

## It's official- Smith new B'ball coach

Garry Smith, an Assistant Professor of Physical Education with an interest in the sociology of sports, has been named Head Coach of the U of Alberta Golden Bear basketball team.



Garry Smith

ment. Zemrau said that the appointment wasn't restricted to in-house people, that a number of coaches from successful schools across the nation were considered. "But," he said, "we are convinced that Garry Smith has all the qualifications to be an outstanding Golden Bear basketball coach."

Running through Smith's qualifications, Zemrau stressed the success Smith had in coaching the junior varsity basketball teams at the University of New Brunswick and the University of Western Ontario. He also stressed Smith's performance as a Golden Bear basketball player and team captain. "We've never had a better floor leader than Garry," said Zemrau.

A native of Edmonton, Smith attended Bonnie Doon High School before entering the University of Alberta and ob-

taining a Bachelor of Physical Education degree. He subsequently attended the University of Western Ontario, from which he has a Master's degree, and went on to earn a Doctor of Physical Education degree at the University of Alberta.

His direct contact with basketball, apart from playing, includes about ten years of instructing it, coaching the junior varsity teams at the Universities of Western Ontario and New Brunswick, and a stint as coach of the team at Edmonton's Victoria Composite High School.

For the past five years, Smith has been a member of the Golden Bear football coaching staff, recently having the title of defensive co-ordinator. He also coached football at New Brunswick and Western. In 1972, he was chosen Alberta Amateur Coach of the Year by

the Alberta Football Coaches Association.

Smith has spent the last portion of this academic year at the University of Washington in Seattle, on a half-sabbatical leave, studying topics in the sociology of sport. As a result, he was able to see only a few Golden Bear basketball games this year. "But," he said after the announcement was made, "from what I've seen and heard, the team should be in fairly healthy shape next season."

Smith said that he plans to have a highly qualified assistant coach to whom he can delegate a large measure of responsibility and authority.

Talking about the approach he will take, Smith said that he feels the game at a university should be considered as a learning situation, where the emphasis is on individual development. And, he said, because of the situation at the

university, sport at an inter-collegiate level can only be justified on the basis of excellence. However, overlaying this is his conviction that there must be an element of fun.

"Participation should be a learning experience, but one you can enjoy," he said. "If it's not going to be fun, I don't want to be involved." Smith added that he was happy to get the coaching job, as any coaching position at the University of Alberta would have to be considered a "plum" due to the good athletics organization. "There's a good program, all you have to do is coach," he says.

The new head coach is encouraging players interested in playing for the Golden Bears to come and try out. He says that although he expects a number of players to return, there will be positions up for grabs.

Smith, who has an extensive coaching background in basketball and football, will replace Barry Mitchelson who recently resigned his coaching duties to have more time for his family and academic interests.

"We considered a number of applicants for the job," said Ed Zemrau, Chairman of the Faculty of Physical Education's Department of Athletic Services, in making the announce-



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