

# SPORTS

## OVERTIME

Sports and politics just don't mix. After Gateway editor-in-chief Andrew Watts was elected SU VP External the conflict of interest charges really hit the fan. Student political hacks fell off their fence posts and, hell, it's hard to write this in sports style. Actually, it is hard for the sports department to understand or care about anyone who sweats as little as Andrew.

You can check the news and editorial pages if you want the play by play but the summary is that Andrew pulled himself off the mound in the eighth inning and sports editor Brent Jang came in as fireman...er, editor.

Yup sports and politics are in a swirl and when the dust clears, yours truly finds himself sports editor. The problem is that I find nothing else. All the sports stories have hit the showers.

This weekend's diving competition was the last event on the U of A sport calendar. I hope to hear from any teams who may have been left off my lists but it looks like the Gateway sports pages are going to finish out the year in a flurry of features and columns.

**Overtime** is a sports column in the classic, traditional style. An obnoxious, slovenly bozo who is as far from being an athlete as draino is from being wheatgerm will take his ill-informed, knee-jerk reactions to the issues of the day and through a combination of mixed metaphors and absurd analogies transform them into unreadable run-on sentences. And away we go.

...Can it be true? Is civilization as we know it over? Are people actually supporting Harold Ballard as he drags the Hamilton Tiger-Cats through the mud?

Nobody in Edmonton needs to be reminded how petty a city council can be, particularly when it comes to their mismanagement of sporting facilities. You can't park at the Trapper games and you can't even get a beer at the Oiler Games. If our city council was running Hamilton they would have to declare bankruptcy in six months.

However much whomever looses in Hamilton, killing the cats is not the answer. Pal Hal bought himself a team he isn't clever enough to make a profit on and if he were anyone else I'd even feel sorry for him.

But you can't close down a sports team as if it were just another failing business. Sports and arts are the soul of a city, part of the legacy of its existence. Ballard entered into a trust with Hamilton when he bought the Ti-cats and even if his requests for a share of the concession profits are reasonable (wouldn't that be first?) instead of ending the team in spite the only honorable thing to do is to wait for a buyer.

As for moving the team to Toronto, forget it. Toronto fans won't watch a roving band of gypsies in a stadium smaller than Taylor field and the league knows it.

Any league that can survive Nelson Skalbania will survive Harold Ballard. Eventually some good may even come of it if someone who can run a sports team without running it into the ground takes over the Tiger-Cats.

Kent Blinston

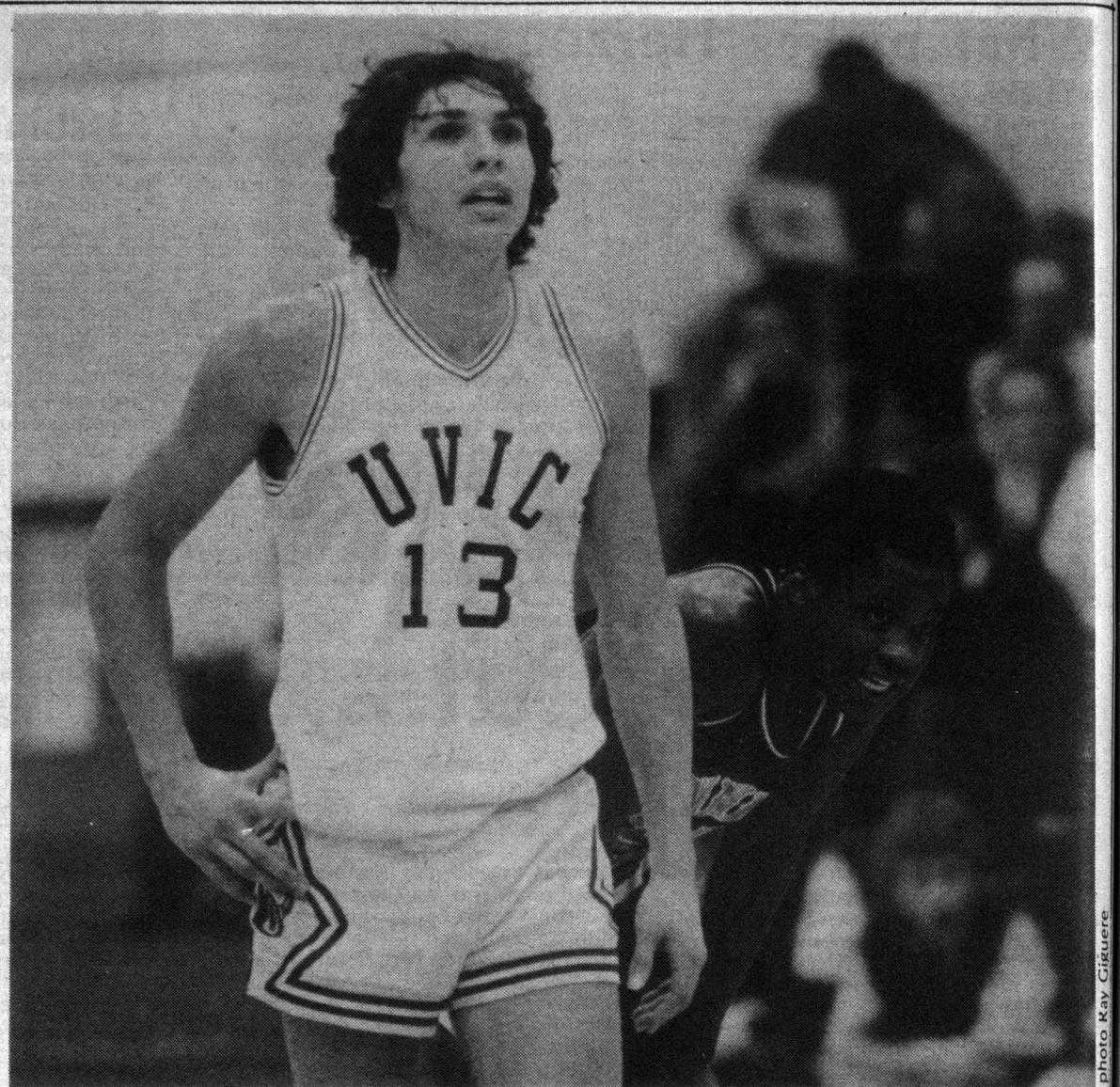


Photo: Kay Clisure

Eli Pasquale led the University of Victorial Vikings to their fourth CIAU basketball championship as they downed the Waterloo Warriors 73 to 62.

Pasquale (above) scored 23 points against the home team Warriors and was named most valuable player in Saturday's game.

The Vikings grabbed a 12-0 lead in the first period and lost the lead only once.

The Warriors hurt themselves

with numerous turnovers particularly in the fourth period,

crushing any attempt at a comeback.

## Nash the splash

Gateway news services

Two U of A divers picked up two firsts and a second at the Canadian winter nationals held at the Kinsmen aquatic center this weekend.

John Nash took the one-metre event on Friday but on Sunday he was unable to repeat as ten-metre champion, placing second to David Snively of Point Claire, Quebec.

Sunday's competition also decided the women's one metre title, the U of A's Tracey James.

Snively beat Nash by less than a point, 533.01 to 532.14. Although Nash held a commanding 12 point lead going into the final round, his last jump was disappointing and Snively, working on a new repertoire of jumps, was able to overcome the gap.

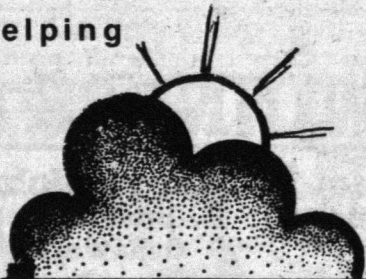
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