

Bears set trap, catch CVC

by Karl Wilberg

Although most inter-collegiate sports have ended for the year the volleyball Bears' season is just starting. The Bears gained first place in provincial standings after defeating the Calgary Volleyball Club #1 team last weekend in Calgary. The meet, the second of three, uses a scoring system placing greater emphasis on successive meets.

Consequently, coach Hugh Hoyles is hopeful the Bears can win the title. However, the Bears and the Calgary clubs are close in league standings. CVC and the U of C Dinosaurs have a good chance to win because the final tournament standings will be weighted heavily.

The Bears gained first spot last weekend in Calgary by winning all six matches. First, the U of A beat CVC #2 two games out of three. The Bears went on to defeat Central Alberta 2-1. In addition, the U of A squad crushed the Edmonton Friars 15-4 and 15-3. The Calgary Ramblers put on a tougher fight, but lost 15-12 and 15-10.

However, the important matches were with the U of C and CBC #1. Both matches went three games and involved close scores. The Bears initially beat the U of C 15-12, but lost 12-15 in the next game. The final match was won by the U of A 15-9.

Undoubtedly, the toughest match occurred with CVC. Hoyles states his team had "warmed up easily" for CVC after the tough earlier match with the U of C. Hoyles goes on

to say the 15-0 first game loss occurred because "it's tough to keep up," and his team had "relaxed a bit."

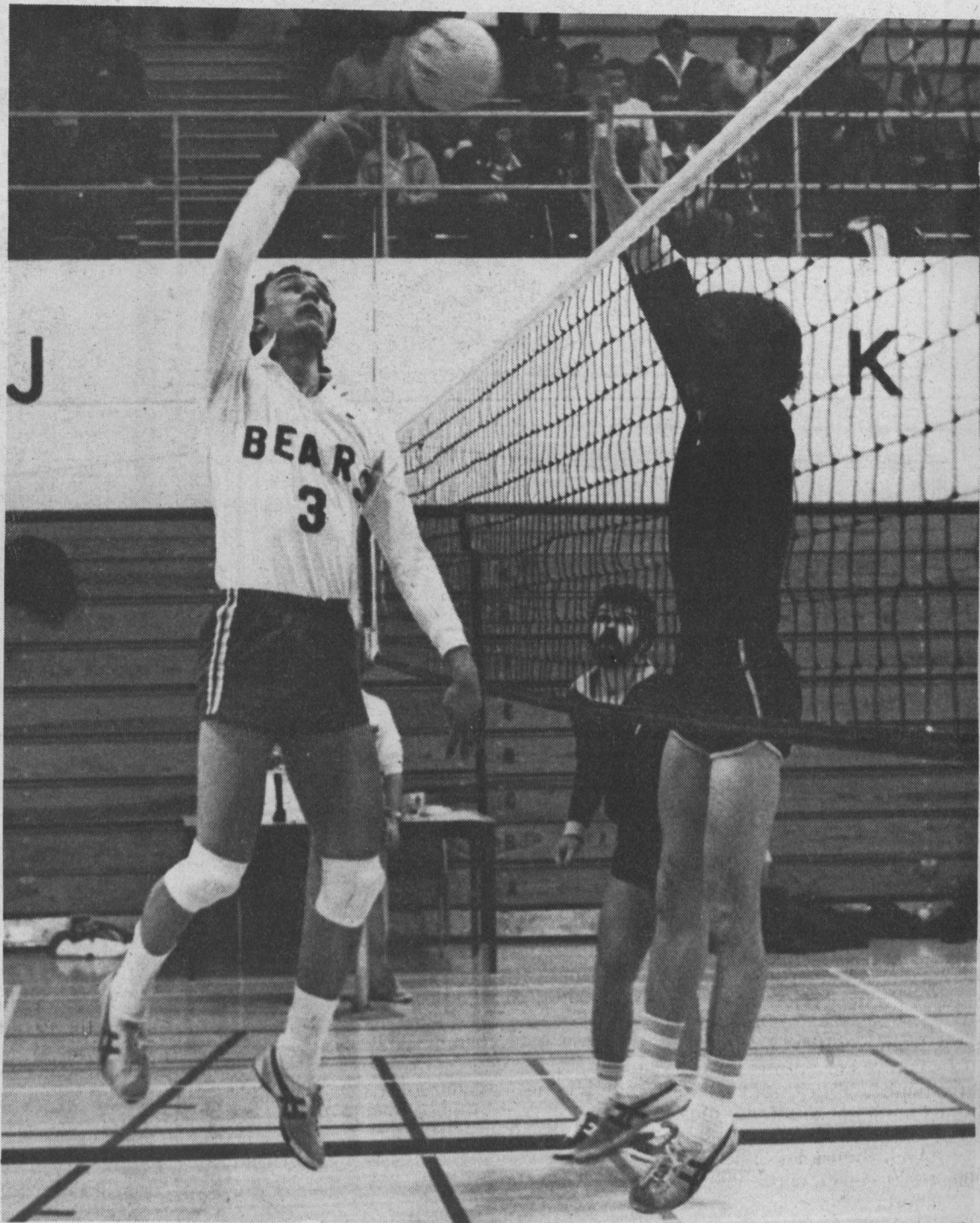
In spite of the 15-0 rout the Bears turned around to whip CVC 15-3. CVC came back in the third to prolong the deciding game to a 15-11 score. Hoyles mentioned the "last game was a see-saw."

Interestingly, CVC, in first before the meet, was beaten by third place U of C. Now the standings are close with the U of A in first with 100 points. CVC has 92 and the U of C now has 83. As Hoyles comments, "The title boils down to the third tournament."

In addition to their psychological edge from the recent victory, the Bears will play the decisive game here at the U of A. Hoyles is anxious to win because the victor will receive a Sport Canada grant to travel to the open championships in Halifax.

Perhaps the difference between the Bears' second place in the first meet and their recent win was in strategy. Hoyles emphasises Brian Watson's implementation of a 5-1 system. Watson is very familiar with the arrangement that uses one setter for consistent setting. Hoyles believes the team's skill with the system "proved to be the difference."

Whether the squad wins the provincial title or not next year is promising. The West is a tough league, but the Bears have a proven team. In addition, most of this year's players will return. Your chance to see the Bears in action for the final meet is April 5 in Varsity Gym.



Bears' Terry Danyluk attempts to beat frightened armadillo.

photo Russ Simpson

AIA vs Nats Thurs.

This Thursday Varsity Gym will be invaded by giants. The Canadian Olympic basketball team, and the Canadian Athletes in Action squad will play the third game, out of a four game series, at the U of A.

The AIA team, composed largely of American trained players, will give the National team a tough match. The National team took fourth at the Montreal Olympics, but the AIA squad defeated the USSR team last year.

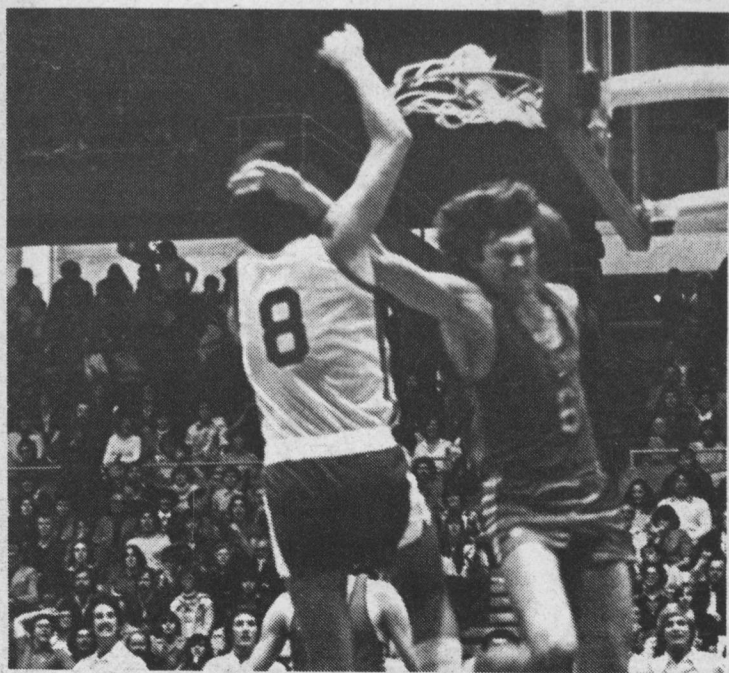
In addition, the AIA team has a 45-6 record this year and six players over 6'8". The AIA's top shooter, and guard, Harry Sheehy, has a 24.8 point per game average.

The nationals too have an outstanding guard in 6'8" Leo

Rautins. The Canadian team also have five year veteran Martin Riley who has been chosen MVP in the last two senior championships. The AIA nationals match is intended to give the Canadians good competition in preparation for the summer Olympics.

AIA is an organization involving Christian athletes. The organization also involves athletes from other leagues like the CFL. Their games involve a half time explanation of the AIA's purpose and the player's faith.

If only by their records the two teams should provide entertaining competition. The game is set for 8:00 pm and tickets are \$4.00 for students. Tickets are available at HUB, Bass outlets and Mike's.



Athlete in Action halts Russian hoopster.

Look before a leap

by Darrell Paranych

"Skydiving? Who me? That's only for fools with no regard for their life. Why would anyone intentionally hurl themselves out of a perfectly servicable aircraft?"

Why indeed. Ask any one of the 7,000 Canadian skydivers and they'll be hard pressed for an answer.

As you exit the plane from 10,000 ft. you step into a vast blue void. You feel that rush of air that spills around your body as you accelerate to speeds in excess of 120 mph. You watch your fellow jumpers slowly floating across the sky and link up in freefall. You locate your slot and by deflecting the air using all the parts of your body, you gracefully maneuver to gently dock into the formation.

With this completed, everyone breaks grips and flies around to the next formation, then the next. As you fall through 3,500 feet everyone breaks off, turns 180° and slowly brings their arms down to their sides. This gliding track position can allow you to travel across the sky over 2000 mph and 80 mph horizontally.

You flare out, check the sky above to see if it's clear and dump your main parachute. You find yourself suspended at 2,500 feet in incredible beauty. To feel that

charged adrenalin rush is more than mere words can describe.

At best one might say it is a combination of the speed and excitement of downhill racing, the grace and artistry of ballet and the beauty and silence of ballooning; and the better of the sum.

For the student parachutist, it's a long hard haul from the ground to the clouds. Initially a standard medical examination that indicates a generally healthy physical condition is mandatory. The fees paid are to cover the ever rising costs of various club membership, drop zone (DZ) usage and upkeep, equipment rental and maintenance, complete instruction and that very first one-way airplane ride. This year we hope to keep costs to a minimum and organize courses this summer for \$150-\$175 complete.

This course is taught by qualified instructors who are certified by the Canadian Sport Parachuting Assn. (CSPA). The audio-visual and practical instruction normally runs approx. 10 hrs. over a few nights. In that time, each student will become proficient in the parts and functioning of the equipment, aircraft procedures, exits, arched body position and count, canopy control, the parachute landing fall (PLF) and emergency

procedures.

soon the student enters into the world of bungees and BSRs, cheepos and CSOs, mods and mals, frogs and funnels, deltas and donuts, stacks and stars, pigs and poopsies and WDIs and wuffos. Para-code is spoken here and the student has a whole new language to learn.

Contrary to popular belief, skydiving is NOT a "Death Sport." New innovations in equipment coupled with proven methods of instruction and very high safety regulations make it safer than driving a car.

The first jump course is specially designed to give the student solid ground level knowledge and safety skills. The course dispels numerous misconceptions floating around about the sport and the associated fears they generate.

You usually would make a minimum of six static line jumps. This line automatically opens your main parachute as you leave the aircraft. The next step is short freefalls where you pull your main ripcord, on your own, after a brief count. All of the initial 30 some jumps are under the direct supervision of a jumpmaster (JM) until you have demonstrated enough freefall skill and knowledge to justify you for your first sport parachuting licence.