

SPORTS

Bears steamroller over final four

Team set defensive record in Calgary

Moore's shows no brotherly love



Photo Bill Ingles

Another example of the teamwork that took the Bears hockey team to their best finish in seven years. Friday they start the best of three CWUAA finals against their recent rivals the Saskatchewan Huskies.

by **Bernie Poitras**

These days, too much of a good thing can be hazardous to your health. Just ask the UBC or the U of Calgary hockey teams; they'll tell you.

They'll tell you that beating the Golden-Bear Hockey Team is undoubtedly a good thing but trying to get too much of it can be hazardous to your health, er....that is to your win column.

After having each beaten the Bears once this season the two clubs found themselves with the unenviable task of trying to do it again. But as the case has been all season the Bears put to rest any notion that the Dinosaurs and the T-Birds had of increasing their very modest one-game supremacy over the conference champions.

The Bears had little trouble in knocking off the weak sisters of the conference and finished the regular season with the second best record (20-4) in their history. They fell only one win off of the 21-3 record that they 1976-77 edition of the Bears established. Nonetheless, the four victories - 8-1, 8-4 over the T-Birds and 7-2, 5-3 over Calgary - allowed the Bears to set a conference record for fewest goals allowed in a single season - 59 goals. The old record was set by the 1974-75 and 1978-79 Bears teams with 60 goals against.

It seems like the Bears' teams are the only ones setting records in this conference. Oh, well.

Hockey's version of George Orwell's 1984 took place at Varsity Arena on Feb. 17 and 18th as Big Brother Jack Moores (only bigger in height) flew in with his T-Bird team to play brother Bill Moores and the Bears. No, there were no surveillance cameras installed in the dressing rooms; nor was there any truth to the rumor that George Orwell's second cousin, once removed, was going to sing the national anthem.

Instead the fans focused their eyes, all 2414 pupils, on the Bears' Rick Swan as he celebrated the return of linemate Bill Ansell (after a knee injury) and collected 7

Fresh off the heels of a 2-0 victory over the same Bears the T-Birds took on an eery Jeckyl and Hyde appearance. How could a team that shutout the Bears in the first game - something that had not been done since Nov. 19, 1982 when Saskatchewan beat them 7-0 - and barely lose the second game, let in sixteen goals over the next two games?

To add insult to injury, UBC goalie Kurt Corman, who registered the 2-0 shutout, was yanked from the first game after the second period as he let in 7 of the eight goals.

While most people were dumbfounded, Bears' coach Bill Moores offered his own suggestion.

"Well, last weekend UBC played much stronger; it was just night and day compared to this weekend," explained Moores. "It took a lot out of them last weekend, their physical play."

In Saturday's game several Bears came up limp from the night before and that opened up the opportunity for the second-stringers to show their stuff. Well, they showed what they could do and wound up being in on six of the eight goals.

Tom Messier led the Bench Brigade with two goals and a second star nomination; Jeff Helland added three assists and received third star; Kevin Weremy added a goal and an assist; and John Winter scored his first goal of the season.

Coach Bill Moores was more than delighted to see that he had another line he could depend on.

"It's nice to see," Moores commented. "We wanted to get those fellas in there. It just goes to show you that we have players who can come off the bench and play well."

This past weekend saw the Bears easily handle the U of Calgary Dinosaurs by scores of 7-2

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Gymnasts win west

The Panda gymnasts finally got the breakthrough that they worked for all season. At the University of Calgary on Feb. 17, seven members of the team brought home victory at the Canada West Conference Championships. The four strongest teams in the country battled it out and when the official results were announced, the Pandas came out on top - by 15/100's of a point. U of A acquired 124.5 points (adding the top four scores on each of four events). U of Calgary came in at 124.35, UBC earned 121.40 and U of Manitoba was only down at 120.75.

"In our team meeting we discussed the concept of success, not winning, because I knew all four teams would be close - very close. It could have been anyone's

championship but our team was ready. They were sitting at the first event ready to compete five minutes too early. They were that hungry to win" states coach O'Brien.

Outstanding individual performances came from Heidi Ross, Margie Drysdale and Elise Dworkin. Ross picked up two gold medals, virtually unchallenged on the balance beam event, as well as floor exercise, the event that has been hindered by her ankle tendinitis. Drysdale was a finalist on three events coming second on bars, third on vaulting and third on floor. Dworkin placed fifth on floor exercise with an 8.20.

Other valuable performs on the team whose marks counted toward the team win were Janice Neill (uneven bars, beam), Donna

Spaner (floor exercise, vault), Barbara Bull (bars) and Nancy Lattrell. Carrie Nawata and Christine Speake were unable to compete due to injury.

In the All Around, the combined event totals for all four events, Karen Wolke from Manitoba won. Top Panda was Heidi Ross who was third. Sherri Blunden of Calgary was second.

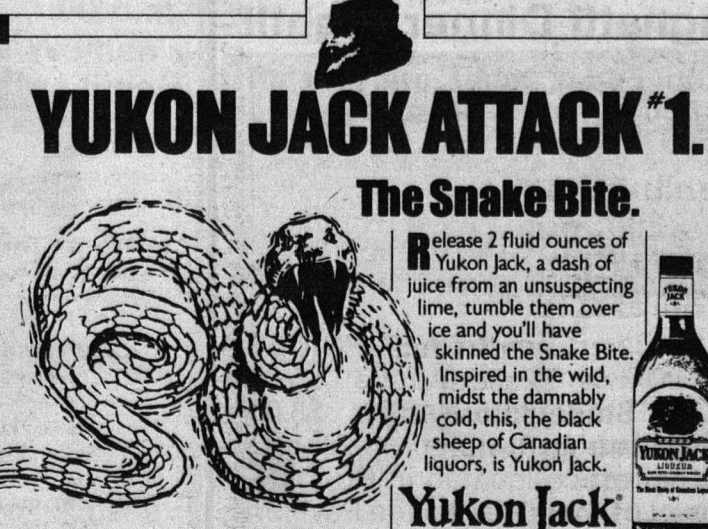
The final and only home meet for gymnastics this year is the 1984 CIAU National Championships in the Butterdome (Universiade Pavilion) on Friday March 2 and Saturday March 3. Men's preliminaries are 1:00 pm. Friday with women performing that evening at seven. With the momentum of a home crowd, the Panda gymnasts hope to look success in the face again.

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