

# Hoop Bears split

**Golden Bears 93 UBC T-Birds 75  
Golden Bears 77 Victoria Vikings 94**  
by Pat Maguire

The Golden Bear basketball team opened the Canada West season on the weekend and came away with a split decision.

Friday night the Bears hosted the British Columbia Thunderbirds and came away with a 93-75 win. Early in the first half, the Bears pulled to a ten point lead and held it through out the half. In the second half, Mike Kornak played some good defence and came up with a couple of steals and a crowd pleasing slam dunk as a frustrated UBC coach Bruce Enns watched his team fall to a 20 point deficit.

Kornak ended the evening with 20 points, Gerry Couzens had 18. The T-Birds received a good effort out of their two top players, but they received little help from their teammates. Ken Klassen had 26 points for UBC, Paul Johanson had 23.

Saturday night was a different story, however, as the best basketball team in the country came to Varsity gym. Led by 7'0" Cord Clemens, and the aggressive play of forward Dave Sheehan, the Victoria Vikings downed the Bears 94-77.

The Vikings used their overwhelming height getting inside on the Bears continuously, but the Vikings played weakly defensively, letting the Bears finish the half only five points down.

Mid-way through the second half the Bears had the momentum and were trailing by only two points. A questionable call by the referee lit a fire under Coach Don Horwood's seat, resulting in a technical foul. "Taking that technical was a big

error, after that we lost the momentum we had, and once we were behind we got tentative, second guessing. That really cost us," explained Bear's assistant coach Steve Roth.

That technical foul resulted in a five minute scoring drought in which the Bears scored only one point.

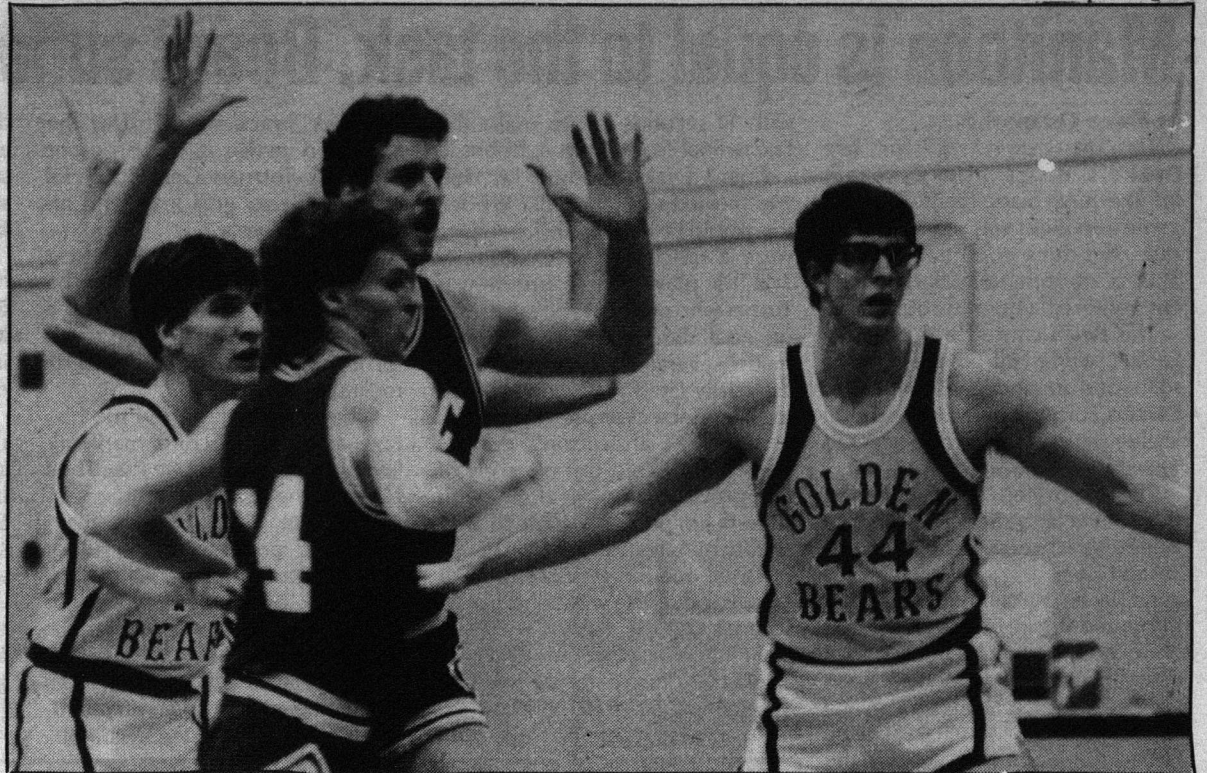
Scott McIntyre had the unenviable task of covering Clemens. "McIntyre had a tough game tonight, he did as well as you could expect, considering his size (a mere 6'7") and his inexperience," said Roth.

Dean Peters led the way statistically for the Bears picking up 19 points and eight rebounds. Gerry Couzens had 15 points.

For Victoria, Sheehan had a great game. "He has a nose for the boards and we couldn't keep him out," explained Roth. Sheehan's teammate, Clemens, agreed. "He played a great game tonight, really aggressive."

Sheehan picked up 16 points and 12 rebounds.

For Victoria, it was a very good



Dean Peters (44) and Sean Chursinoff attempt to guard UVic center Cord Clemens in Saturday's action. photo Pernell Tarnowski

weekend, beating a tough Saskatchewan team Friday night. "We wanted to start the season off right, and we did here and in Saskatchewan, where we won by ten points,"

commented Clemens. For the Bears, they take their 1-1 record to Lethbridge and Calgary this weekend in what should be two tough games. However, the

team is healthy and according to Roth, "nobody played badly (against Victoria) and most of the team has showed steady improvement."

## Ides of March send Rugby club to Victoria

by David Donnelly

With the coming of the new year, the U of A Rugby Club is concentrating its ambitions toward the "Ides of March" tour en route to a rugby tournament in Victoria.

B.C.'s capital will be hosting university teams from Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton, and the U.S. for a rugbyfest March 14, 15, and 16th.

The rugby club, made up of stu-

dents from various city clubs, last played together in Calgary, October 5th where they defeated the U of C Stags 21-12; so, for the record, the Bears are going undefeated into the Victoria tournament.

Preceding the west coast excursion, the Bears will be hosting their own indoor seven-a-side tournament March 1st. The teams in B.C., unlike the Alberta squads, play all year long because of the warmer climate; if the Bears are to play at a

comparable level then this indoor tourney will help sharpen their playing skills and develop better team unity before mid March. The club is looking at holding the tournament in a local riding stable arena.

The club has been making itself visible with various activities around campus, including the snow-rugby last Friday in Quad. And to get themselves to Victoria and back they have been hosting numerous

bingos and will be presenting K.D. Lange at the Dinwoodie Cabaret this Friday.

The Bears took only 22 players to Calgary, yet hope to bring 30 to Victoria in order to field a 'drunk' and a competitive side. For students who wish to join or play again with the club, training began yesterday and goes every Monday evening at 7:00 pm in the Butterdome. Any and all players are welcome.

## Gymnasts beat defending champs

The Panda Gymnastics team defeated last season's Canada West champions the University of British Columbia 128.50 to 127.78 Saturday in Vancouver, to record their second consecutive victory over Canada West opponents this season. Veteran team members Heidi Ross (33.75) and Shelley Spaner (33.30) finished first and second overall to pace the Panda team. Bev Beres of UBC was third overall (33.20).

Head coach Sandy O'Brien was quite pleased with the team's overall effort, although she felt that ragged performances, especially on the balance beam, showed early season nervousness.

Individually the Panda's best event was the vault, where they took the top four places with Heidi Ross (8.83), Shelley Spaner (8.57) Donna Spaner (8.40) and Diane Patterson (8.37) all scoring for Alberta. Heidi Ross and Shelley Spaner also placed first and second on the floor exercise with scores of 8.83 and 8.70 respectively. On the uneven bars Shelley Spaner finished second (8.43) while Ross was third (8.03). Beres of UBC won the uneven bars event with 8.47 points.

The Pandas only bright spot on the balance beam event was Heidi Ross's 8.06 second place finish.

To date the Pandas gymnastics team have five girls above the CIAU championship qualifying score of 29.00 points. Ross (33.75), Shelley Spaner (33.30), Carrie Nawata (31.86), Diane Patterson (31.52) and Donna Spaner (30.80) have all surpassed the mark. However, only the top 36 gymnasts in Canada over 29.00 points qualify for March's national championship. All of the gymnasts will strive to increase their point totals, in two weeks time at the Klondike Invitational, January 26th, in the Butterdome.

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