

Politics; Danyluk

Volley Bears, Pandas raise ranking

by John Stewart

The formal interuniversity volleyball season may have finished more than two weeks ago but competition continues at a hot pace.

Last weekend the University of Alberta Golden Bear and Panda volleyball clubs confronted 48 teams (half male, half female) from several points in Canada and the U.S.A., each team emerging in fifth place overall, at the University of Saskatchewan Super Volley Invitational Tournament.

The Bears placed second in their preliminary pool after beating the Saskatchewan Hammers (2-0) and the Winnipeg Colt 45's (2-0) before losing to the Canadian National team (2-0). The Nats won by virtue of "the height, net play and experience" according to U of A coach Hugh Hoyles.

In the second round pool the Bears again won two of three matches; they won versus University of Calgary Dinosaurs (2-1) and Saskatoon Foubar (2-0) and lost to Toronto Metro Condors (2-1).

The Calgary match was particularly important "because it sets us up for the Provincial AA Championships this weekend" at the U of A, said Hoyles.

The third round, featuring the top six teams in the tournament was the Bears undoing, as they lost to both the Winnipeg Volleyball Club and Roadrunners. The Bears then met the Metro Condors to determine fifth place overall. The U of A squad took three of five games to win the match.

Overall, the National team placed first, the host University of Saskatchewan Huskies (recently returned from winning

the CIAU championships) placed second, Winnipeg Volleyball Club was third and Roadrunners were fourth.

For Hoyles his team's tournament performance is promising; they are "digging in and settling down...playing good, controlled volleyball," and their chances in the second of three AA tournaments are good.

Former National team member and present Golden Bear Terry Danyluk was named to the tournament all-star team, which excluded National players.

The Pandas, although boasting an actual fifth place finish, "think they are the second best (intercollegiate) team in Canada," behind the U of S Huskiettes, according to Baudin.

NCAA champion Utah State women finished in first place overall, followed by U of S, Utah State #2, the Manitoba Winter Games team, Pandas, and York University. York was CIAU runner-up to the Huskiettes two weeks ago, and the Pandas defeated them in a best-of-five match (3-2) to determine the fifth place team.

In preliminary pool play the Pandas won all three of their games, dispatching Winnipeg Volleyball Club (ranked number four in the nation), Calgary Volleyball Club and Saskatoon Volleyball Club, all by 2-0 match scores.

Second round play saw the Pandas win two more (vs. Simon Fraser University and Regina Stingers) and drop one (2-1, to the Huskiettes).

Before defeating York in the final round the U of A women lost two more, to the Utah Aggies, and to the Manitoba Winter Games team (which took the Gold medal in

Brandon). According to Baudin the Aggies are "just a super team" with an average height of six feet and incredible power-hitting talents. Nevertheless the Pandas forced them all the way in the first game before losing 16-

14. They lost the second game 15-3.

No Pandas were selected to the Super Volley all-star team because it was just "too big of a tournament and too political," Baudin said later.

If the Pandas place first in this weekend's provincial tournament (as they did in first such event) they will have virtually clinched a spot in the senior national championships in April.

Bears' rugby program set

An "introductory run" has been scheduled by the U of A Rugby club for Thursday, March 15, followed by an important meeting in RATT. The run commences at the main gymnasium in the Physical Education Complex and is open to members and interested newcomers.

Rugby has enjoyed a rejuvenation on this campus since 1976, when the Golden Bears squad was resurrected, and promises to continue its climb this year.

Under the tutelage of national team member Tony Bauer, the Bears have earned a respectable measure of success in Alberta Division II play.

In the formative year the Bears suffered a number of defeats, primarily due to inexperience, but since then the team has captured two Lorr-Ann Cups (1977 and 1978), emblematic of provincial supremacy in Division II rugby.

As well as emerging as area and provincial champions last

year the Bears hosted two US college teams in May 1978, during the Edmonton Test Tournament. One of the American teams (San Diego State) hosted the Bears in early October of last year, as the U of A athletes travelled to Southern California for a series of exhibition matches.

The Bears intend to be strong again this year, emphasizing a hard running and

aggressive style of play. Tournament organizers stress that any interested in joining the club welcome: "Experience is not a prerequisite, just enthusiasm."

All team members are given the opportunity to compete with the Bears.

Organizers are also looking into the possibility of forming a women's squad, as well as entering into men's intercollegiate competition.

Libel suit launched

Coach versus paper

OTTAWA (CUP) — The coach of Carleton University football team has filed a \$300,000 libel suit against Carleton students' association and the campus newspaper, *The Charlton*.

Brian Kealey says he wants to clear his name because a December story in *The Charlton* quoted several of the team's players questioning his competence as coach.

The players told *The Charlton* they publicly criticized Kealey because they wanted to improve the situation. In the story Kealey was quoted as saying the controversy would probably have a detrimental effect on next year's team.

Despite the size of the libel suit, the coach says money is not his main objective in suing the association and newspaper.

Hockey

Pandas step closer to West title

Three league championships in three years of existence. This impressive record belongs to the U of A Panda Hockey Club. The team dutifully kept their record intact last week as they swept through the Northern Zone double-

knockout tournament without a single loss.

The team started the series rather shakily as they fought to win a 2-1 sudden death overtime decision from Ardrossan in a game played last Monday. Shelley Noton scored the first

Panda goal but the squad did not score again in regulation time despite at least two power play opportunities in the final period thus forcing the game into sudden death overtime. Captain Yolande Joly finally put Panda's on top by scoring an unassisted goal after a rink rush.

The hard hitting game was won on the scoreboard, but in the dressing room, the Pandas were hurting as they lost a defencemen due to injury. Holly Meyer suffered a badly sprained ankle while Mark Kostashuk strained ligaments in her knee.

The Pandas then played Ardrossan again Thursday night at Grand Trunk Arena. Ardrossan had made their way back to the "A" side with a overtime decision against the Pandas. The first period saw Panda's down 1-0, while the second period score was a goal for Ardrossan with Shelley Noton supplying the Panda's only goal. The third period saw a great upswing in the Panda's play as they outshot, outskated and outscored the Ardrossan Club to pave the way for a victory. Jo Hutsul inspired the Pandas by slamming in a tough second goal for the Panda's while Shelley White and Yo Joly scored the next two to seal the victory.

Vern Baker, the President of the Northern Zone was pleased with the calibre of play and overheard stating that the Panda's were some of the best women's hockey he had seen.

The Panda's now are preparing up for the Provincial Championship, in Innisfail the 30th and 31st of March. In the event that the Panda's take this title they are eligible to attend the Western Canadian Shield Tournament in Calgary the following weekend.

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