

Cagers miss "by that much"

Bears 65 Dinos 61
Bears 53 Dinos 55

Last weekend the U of A Golden Bears tripped down to Calgary to see if they could finish in the top spot of the CWUAA men's basketball league. They put on a great performance, but failed in a last ditch effort.

The Calgary fans were rabid as they arrived for Friday's game. Most were aware that each team had to win both games to be assured of a playoff spot. The loser of the first game, then, was out. To add spice to the spectator action, the loudest representatives of a residence floor could carry home 15 cases of beer. (Something of a foolhardy tactic for any university to employ).

With Calgary's tough 1-3-1 zone defence the Bears had to play control ball and wait for defensive errors. By quarter time they had fallen behind by 5 points. Alberta played as consistently as the Dinos and pulled in a few more rebounds against the taller opposition. At the half the Bears trailed by four, but still were within reach.

All the Bears needed was a rest. They came back and poured shots at the Calgary basket. With ten minutes left they held a comfortable 7 point margin and seemed to be on top of Calgary, still maintaining ball control.

Calgary plugged along, dogged defence holding back the Bears while their tall men poked in and around the Bears basket. They were slowly catching up. With two minutes left the Bears had the ball and appeared to be waiting for one final shot. They hit one but there was enough time for Calgary to find two more points.

There the two were, tied at 56-56 with seconds left. Again Bears played for one shot. They

missed. Calgary stormed back with only 10 seconds remaining. They set up and shot. It dropped in. The crowd screamed and rushed to the floor. Everybody in the place thought it was over except one person. The timekeeper, in a call that took real balls, said the shot went up after regulation time had elapsed. There was a five minute overtime left to be played.

The Bears hit fast with a field basket and two foul shots. Calgary simply could not put it together as their little ball carrier Ian MacKay fouled out. Alberta held their lead and got the satisfaction of a fantastic win.

Saturday's game was played in a different world. No ill mannered drunks, no scantily clad male impersonations of cheer leaders and no noise makers. The tempo of the game was the same.

Bears had trouble with rebounds all night and dropped their shooting percentage from a respectable 46% on Friday to a dismal 29% in this game. In the early going it was clear they were lacking the hot hands.

Play went much the same, except it was the Bears who trailed most of the game. Calgary built up a 9 point lead only to let Alberta nibble it away to a one point lead with 5 minutes left. Bears seemed to have the momentum but just when they could have pulled away, they had two series of plays where they missed from right underneath after grabbing rebounds.

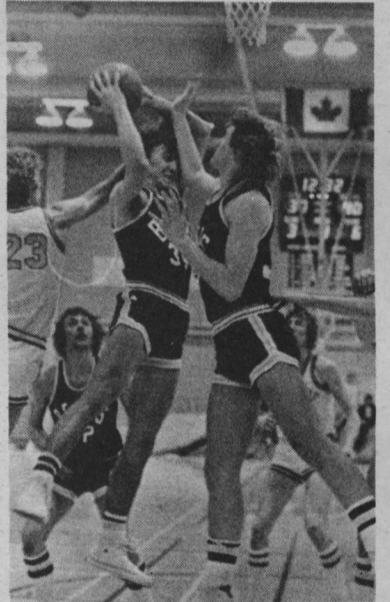
Bad shooting in the late going cost them the game. Had the Bears scored three more points they could have snagged first spot, with the loss they are relegated to fourth.

Wallace Tollestrup had the best percentage on Friday,

scoring 13 points at 75%. Dan Court had 14 points as Bears top scorer.

Alberta only had Doug Baker into double figures in Saturday's game. As a team the Edmonton side only gave up 8 turn overs, a sign of real ball control. Bears were out-rebounded in both games by the taller Dinos, who even had a rare goal tending call in the first half of Saturday's game.

UBC and U of Victoria go at it in Victoria to decide the conference representative in the finals down East. Both teams should be tough again next year. Calgary, however, appears to be the team to beat. They have a strong team now and will likely return almost all their starting players next season. Bears will lose Bill Hamilton and Wallace Tollestrup, leaving two big holes to be filled by this year's rookies. Perhaps next year will be different.



Len Davidiuk helps (?) Wallace Tollestrup (34) with a rebound as Dinosaurs' Ted Hellard (23) sails on by.

Gals end on upswing

Pandas 78 Dinnies 46
Pandas 78 Dinnies 38

The U of A Pandas had no problems defeating the U of C Dinnies in two games at Calgary this weekend. In the meaningless series, Calgary played just as one would expect from a team of their low standing. There wasn't a bright light in their lineup.

The Pandas put together fairly good games both nights, to slight the host team before a partisan crowd.

In Friday's game it took the Northern girls a while to get untracked. The game was still not out of sight for the Dinnies by the half, as they trailed 25-33.

Pandas soon found the scoring punch they had been lacking in the early going. Charlotte Shmyr had tough stuff under the boards and punched

in 15 points while Amanda Holloway was the game's top scorer, lobbing in 18 points with her steady long shots. Brenda Thorpe had 16 points for the Dinnies in their losing cause.

The tone set for Saturday's game was entirely different. The wild crowd that was around the night before, in anticipation of the Men's game, was absent. Again the Pandas had a scoring field day. They had total control of the game from the start. Kathy Moore had a hot hand for her last game as a Panda, as she dumped in 22 points.

The Pandas season is now complete. They finished this year with a record identical to last year. 9 wins, 11 losses. They lose only two players for certain this year, but no one is sure who else might leave the team for greener pastures elsewhere.

UA Gymnasts to CIAU finals

Eight University of Alberta gymnasts - five men and three women - will travel to Winnipeg this weekend for the combined Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union and Canadian Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Union finals being held at the University of Manitoba.

In the men's events, competition is between conference teams and institution teams. And as the Golden Bear gymnasts - Brian Smith, Colin Lorbach, Gordon Osborne, Neil Hutchinson and Alfred Sin captured the Canada West Championships last weekend, they will go to the finals as the five man institutional team from the conference.

Smith and Lorbach also join Bob Blanchette of the University of Calgary, Wally Borchardt of the University of British Columbia and Darryl Howe of the University of Calgary on the conference team.

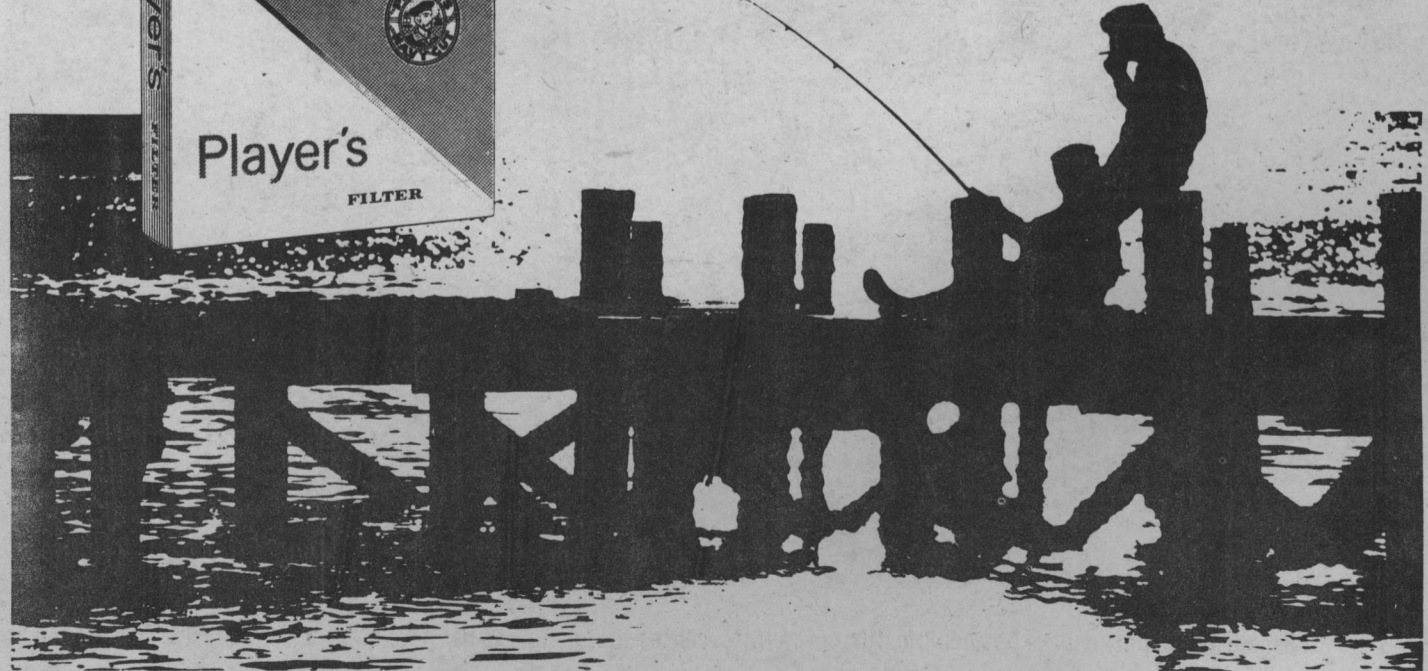
In women's competition, where only a conference team is sent, Panda gymnasts will make up half of the Canada West team. By virtue of their one, two, three placing in the conference championships last weekend,

Yvonne van Soest, Barbara Rutherford and Wah-King Ng will join Kerri Michelits of UBC and Linette Lahey and Tammy Wolcotte of the University of Calgary on the six-member Canada West conference team.

Francis Tally, the Golden Bear Coach, says the men's conference team stands a good chance of winning while in the institution competition his

continued on page 11

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