

sports

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL

The Golden Bears will resume their Western Intercollegiate Football League schedule Saturday when they play the University of Calgary Dinos at 2 p.m. in Varsity Stadium.

Many U of A graduates will be watching the game as part of the Homecoming weekend activities. The grads should see a good game as the Bears and Dinos are the top two teams in the WIFL. U of A is number one in the west, having won all four of their league games. Calgary is second with a 3-1 record.

Both teams should be up for the game. If the Dinos win they will tie Alberta for first place. The Bears need to win Saturday's game and the next weekend's contest against the University of Manitoba to clinch the WIFL championship.

In the previous U of A - U of C game on September 6 in Calgary the Bears won 58-10. Since then Calgary has won three straight. The Dinos' big

offensive weapons are running backs Dan Diduch and Gary Jackson. Diduch, in particular, is very dangerous and has made several long returns of punts and kickoffs this season, including a 77-yard touchdown run against U of A.

Alberta will be trying to rebound from their "blah" exhibition game last Saturday in which they lost 33-11 to Simon Fraser University. Calgary may find themselves in the uncomfortable position of meeting an angry Bears' team out to prove that its loss was an accident. U of A will have to make a temporary change on defense because tackle Mike Ewachniuk won't be playing. "Ewach" suffered a knee injury against SFU, but it isn't as serious as was first feared and he should be back in a week or two.

Remember that Saturday's game is the last time the Golden Bears will play at Varsity Stadium. If you have the opportunity come out and see them.



Photo by Alex Taylor

New faces in the wrestling wars

by Darrell Sawchuk

Some familiar faces will be absent this year when the Golden Bear Wrestling Team starts practising on Oct. 15.

Prominent mat stars such as Erl Finnell, Bill Broaks, Phil Robertson and Andy McLeod will be missing this year and a number of rookies will be trying to take their places.

John Barry has left the competitive ranks this year to take the reins of head coach. Barry is well known in the wrestling world being a three time CIAU and Canadian Open champion at 126 lbs. Having competed internationally in the 1971 Pan-Am Games as well as in Moscow and Iran in 1973, John Barry brings to the team experience, knowledge and a winning tradition which will help make this young team serious contenders for the CIAU championship.

Coach Barry feels that rebuilding the team will be his prime concern. "Our most experienced wrestler was a freshman last year".

Former All-American at St. Lawrence University in New York, Bill Dowbiggen, is also a new addition to the coaching staff. Bill has won the CIAU and the Canadian Open championships and offers leadership abilities and expert technique to this year's team. Assisting Coaches Barry and Dowbiggen are Dennis Hryciako and Jack Stover.

Returning to the Bears after an outstanding freshman year is Russ Pawlyk. After winning a gold medal in the Canadian Open and a silver at the CIAU championships, Pawlyk should be able to better his performance and is a bright prospect for the 1976 Olympics in Montreal. Other champions returning this year include Al Boychuk, two time Canada West champion, Dennis Cleaver, Canada West champion, Jay Hetherington, two time Alberta Open champion, and Tom Moyson, Alberta Open champion.

Rookies showing promise this year include Tim McDiamid, Dave Judge, Barry Watson, Tom Medak and Randy Walsh. There are also about 20 more wrestlers including veterans and rookies who are keen to wrestle and ready to compete. Coach Barry feels that although experience is lacking, the desire to learn and win is there and by the end of the season they will be the best conditioned athletes on campus.

If you have any desire to join this young Golden Bear team contact Coach Barry in Rm. 154, PE Building or phone him at 432-3466. Formal practises start Oct. 15 at 5 p.m.

Bear's soccer dynasty crumbling?

From one point of view, it looks like the Bears soccer edifice is crumbling; John Devlin and Geoff Bird, who Gerry Redmond had hoped would be the nucleus of the team in midfield, are both seriously injured. The chances are that Devlin will be fit in time for the Canada West championships, although he won't be match fit, but Bird's prospects are gloomier. But there is another point of view, as Redmond points out: the squad has enough depth in midfield to overcome this problem, and the two players upon whom the responsibility is likely to fall are playing as well as they ever have right now, namely Matteo Piscopo and Frank Tassone. If these two can rise to the challenge of making the team click in midfield, and there's no reason why they can't, the loss of Bird and the reduction in Devlin's effectiveness should be

less than tragic. Both Piscopo and Tassone are playing with intelligence and industry right now, they seem to need just a little more confidence in their own ability to run the show.

On Sunday, at 11:30, the Bears play the University of Winnipeg here, on the South field. Apart from giving Piscopo and Tassone further opportunity to build up their partnership, this game should provide a test of the character of the Bears' attack, which has not really impressed so far. The big guns are there, such as Phil Craig and Roland Leaute, but they've sputtered up to now. There aren't any question marks over their ability, but so far they've gone frustrated with their own inability to score, and as games progress, they've become more and more ineffectual. As Bill Shankly would say, "it's all in the mind, son, you haven't broken your leg."

The defence has sorted itself out and will be strong and skillful, and hopefully will lend support to the attack, especially on the wings. And behind them will be a fine goalkeeper, be it Baretta or Staszuk. There's no need to panic because of the injury problems, but nor can anyone be complacent. I think it's just a matter of time before the Bears really click, let's hope that it happens on Sunday.

by Rhys Davies

Basketball clinic

A clinic for basketball officials will be held on Tuesday, October 15, at 5 p.m., in Room 114 of the Phys-Ed building. All those interested in timing, scoring, or taking statistics at Panda basketball home games please attend.



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