

# Panda gymnasts vault to fourth straight win

## Gateway Staff Writer

The Panda gymnastics team hosted the University of Manitoba on Sunday January 26, and with the depth of the squad again very evident, Alberta's Team I captured the team championship with 127.71 points. The University of Manitoba was second with 113.35 points and the Panda's Team II finished in third place with 107.06 points.

The victory was Alberta's fourth straight win over Canada West competition.

Despite Alberta's team victory, Manitoba's Karen Wolko accumulated 32.42 points to out-distance veteran Panda team members Heidi Ross (32.24) and Shelley Spaner

(32.15), and capture the individual overall title. First year Panda Diane Patterson scored 31.77 points to finish fourth overall, and Carrie Nawata, also of the Pandas ended up in fifth position with their 30.40 total.

The Pandas had one individual event winner as Shelley Spaner captured the vault title with 8.50 points. Diane Patterson (8.35) and Margie Drysdale (8.3) finished in second and third positions to give Alberta a clean sweep of the vaulting medals.

Patterson took her second silver medal of the day on the uneven bars, as her risky routine earned her 8.80 points, second only to last

year's national uneven bar champion Janet Black of Manitoba who scored 8.93 points.

The balance beam event was won by all-around champion Karen Wolko with an 8.50 total. Ross and Spaner were second and third on the beam with scores of 8.30 and 7.65 respectively.

Ross also captured a bronze medal on the floor exercise event with an 8.37 point performance. Floor was dominated by Manitoba as both Janet Black and Marti Przibizlawski scored 8.40 to tie for first place.

Head coach Sandy O'Brien was pleased with the overall performance of all the girls, especially the

Team II gymnasts who all performed admirably. Despite the fact that the Pandas remain undefeated in team competition, they still are not at their peak performance level. Much hard work is still needed if the gymnasts are to have a chance of repeating as National Champions.

**On the mat — Diane Patterson** was the winner of the inaugural "rookie award" as her 31.77 total was the highest among all first year competi-

itors... the Pandas would like to thank **Dr. Myer Horwitz** who presented awards to Sunday's competition. Dr. Horwitz's support of the gymnastics program is greatly appreciated... the Pandas have five girls who have obtained CIAU national qualifying scores: **Ross, S. Spaner, Patterson, Nawata and D. Spaner**... the next competition for the gymnasts will be Feb. 7 and 8 when they head to California for meets at **Stanford University** and at **California State University (Davis)**.



The Pandas ruled in the vault, with a clean sweep of the medals in that event

## Kornak's magic buries Dogs

### Bears 72 Huskies 71 by Pat Maguire

The drive out to Saskatchewan is a long one and you have a long time to ponder the purpose of the wasteland. Driving through the dirty city you wonder how a person in Saskatoon survives, what they do for excitement. Entering Varsity Gym for Saturday night's Bears-Huskies basketball game, you realize that the people haven't come here. It is a small gym with bleachers lined up along one side. What a ghastly place to play a game of basketball.

While the city did whatever people in Saskatoon make it do, those of us fortunate enough to be there witnessed the most exciting basketball game of the season thus far. With two seconds remaining, Mike Kornak hit a twenty five foot shot to power the Bears to a 72-71 victory.

Both teams went into the game with a record of one win against three losses. Saskatchewan was formerly ranked in the top five of the country before heading into a slump as of late. The Bears needed the win to keep alive their hopes of making the playoffs. The result was a physical aggressive game. Yet the closeness of the game almost makes one forget about the far from perfect game the two teams played.

The Bears were up by ten points midway through the first half, but started to relax and the Huskies caught up by halftime. Saskatchewan head coach Guy Vetrie admitted his team had trouble in the first half, "But they responded with a lot of maturity, and made a game of it. It is so easy when you are down by ten to just pack it up."

The Bears had been having good success against the Huskie zone and, in turn, keeping the Huskies down. Vetrie was impressed. "They hurt us on the boards and did a job on our zone in the first half. It is not good to only score 29 points in the first half, especially at home."

Saskatchewan was just as responsible for losing the game as the Bears were for winning it. With just over a half minute remaining, the Huskies had the ball, a full shot clock to kill the game with, and a one point lead.

"I told them to be patient — go inside and if there is no good shots throw it out," said Vetrie of his time-out in the final moments. His team was not patient and the Bears forced the shot. Greg Jockins who had a hot hand most of the night faltered in the end, and the Bears took the rebound setting up Kornak for the winner.

"I tried not to think about anything but the shot, especially not all the shots I missed earlier in the game," said Kornak. He agreed that neither team was at their best. "We did some things wrong, but we pulled it off when it counted."

**Bear necessities** — The Huskies are in town Saturday afternoon at 3:00 for a game at Varsity Gym... Several

Bears stayed home from the trip including **Keith Pushor, Dave Youngs and Ed Joseph**, who missed the trip apparently for disciplinary reasons... Dean Peters leads the Bears with a 20.0 point average.

### by Pat Maguire Pandas 69 Huskies 49

It was a case of the best team in the league playing the worst team in the league and for the first half it looked like it.

The Pandas took a lead early in the game and built it up to 20 by half time. The number five team in the country took it a little easy in the second half, playing younger players and focussing less aggressively on the defensive part of the game. Head coach Sherry Melney was happy about the win, but con-

ceded that, "They aren't the strongest team in the league." The 69-49 win puts the Pandas in a first place tie with Victoria in Canada West.

Melney was impressed with many of her players. "Lisa Janz had another strong game (team high 19 points), so did Annette (Sanregret)." Defensively, Melney pointed out Debbie O'Byrne, "she is always a strong point on defense."

Melney took the win in stride, saying that she looks forward to the coast trip in two weeks. Both Victoria and UBC are tough teams and that series should decide what happens for the playoffs. However, Melney refuses to look too far forward. "We can't be overconfident in these games, an upset at this point of the season could be disastrous."

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