

Bears' chances narrowing

Huskies hockey team move into first place

by Martin Coultts

So near to first place yet, in the end, so far. That was the story for the Golden Bears' hockey team this past weekend at Varsity Arena. After a brilliantly executed 2-1 victory on Friday night, the Bears made a brave effort at sweeping the visiting Saskatchewan Huskies into second place in Saturday's showdown for top spot. But the Dogs got the crucial break that snapped a 4-4 tie and went on from there to post a 7-5 win and gain a split of the two-game set.

The results left Alberta just where they were in the standings when the weekend's play began: one game behind the front-running Huskies. However, the Bears' chances of grabbing the Canada West Conference pennant have been greatly diminished, for two reasons. First, there are now just six games to play in the regular season. Second, the Bears not only have to catch Saskatchewan, but they must overtake them as well, because the Huskies won the season series between the teams by five games to three.

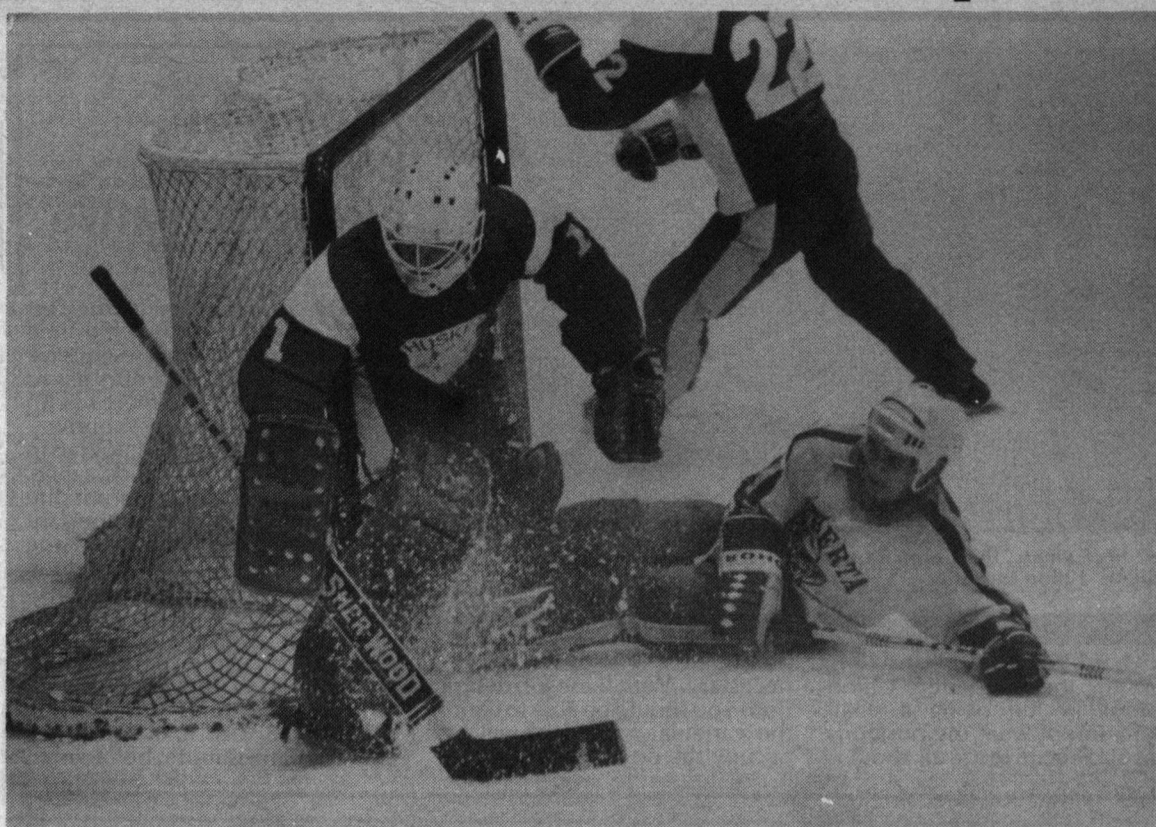
For a while on Saturday night, however it looked as though the final tally would be four games to four. Trailing 4-2 after 40 minutes, Alberta roared out of the gate in the early minutes of period three. Tick Swan scored on the rebound at 3:03 after Craig Dill had hit the post on a breakaway. Breen Neeser then set up defenceman Colin Chisholm's first goal of the season to tie the score at the 6:04 mark.

The two goals fired the Bears up and left the Huskies reeling; Alberta seemed poised to take the lead. But the flow of the play

changed abruptly just minutes later. At 9:33, a long slapshot by Marc Chartier of the Huskies found its way through the legs of Bears' goalie Ken Hodge. Saskatchewan were suddenly back in front and they did not relinquish the lead again. A late flurry of three goals (2 by the Huskies, then 1 by the Bears) in a span of 49 seconds yielded the final score of 7-5, but it really was Chartier's goal that decided the outcome. As Coach Clare Drake of the Bears commented, "We had the momentum with us, but the long shot turned it around for them (the Huskies). It gave them more confidence." Saskatchewan Coach Dave King was in agreement, saying that "the fifth goal through (Hodge's) legs was the big goal."

The goal was certainly an unfortunate turn of events for Hodge, who played very well, especially in the first two periods. Saskatchewan had outshot the Bears 29-15 after 40 minutes but had only beaten the Bears' netminder when they had enjoyed the man advantage. Willie Desjardins had two of the four powerplay goals with Tim Hodgson and Bill Hlynsky picking up the others. Desjardins later completed his hattrick and an five point evening when he scored and set up Randy Wiebe's goal in the dying minutes. The Bears' other goals went to Ron Parent (who leads the Conference with sixteen tallies), Dave Souch and Terry Sydoryk.

A relatively large crowd of 638 were on hand for the game and the noise level in the arena easily surpassed that of any previous home game. This was partly because there was a large



Action was hectic around Huskies' net on Saturday.

photo Bill Inglee

Saskatchewan cheering contingent in attendance and partly because, as Dave King put it, "it was a heck of a game to watch. I was personally very excited; both teams had lots of spirit and zip."

The same could not be said for King's troops on Friday, though. In that game Alberta performed a brilliant job of bottling up Saskatchewan's attack. The Bears limited the Huskies to just 16

shots on goal in the entire game, with a checking performance that was reminiscent of their effort at Saskatchewan when Drake recorded his 500th career win.

In contrast to the previous weekend at UBC, the Bears received a complete team effort on this night in gaining the one goal verdict. "The difference between tonight's game and the UBC games was that everyone was

playing close to capacity whereas only 6 or 7 out of 18 players were in B.C.," said Drake.

The only thing the Bears failed to do on Friday was put the game out of reach. Despite outshooting Saskatchewan 37-16, Alberta had to play the full 60 minutes for the victory. The winning margin was courtesy of goals by Parent and Bill Ansell while Wiebe had the lone marker for the Huskies.

Burz- minski runs away

Track and field Bears and Pandas were busy this weekend competing in the Golden Bear Open. The meet started Friday night and produced few U of A winners. The women were led, however, by Mary Burzminski in the 1000 metres. She was the only Panda to win on Friday, coming in strong with a time of 2:51.67. The men fared a little better on Friday. Vlad Dzavic and Danny Lanovaz finished first and second in the triple jump, with jumps of 14.36 and 14.33 respectively. Dave Alton came out of retirement to win the polevault with a good jump of 4.50 metres.

The women did much better on Saturday winning three events, while the Bears could only muster one. National Junior Team member Sandi Keterer won the shot put with a distance of 14.14 metres. Norma Love beat out other competitors in the 50-metre hurdles with a time of 7.58 seconds. Sharon Fryett was the eventual winner in the long jump, with a personal best leap of 5.44 metres. Christopher Dallin won the 50-metre hurdles in a time of 7.07 seconds, which beats the old Alberta record which stood at 7.12.

The Bears and Pandas will compete next weekend at the Kinsmen Field House in the Alberta age class meet.



SFU leads relay

photo Pete Hild

Drake's win bittersweet

by Martin Coultts

The scoreclock indicated a lopsided victory for the hockey Bears; however, it may go down as the biggest loss of the season. On Sunday night Alberta's team Captain, Garnet "Ace" Brimacombe, suffered a knee injury that might keep him out of action for the remainder of the season. The injury occurred early in the second period of the Bears' 9-2 thrashing of the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference All-Stars at Varsity Arena. Brimacombe was taken to the University hospital for further examination of the knee; at press time it was not yet known if surgery had been required. The loss of the veteran winger for the rest of the season would be a serious blow in the Bears' battle with Saskatchewan for top spot in the Canada West Conference.

On a brighter note, the exhibition victory was win number 502 for Coach Clare Drake. That

total moves him into second place on the career victories list for college coaches. Drake surpasses the 501 victories recorded by John "Snooks" Kelly of Boston College and now trails only John MacInnes of Michigan Tech who had 555 career wins.

The Bears were never really in danger against the ACAC All-stars, although goalie Terry Clark had to be sharp in the first period when he faced 14 shots. Alberta held period leads of 2-0 and 7-0, and received goals from eight different players. Ron Parent led the way with a pair of goals while Rick Swan and Craig Dill each had a goal and three assists. Also scoring for the Bears were Brimacombe, Jim Clarke, Gerald Koebel, Breen Neeser and Terry Sydoryk. Replying for the All-stars were Terry Wheelie of Red Deer College and Duane Potekal of SAIT. The Bears outshot the All-stars 42-28.

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