

Scott Hillier hammers Bear defenceman Grant Couture.

Dinos stay on top

by Alan Small Calgary 5 Alberta 3

Barry Bracko didn't look like he took three weeks off on Friday night. The fourth year forward just took off where he left off at the beginning of January: scoring goals.

Bracko scored two goals Friday, the first one on the power play to tie the game at two, the second seven minutes later on a fluke. His flip shot deflected off of three skates before going past a befuddled Blair MacGregor. It was a break-your-back kind of goal.

What broke the Bear backs though was their own power play. After succeeding on 40% of their chances for most of the year, the Bears came up with a 0-for-10 performance with the man advantage.

"We knew that if we could beat them on the specialty teams, we would win," said Dino head coach Willie Desjardins. The Dinos special teams scored twice while the Bears were shutout in those situations. Their big power play unit of Sid Cranston, Stacey Wakabayashi, and Doug McCarthy only had one point.

"I thought they did a good job on our power play," Bear head coach Clare Drake understated, "they cut us off low (in the zone) and we couldn't get many shots through when we got it to the point." "Everytime we come up here they shut down our power play," said Bear defenceman Darwin Bozek, "maybe it's a kind of halo that hangs around their head."

"I'd be happy if they went 1for-10," said Desjardins. "They could have had a couple, but we got a some great saves."

With the score 3-2, the Bears looked desperately for the equalizer. It took them 18 minutes to tie it, as a Sid Cranston shot bounced off of Al Tarasuk and past Dino netminder Peter Fry.

They may have let up after that, as the Dinos went one up 21 seconds later on a poor change. Defenceman Scott Hillier hammered a slapper over MacGregor's right shoulder to put the Dinosaurs ahead for good.

The Dinos even slapped the Bear power play in the face later in the period. The Bears were pressing for another equalizer, but the Dinos got hold of the puck and created a two-on-one. Dino captain Terry Jones converted the pass from Todd Sceviour for the insurance marker.

The Bears had a good first period, as Wes Craig scored 36 seconds in.

Calgary answered that one quickly as Sceviour scored at the end of a long shift for the Bear line of Marty Yewchuk, Brett Cox, and Todd Gordon. In the ninth minute Adam Morrison scored on a wicked slap shot

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