Hockey decisions a

You can't really blame Golden Bear hockey coach Brian McDonald for smiling a bit these days.

A quick glance at the list of hopefuls out at the Bear training camp at Varsity Arena shows the reasons for McDonald's joy.

Only three players from last season's Western Canadian cham-pions, Wayne Wiste, Jim Seutter and Don Darling, are gone, with the balance of the club remaining

In addition to this nucleus, the Bears have Sam Belcourt, Dave Couves and Don Manning back trying to regain berths, all of whom played two years ago when the Bruins won the national championship

About 60 assorted bodies still remain, although the number is expected to decrease by the week-

"We scrimmaged our rookies and newcomers against the Edmonton Monarchs (of the Alberta Hockey League) last night," McDonald said, "and then we have an intrasquad game slated for this Saturday afternoon.'

"We should be able to tell who's got it and who hasn't on the basis of these two encounters."

The biggest dogfight appears to be shaping up among the forwards. About 35 candidates are vying for only nine or ten positions. Looking impressive so far have been new-comers such as Bobby Devaney, with Brown University last year, Mike Snider, Pat Hendricks and Al Cameron, both ex-Edmonton Oil Kings, Randy Clark and Harvey Kirkland, both of whom were with the Junior 'A' Edmonton Movers last season.

The goaltending race is far from

settled with incumbents Dale Hal-terman and Bob Wolfe trying to save off a serious challenge from Zane Jakubec who last season was with the Junior Bearcats.

Defensive spots will be hard to come by too as far as newcomers are concerned. Gerry Braunberger and Mike Ballash, both on the first all-star team last year, Mel Baird and Dan Bouwmeester are all returning. Giving it a good shot are new faces such as Dave Pinnell, Greg Jeglum, Ian Harvey and Brian Cuthbertson.

"It's going to be a tough job to try and pick this hockey club," McDonald states in the understatement of the year. "We'll be cutting some good hockey players, guys who could make it with just about only other club, in the large." any other club in the league.

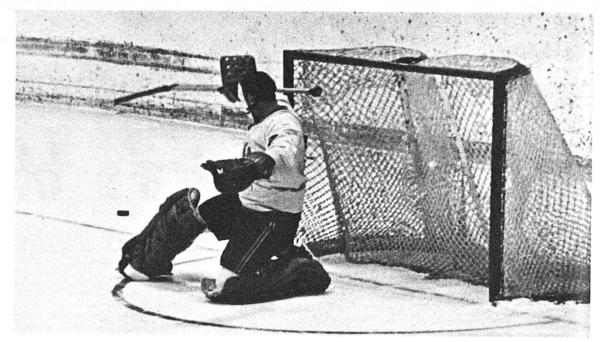
The Bears have a week left to prepare for their first serious start of the year when they travel to Calgary for a pair of exhibition games against the Dinosaurs Oct. 24 and 25. The Dinnies return the visit the following weekend.

Other exhibition games are scheduled against the Canadian National Team, the Edmonton Oil Kings, the Edmonton Monarchs, the Regina Pats of the Saskatchewan Junior League, the Trail Smoke Eaters and the Nelson Maple Leafs of the Western International Hockey League.

League playoffs begin with semi-final games on Feb. 20 while the league finals will be played on Feb. 27, 28 and Mar. 1.

The Canadian championships will be staged this season at Charlottetown Mar. 5, 6, and 7.

The winner of the Canadian title will represent this country in the World College Championships to be played in Finland.



"GET OUT THERE WHERE YOU BELONG," says Edmonton Monarch netminder Jim Knox as he kicks out a shot during last night's scrimmage between his mates and the Golden Bear rookies. The newcomers who have been in training camp for only a week managed to make a game of it before losing 3-2.

Soccer Bruins off to WCIAA Championship

Today the U of A Golden Bears soccer squad is on its way to Win-nipeg for the 1969 WCIAA Soccer Championships.

Although the club was formed in 1967, this is the first time the Bears have entered the competi-tion. Confidence is high on the Alberta club, though.

Eight universities will be represented including the University of Calgary Dinosaurs, who the Bears recently trounced 5-1 and 6-0. The Bears are playing in Group 'A' and will battle against the U of S (Saskatoon) Huskies, the U of S (Regina) Cougars, and the University of Victoria Vikings.

The winner and runner-up of this group will play their counter-parts from Group 'B' for the final

C.B.C. BARBERS

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and consolation final.

The eventual victor travels to Fredericton, New Brunswick to meet the Eastern champions for the Canadian Championship.

The Bears are taking 14 players and there is plenty of depth on the squad with 11 men coming from the Old Country with a wealth of soccer experience. These include 1969 Edmonton All-Stars Andy Scanlon and Geoff Salmon and 1968 All-Star Robin Ison.

Polish-born goalie Karol Krotki played for the Alberta under 21 team at the Canadian Games in Halifax and his skill between the posts should hearten the Bears.

Two performers of great poten-tial are West Indian winger Ken Lewis, a Schoolboy International, and Tom Varughese, the youngest member of the squad.

Edmonton-born Jim Barton is

the best striker in the team and he scored 27 goals for the Bears dur-

ing the summer season.

Halfback Dave Clayton is now running strongly and has regained his form, and fullbacks Roger Hayler and Terry Whitney are tack-ling and covering well. Barry Sad-ler, Tony Crossley, Ron Kosky and penalty-ace Guy Borthwick are all seasoned forwards and will be fighting for every ball.

A lot will depend on the substi-tutional changes of Coach Stuart Robbins as the Bears are playing four 90 minute games in three days. But tough training in the last two months should provide the necessary stamina. If this can be coupled with the skill and improvision that the Bears are captallocal that the bears are captallocal that the skill and improvision that the Bears are captallocal that the skill and improvision that the skill and improvision that the skill and improvision that the skill are captallocal than the skill a able of, then it should be a successful first venture into WCIAA soccer competition.

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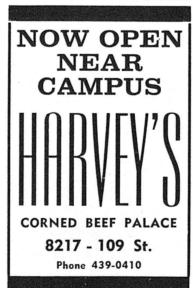
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