

The hoop Pandas lose another close one. p. 13



Mark Spector

## Horwood a master of the draw

The **Golden Bear Invitational** basketball tournament, that our own **hoop Bears** won over the weekend, is considered by Canadian roundball gurus to be one of the most competitive Classics in the country.

Perhaps the best of its kind.

Yet, there were still teams that looked as if they were out of their league. That's the way it is, and that's the way it will always be as long as basketballs are orange and the home team makes up the draw.

I grew up playing **Little League baseball**, and the one thing that you knew for sure, no matter what tiny **Alberta** town you visited, was that the home team would be on the easy side of the draw.

The level of competition is higher in **CIAU** basketball. But the principle is identical: You don't want to lose out before the final of your own tourney.

If the Bears don't play in that final on Saturday afternoon, the stands will be virtually empty. If the stands are virtually empty, the repercussions begin.

First of all, **The Sports Network** isn't at all interested in airing a game that has no local fan interest. It looks bad for them when the stands are empty.

Secondly, **The Journal**, who along with **Carling O'Keefe Breweries**, sponsors the tourney, don't want to devote the front page of their sports section to a game between **Victoria** (who, incidentally, were invited to take part this year) and **Dalhousie**. In fact, they won't.

And if **The Journal** doesn't devote tons of space to the event, before and during the actual games, the other sponsors don't want in either. And if there's no sponsor...

The chain reaction is endless.

Bears' coach **Don Horwood** has been close to perfect when it comes to choosing the teams and making the draw. **Bishops** came into Edmonton with a pre-season record of 8-3, and it looked as if the Bears would really have a tussle with this eastern school.

Alberta won 95-77, and Bishops would go on to lose by 12 and 20 point spreads to finish at 0-3 and in last place. In their next game, the Bears would face either **UBC**, a club laden with freshmen, or **Regina**.

They beat Regina by 19. The Cougars would go on to lose their final game.

What it comes down to is this: Do you want to invite the very best teams from around the country and risk not making it to the all-important final? Or do you want to play it safe and insure a financially successful tournament and a good national ranking to boot?

The **Calgary Dinosaurs** have been beaten out early in their own Invitational several times. Do you see it on TSN?

Horwood played it smart, I figure. And he got rave reviews doing it.

# Sports

U of S takes the broom to both Alberta teams. p. 14

## HOOP BEARS WIN

by Philip Preville

Bears 95 Bishops 77  
Bears 92 Regina 73  
Bears 65 Calgary 63

When the CIAU basketball Top 10 rankings are published later this week, the Golden Bears should be in the Top 3. If not, they'll have to wonder what it takes to get there.

The Bears dramatically defeated the University of Calgary Dinosaurs 65-63 on Saturday afternoon to win their own tournament's championship. Golden Bear Mike Kornak buried a 17-foot jump shot with two seconds left in the game to give the Bears their sweetest victory of the season. A rip-roaring crowd of approximately 1000 fans were on hand to witness the victors claim the spoils. Team captains Kornak and Mike Suderman accepted the trophy on behalf of Alberta and each Bear received a championship ring.

"Calgary beat us the same way last year to knock us out of the playoffs," said Bears' forward Scott McIntyre, "so there was a taste of revenge to it. Plus, we wanted to win it for the three guys who won't be here next year."

McIntyre was referring to Kornak, Suderman, and Dean Peters, all of whom are in their last year of eligibility. Coach Don Horwood seconded that emotion. "It was their last chance to win a ring. I'm very happy for them."

The Bears were behind for most of the second half. They fell behind with 13 minutes to go and didn't regain the lead until ten minutes later, when Peters did some hard work under the basket. First he



grabbed someone else's rebound, then his own, before finally scoring the layup to give the Bears a 61-59 lead. "This team has more confidence than ever before," said Peters. "A couple of years ago we would have choked if we were down in a game like that."

Chris Toutant led all Bears scorers with 14 points, while David Youngs had 13, including three 3-point shots. The two Alberta guards were named to the Tournament All-Star Team. Also named as All-Stars were Donovan Lawrence of Calgary, Chris Biegler of Regina and Paul Johanson of UBC.

Calgary Dinosaur John Vigna scored 22 points in the final game and was named the Tournament's MVP. "I'd give it up for one of those championship rings," said Vigna. "This weekend was the best we've played all year. A couple of our key players will be back from injuries in January, and we hope to give the Bears a run for their money then."

Calgary advanced to the final by beating the Whitworth College Pirates (Spokane) 88-83 as Vigna tallied 28 points. Then, on Friday, the Dinos upset last year's Tourney champions, the University of Saskatchewan, by the score of 66-54. The Huskies have had a rough pre-season so far, and their key player, 6'8" - 258 lb. post Byron Tokarchuk, has been plagued by back prob-

lems.

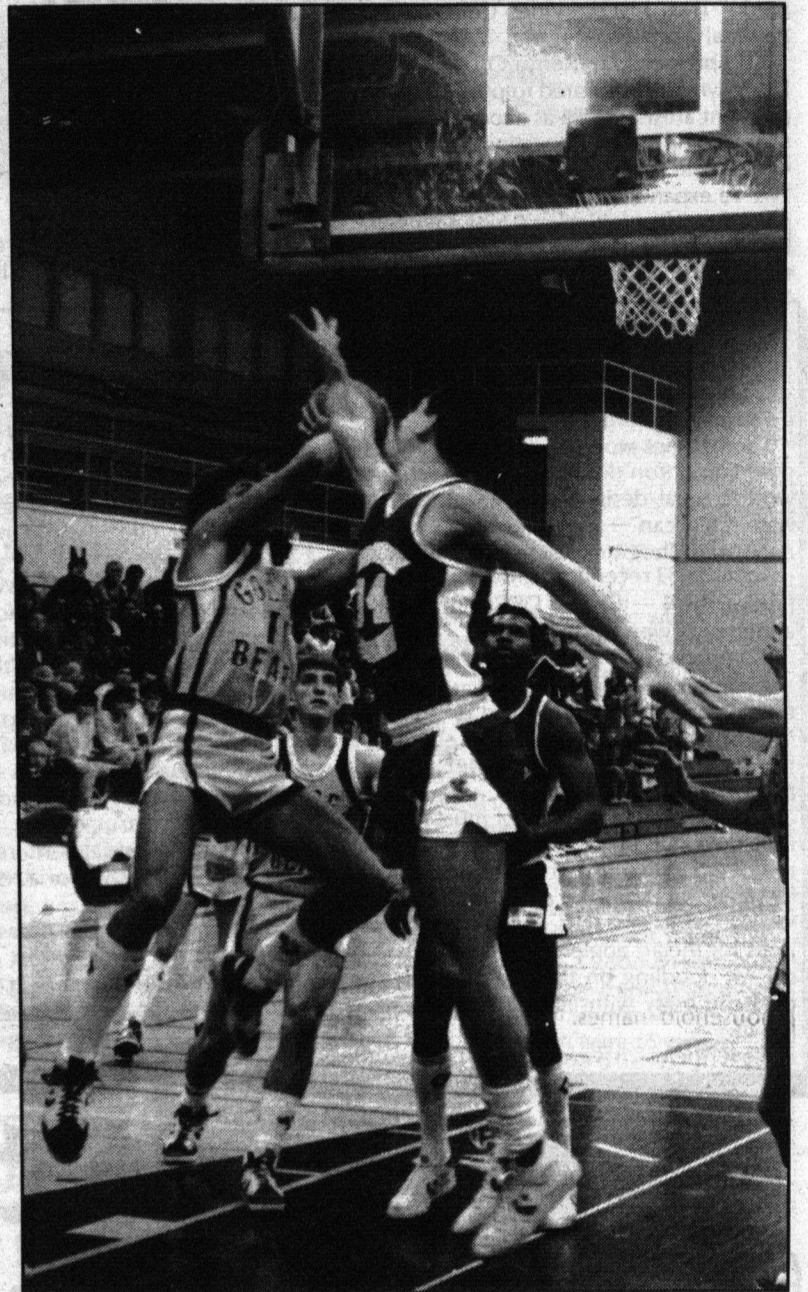
"Byron's injuries are no excuse for us," said Huskies' coach Guy Vetrie. "We are still a good team without him. We need to find some consistency very soon." Tokarchuk's back forced him to miss the first 12 minutes of the Calgary game. The Huskies went on to finish in third place.

The Bears' road to the final wasn't particularly rocky, however. They defeated Bishop's University 95-77 in a game that featured some flashy slam-dunks by Scotty McIntyre and Mike Kornak. Kornak, Peters, and Suderman each scored 16 in the Bishop's game. In Friday's semi-final the Bears defeated the U of Regina 92-73. Cougars' coach Ken Murray gave the Bears' all the credit. "The Bears are playing great basketball. I think they're in the top three in the country."

Alberta has now won both tournaments they have played in this season, and have lost to Canadian teams only twice.

Despite the hoopla, coach Horwood put the whole thing into perspective. "I'm glad we won for the big home crowd, and I'm glad the whole thing looked good on television," said Horwood, "but it was just another game. We've got a long road ahead of us."

**Tourney Tales** — The **UBC T-Birds** banged and hacked their way to a fourth place finish, defeating the **University of Manitoba Bisons** 85-78 as Johansson tallied 30 points. **Joe Ogoms** scored 22 for the Bisons... UBC finished the tournament with a whopping 84 fouls over three games... The Bisons advanced to the game against UBC by defeating Whitworth 84-83. Ogoms drove the lane and scored with one second left on the clock... Whitworth avoided the last-place tag by beating Bishops 104-84.



Mike Kornak fights for a lay-up vs. Calgary. He would later sink a 17 footer with just two seconds remaining to win it for Alberta. photo Paul Menzies

## Bears awake for sweep over Regina Cougars

by Blaine Ostapovich

Bears 10 Regina 2  
Bears 6 Regina 2

REGINA — 60 minutes of hockey.

No mental breakdowns.

Good solid hockey in our own end.

The above statements have all been bantered around the Golden Bear dressing room for the last month or so, but for Clare Drake's hockey team this weekend, all those well worn cliches described his club's performance to the letter.

Alberta was heading into its games this past weekend versus Regina with a mediocre 6-6 record. There was talk that when the Bears awoke from their hibernation someone was going to get hurt. For the Regina Cougars that day arrived all too soon, as the Bears mauled the Cougars by scores of 10-2 and 6-2 in Regina.

Friday night was Bill Ansell night, as he and linemates Stacey Wakabayashi and Dennis Cranston scored six goals all told.

Ansell, a former Regina Pat junior and a native of Swift Current, Sask., had a substantial cheering section behind him as he netted three goals. By coincidence, Ansell

was moved to the team's top line in place of close friend Curtis Brandolini who was back in Edmonton tending to academic matters. Ansell's performance also brought back memories of the SAS line of a few years ago, when the Bears were led offensively by Ansell, Dave Souch, and Rick Swan.

All the Bears had fun on Friday though, as Alberta led by 4-1 and 7-2 period scores and coasted to a 10-2 victory.

Jeff Helland, Dave Otto, Bret Walter, Parie Proft, and Todd Stokowski also scored, as Alberta out-shot Regina 64 to 39.

Bears' goalie John Krill was solid in goal, beaten only by Warren Dosko and Todd Elik.

Saturday was the same story, but Regina goaltender Ken Geber would first put on an exhibition in the opening period to hold the Bears in a scoreless draw.

In the second frame, however, Geber just ran out of luck. Alberta scored four times in the middle frame, then both teams tallied twice in the third for a 6-2 final.

Walter scored twice Saturday, and Ron Vertz, Howie Draper, Wakabayashi, and Stokowski scored

as well, as Alberta peppered Geber with 60 shots.

Elik and Brent Marinos scored for Regina.

Needless to say, the Bears return to Edmonton in a positive frame of mind. Going into the Christmas break on a positive note can only help this club who at times this year has looked lost.

**Bear Facts** — a couple of players were banged up from the weekend: **Dean Clark**, who was already nursing a bad ankle and knee, bruised some ribs; **Ron Vertz** got a good bump in the head following a scrap with the Cougars' **Tim Hammond**... Draper's goal was his first of the season, while Walter also had been previously goal-less...

**Brian Harley** played the final 13 minutes in goal Friday for Alberta, but was not listed in the official scoring. The scorers were pre-occupied with a skirmish... the best non-fight of the year saw **Jack Patrick** and the Cougars' **Todd Elik** almost go at it. Both players met at center ice and began to drop gloves, sticks, and their helmets in meticulous fashion, squared off, but then were pounced upon by the linesmen.