

# Sports

## FACE OFF '86



by Mark Spector

The Face Off '86 date of February 2nd draws nearer and both sides were at the Molson House on Monday for a pre-game hype session.

But more was on the agenda than just hype. Garnett Cummings, a chief organizer for the game, announced that a hockey trade show will run on game day in the Coliseum with the tag "Hockey Awareness". As well, \$13,000 to \$15,000 worth of professional and amateur entertainment has been donated by Edmonton and area artists. And of course, on the subject of donations, all proceeds from the game will go directly to the Ronald McDonald House Foundation.

Actually from the NAIT point of view the game needs little hype. But here at the old "Stayin' away at the UofA" (also known as "No tickets sold for the Green and Gold"), tickets for the second annual Ookpik-Golden Bear classic aren't moving.

"I think about 40 or 50 is the last figure that I heard," admitted Golden Bear assistant coach Jack Cummings on approximate ticket sales.

The figure on total sales so far, however, are much more positive. So far upwards of 10,000 seats have been sold, meaning that the reds at the Northlands Coliseum are all gone.

So who's been buying all the tickets at \$5 apiece? NAIT students, that's who.

"It's definitely a concern that we haven't sold more," said Cum-

tings. "None of the players have even seen a ticket, and you have to think that they could sell 20 tickets each."

Strange, but it seems to me I've heard this song before. Tickets are available at all McDonalds restaurants and at the UofA Athletics Dept. and are only five bucks each. So, as NAIT already seems to have won the battle at the ticket wicket, Clare Drake and NAIT coach Perry Pearn squared off to a good old-fashioned verbal war.

Drake: "I think that we have a better hockey program at the UofA."

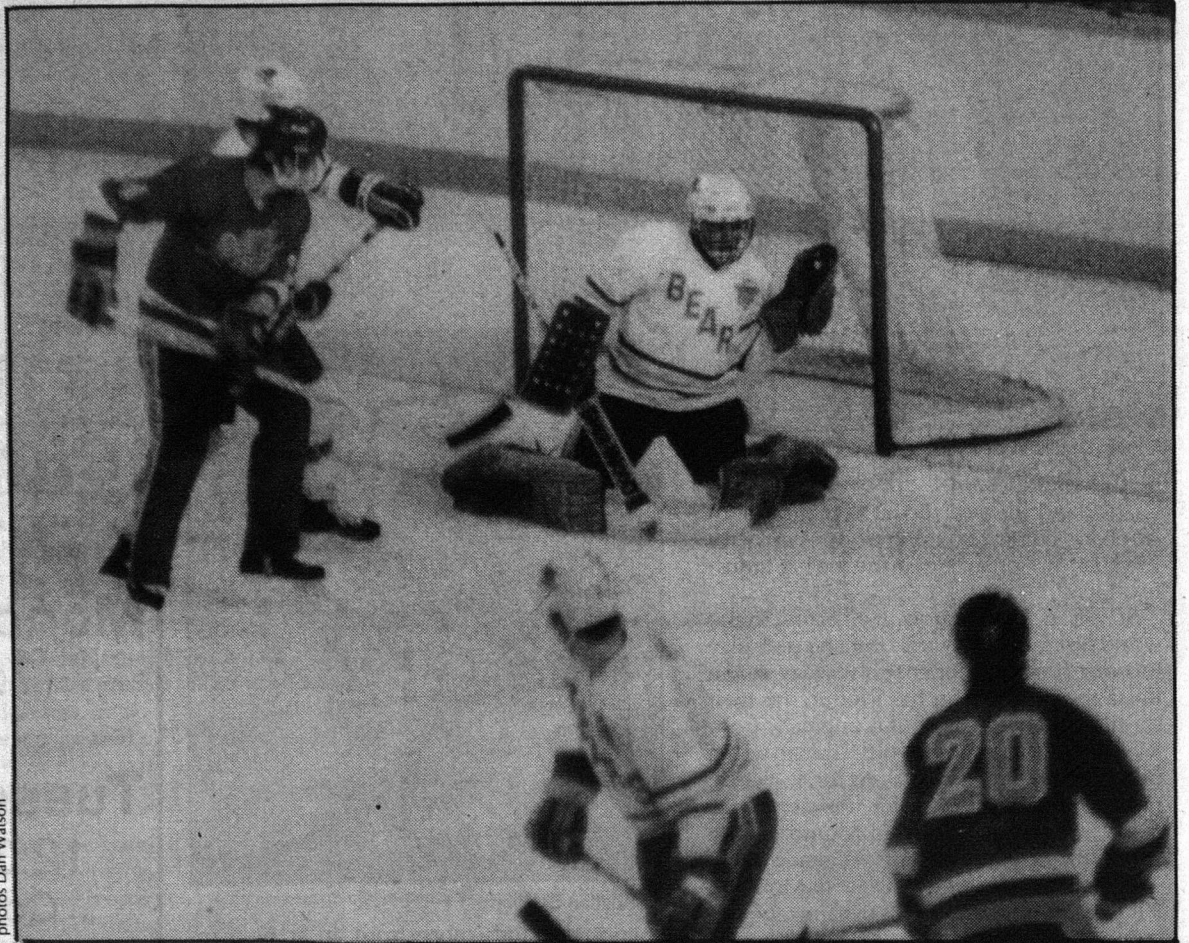
Pearn: "Last year we defeated the eventual CIAU champs, the York Yeomen. This year we're hoping for the Golden Bears to win the national title so that we can say that we once again beat the national college champs."

Round two to NAIT:

But a Bears fan needn't worry. The soft spoken Drake has made it a habit in his 25 years behind the Alberta bench of letting his teams do his talking on the ice. That was the case in last year's 5-4 Alberta win in the inaugural Face Off encounter.

At this point in time, NAIT is on a 17 game winning streak and just last weekend beat SAIT 8-2 and Medicine Hat College 13-2 on a southern road swing.

The Ookpiks will have late returnee goaltender Jeff Lastiwka back in goal for the game and Pearn is more than pleased. "I haven't had much of a chance to see the two Alberta goaltenders



(Above) Ken Hodge makes a save in last year's game. (Right) NAIT will rule in ticket sales as they're already far ahead of the UofA in that department.

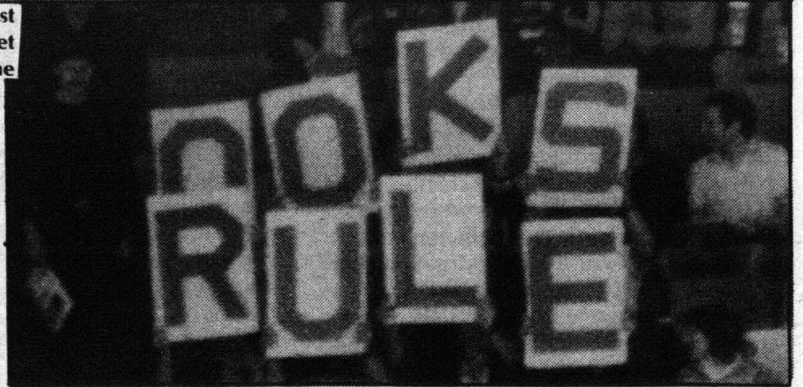
(Darren Turner and John Krill), but I'm quite sure that Jeff is of at least equal calibre."

Also, 22 year old leftwinger Mike Spencer was apparently approached by the Winnipeg Jets at the Viking Cup tournament in Camrose and should attend the Jets' training camp next season. The Ookpiks won the Camrose tourney over some excellent competition from overseas.

The Golden Bears, like NAIT, should head into the match on somewhat of a roll. At this point in time their record stands at 16-2, good for first place in Canada West. Alberta hosts the last place Regina Cougars this weekend and then will have a tougher series the following weekend when the third place Calgary Dinosaurs come to town.

So if ticket sales don't pick up around the U of A, it will seem like a road game for the Golden Bears even though the Northlands Coliseum is listed as a neutral site.

But the way things work with students and sports in Golden Bear country, if a visiting team even brings its cheerleaders, Alberta loses the home ice advantage. So the Bears shouldn't be affected either way.



## Tarasuk best in the west

by Mark Spector

Freshman left winger Al Tarasuk has been named CWUAA Player of the Week for the week ending Jan. 19, 1986.

The 21 year old Science student had a five point weekend, including two goals, to lead the Golden Bears to a sweep of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

On Thursday night in Saskatoon Tarasuk had three assists, a pair of them on Alberta's two overtime markers by Curt Brandolini and Eric Thurston, as the Bears defeated the Dogs 5-3. Friday evening he scored twice, including the winner, as Alberta completed the road sweep with a 4-2 victory.

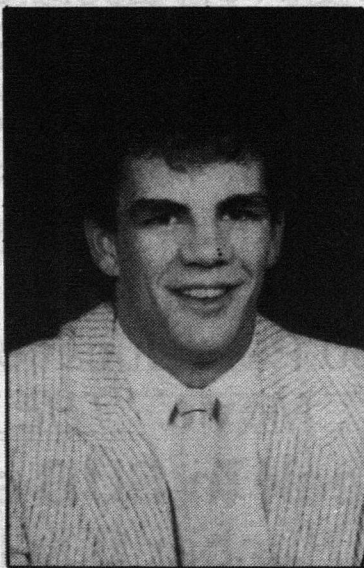
The weekend spree gives Tarasuk 11 goals and five assists for 16 points in 12 games. He sat out Alberta's series in Manitoba the previous weekend with the 'flu'.

Tarasuk spent last season with the Sherwood Park Crusaders of the Alberta Junior Hockey League (tier two) after being released by the Bears shortly before the end of training camp. For the two years before that Tarasuk laboured in the WHL (tier one) with the Brandon Wheat Kings.

Al has had to adapt to the Canadian university style of play after his several years in the junior ranks. The less aggressive play is one factor, but coming to an organization like the Golden Bears doesn't make it any easier. "It's definitely a tough team to break into," admits Tarasuk. "There is so much tradition and you have to adjust to coach Drake's system of doing things." Because Clare Drake is not the kind of coach that adjusts to one player.

Tarasuk dominated the Huskies, especially in the second game. "That was the game that I felt best about since joining the team,"

explained Tarasuk. "But I hope that there's more of those games down the road."



Al Tarasuk... Player of the Week

## Pandamonium!!

It's Pandamonium!

From the gyms and lockers of our university has come this strange form of celebration. And tonight, and tonight only, it escapes from the hallowed halls of the U of A and converges on Goose Loonies night club.

A brainchild of Womens Athletics Coordinator Sue Natrass, Pandamonium is a screamin' combination of one heck of a good party and an excellent fundraiser for Ladies sports at the U of A.

Tickets for the event are available from any member of a Pandas team and the Dept. of Athletics in the Butterdome. Tickets are \$5.00 and include entrance into The

Goose and one free drink. Tickets should be purchased in advance because the women get \$3.50 from every ticket if they are bought before the door opens. As well, the free drinks end at that time.

"Last time we had over 300 people there," says Natrass. Drinks are served until 3:00 am and rumour has it that a few members of the Panda entourage were present for last call when the event was last organized in November.

The theme will be "Beach Night" and there will be an Air-Guitar competition between all the Panda teams, so come and have a good time with the Pandas, tonight at The Goose.

The STUDENTS' UNION is giving you a Piece of the Action!!

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The first 150 customers will receive a <b>\$1.00 voucher</b> redeemable at <b>L'Express restaurant</b>	The first 100 customers will receive <b>FREE TICKETS</b> to <b>SUB Theatre Movies</b>	The first 50 customers will receive <b>\$1.00 vouchers</b> redeemable for <b>Billiards of Bowling at SU Games</b>	The first 100 customers will receive <b>\$2.00 vouchers</b> redeemable at <b>SU Records</b>	<b>RATT T-Shirt night Special Price</b>