elliot replied with his second of the night at 17:59 on a pretty give and go with Jim Lomas.

Calgary closed the gap to 5-3 early in the third when Rick Brink caught Bears goalie Terry Clark off guard with a slapshot from just inside the blueline. Breen Neeser put the game out of reach with a goal at the 6:10 mark. Ron Parent made it 7-3 and also drove Hopkins from the net at 8:15. Mike Parsons replaced him. Damien Steiert scored the fourth goal for the Dinosaurs.

With a little less than three minutes remaining the scoreboard and buzzer broke down and the game ended with Forrest Kennard shouting out, "That's game!" An

interesting way to end an interesting first third of the Golden Bears season.

Bear Facts

Ace Brimacombe moved up a notch to number seventeen on the list of all-time Bear leading scorers. Ryan Wilson did not play the last two periods due to a charley horse injury he suffered on Friday night in an exhibition game in Bonneyville. The Bears now begin a month long Christmas break before they travel to Saskatchewan on Jan. 8-9. The three stars for the Bears in Su days game as chosen by this reporter are:

1. Ace Brimacombe
2. Joel Elliot
3. Dan Henes

Pandas reach finals and Bears lose two

In a basketball tournament down in Calgary on the weekend the Pandas won two games to reach the finals but unfortunately came up a little short losing to the U of Winnipeg 63-54. But considering the fact that earlier in the year the team were blown out by 31 points by the same Winnipeg team, this showed vast improvement for the team.

The Pandas trailed by nine at the half and at one point in the second half trailed by only four points but they couldn't pull the game out of the bag.

"We had a little problem with their (Winnipeg) pressure at the end," commented coach Debbie Shogan.

Laura Cabott led the Pandas with 18 points and was named the games MVP for her strong effort.

In previous games the team defeated the U of C and a senior women's team also from Calgary.

The game against Calgary was very significant for the fact that the U of C had defeated the Pandas twice in league play the weekend before.

"I think the team are just beginning to realize that they are a good team," said Shogan.

Susan Tokariuk led both teams with 33 points and was later named a tournament all-star. The game was actually not very close as the Pandas blew the Dinnies off the court 82-59.

Letter

Hi. I don't know if you get many letters directly for you but I just had to write this one.

I saw your last recruitment ad and I know now that you are the one for me.

I am an aries and aries and pisces are really a terrific mix. I wear designer jeans but I really like Wayne Gretzky. You said you love fast cars and that is great because I own a Porsche Turbo and I would just love to drive you home, or you can drive me home.

I know this sounds silly but I went to the Golden Bears hockey game on Sunday and saw you in the press box. You're even cuter in person than I thought.

I am not the most gorgeous girl in the world but all my friends think I'm really cute so I don't think you would find me ugly.

I can't come to the office because I'm shy so do you think we could meet somewhere?

signed, Me.

(Ed. note: I'm a saggitarius.)

The game against the macoimacs was a little closer with the Pandas winning 66-52.

The team now heads into their Christmas break and their coach is pleased with the tournament and how the team played.

"It's a really good way to go into the break," concurred Shogan.

Ms. Shogan commented that the team is still quite young and they have incurred a couple of bad injuries to key players this year. Considering these facts the team did very well in Calgary and now can look forward to post Christmas play. If the team keeps on improving the way they are then the other competing teams had better watch their step.

In basketball action this past weekend the U of A Golden Bears lost two games down in Lethbridge to the Pronghorns. But what appears simple on the surface is misleading.

Both games were very close, the Bears losing by a combined total of only 13 points.

In the first game on Friday the Bears were outgunned 72-67 in a game that foul shots played a large part. The Bears were assessed 23 personal fouls to the Pronghorns 14. Even though the Bears out scored the Pronghorns in

field goals; 58 to 54 the team only came to line eight times for nine points while the Pronghorns came to the line fourteen times for eighteen points. The point differential of five points was enough to carry the Pronghorns to victory.

Individual point leaders for the Bears were the three men who have been doing all season for the team. Shawn Izzard led the team with 21 points while Leon Bynoe and Ken Haak scored 16 points and 13 points respectively. High score for the Pronghorns was Don Richards with 26 points.

Game two on Saturday was another close game in which the Pronghorns prevailed 78-70. Both teams could only shoot around 40% from the field with the Pronghorns garnering 66 points in 78 attempts. The Bears for their part scored 60 points in 71 attempts. The two teams were close from the line with Lethbridge holding a slight edge 12-10. Individual high score for the Bears was Leon Bynoe with 18 points.

This action concludes pre-Christmas play for the Bears who are ahead of last years pace. The team takes a well deserved rest and travels down to Calgary early in the new year for, the Calgary classic tournament.



V'ballers doing well

The first step to being able to represent Alberta at the National Senior Championships in May was made by the Panda Volleyball squad this past weekend in Calgary. The Alberta Volleyball Association held its seeding tournament on Saturday and Sunday and the Pandas finished with a 7-2 record and now qualify to enter two subsequent tournaments in the New Year which will decide who is the best women's senior team in the province.

The Pandas played fairly well despite having to play 9 matches in two days. On Saturday the squad beat both the Edmonton Centaurs and Edmonton Almar 2-0 and

Friars 2-1. The Calgary Volleyball Club #1 team slipped by the Pandas 2-1. Sunday saw the U of A girls play 4 matches winning three and losing one. The U of Calgary

Alumni match was the most exciting as the best of three affairs went the full three games and the locals pulled it out 2-1. This match was particularly satisfying for the players as after having won the first game they literally 'slacked off' during the second and allowed the Alumni team to gain momentum — however after some mental stock taking the U of A girls came back to defeat the Alumni 15-12 on the third and deciding game.

A subsequent loss to the Dinnies form the U of Calgary was followed by two 2-1 victories over the Red Deer Volleyball Club and the Calgary Volleyball Club #2 team.

The Pandas now get a rest until January 8, 9 & 10 when they travel to Calgary again for an invitational tournament.

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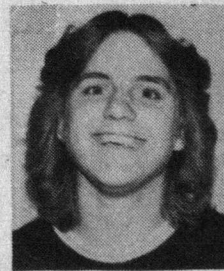
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Athlete of the Week

SUSAN TOKARIUK
Panda Basketball



This week's University Athlete of the Week is Susan Tokariuk a guard with the Pandas basketball team. Susan led the Pandas to the championship game of the University of Calgary's Invitational Tournament by scoring a career high 33 points in a 82-59 victory over the host Dinnies. She was also selected to the tournaments' All-Star team. For her outstanding performance this week Boston Pizza is pleased to name Susan Tokariuk as the Athlete of the Week.

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