



Frank Tassone and the rest of the Golden Bear soccer crew head to St. Johns today to compete in the national finals.

Soccer bears to Nfld.

by Peter Best

The Golden Bear soccer team flies to St. Johns Thursday to begin the defence of their national championship. Opposition in the weekend tournament will come from hosts Memorial University, Loyola, Laurentian and University of Winnipeg.

Bears' coaches Stu Robbins and Clive Padfield are proud of their team's record to date. In 17 games their defence has allowed 10 goals while a determined attack has scored 82 times.

The strength of Bears' offence is its balance. Opposing teams cannot concentrate on stopping one or two key players because U of A's goals have come from six different men.

Weather conditions could play a major factor in determining the national titleholders. Bears are hoping for a dry field: "Mud," says Robbins, "would be a problem. Most of our players are used to

playing on dry ground."

Robbins expects Memorial to be tough opposition, especially on their home field. If Loyola's press releases can be believed they too will provide a stiff test.

"I think it's going to be tougher now that we are defending champs," says the coach. "I hope the guys can take the pressure."

Nonetheless he feels they have a good chance to retain if they keep their composure, concentrate 100 per cent of the time and continue the unselfish play that is the key to their success.

Team members are: goaltenders Doug Weisbeck and Ed Staszuk; fullbacks Terry Whitney and Mike Hird; centrebacks Geoff Salmon, George Lovell and Rick Korol; midfielders Ike MacKay, Frank Tassone, Al Bolstad and Tony Msemakweli; wingmen Trevor Duckett and John Devlin; and striker Phil Craig.

Cross-country

by Jim Young

The Canada West Intercollegiate Cross Country Championships were run in Calgary last Saturday amidst conditions that would have resulted in the cancellation of most things except unfortunately, a cross country race.

The five western universities met at the University of Calgary and for the second year in a row UBC dominated the race placing five men in the top seven.

John Currie, who won the race over a snow-covered 10,000 metre course in 33:04, John Wheeler, Duncan Klett, Chris White, and Gerald Lister, joined by Alan Graat of Saskatoon and Brian Speilman of Calgary were the top seven runners who will represent Western Canada at the Canadian Championships in Saskatoon.

Missing a berth on the Western team by one spot was U of A's Jim Young who placed 8th in 34:24. Finishing as well for the U of A were Bill McBlain (17th) 35:40; Kelly Young (18th) 35:54; Dennis Proctor (27th) 37:53; Chris Reinhardt (28th) 38:40; and Rick Kennedy (32nd) 40:44.

The womens' 6000 metre event was won by Jhelma Wright in a time of 16:18. U of A's Sue Hoffart ran to an excellent fourth place finish in 19:59.

Hoop pandas

by Golly

The University of Alberta Pandas split evenly with two wins - two losses at the Women's Invitational Tournament hosted by the University of Calgary this past weekend.

This pre-season series gave coach Kathy Broderick a chance to assess the abilities of her rookies as well as for them to experience college-varsity competition.

But Pandas seem to be an improved squad this year with 46-38 and 55-46 trims over the Universities of Brandon and Calgary, respectively.

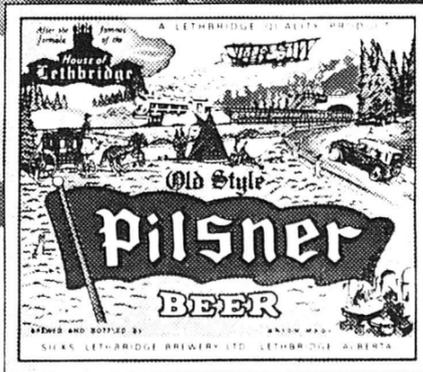
High scorers in the Brandon defeat were Captain Wendy Martin with 13 and Jasper Place graduate, Glenda Leach with 12. Rookie Chris Graves basketed 14 points and Martin 12 in the Calgary match.

Although Pandas were hurt 58-38 by Simon Fraser University, they managed to reach the semi-finals only to be sacked 64-41 by the University of Saskatoon who took the W.I.T. title, eventually.

Panda's first league match will be in Calgary - November 16 & 17 but will be without the services of Brenda Mackie who suffered a severe foot injury.



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