

Jeff Cowley

by Mitch Panciuk

After being swept in a weekend series by the University of Victoria last weekend, both the Pandas and the Golden Bears now get ready to work on their final exams, which for some, already started this week.

Everyone seems to forget this every so often, but yes—athletes are actually students and have exams and papers just like the rest of us. In addition to this "academic" workload, they also practice every day and have to travel on weekends which most students can usually reserve for homework.

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TWO BIG time-almost-overtime, and extremely tough, games against Vic has dropped the Golden Bears to a 4-2 conference, and a 14-2 season, record. As most of you know, the Bears lost those games

by one point each night: 86-85 and 67-66. The games were close from start to finish, and provided some of the most exciting b-ball that fans here at the U of A have seen in recent history.

SEAN CHURSINOFF led the Bears in scoring with 34 points Friday and then with 29 on Saturday. Unfortunately

### Posting up

ately for the Bears, the rest of team couldn't keep up with "Chursi's" play, and Vic walked away with two wins under their belts. This means that to host the Canada West finals, the Bears are either going to have to sweep when they go to Victoria, sweep here against UBC, and at least split when they go to Vancouver. They will also not be able

to lose any games against Calgary when the Dinos come here in February. The Bears swept the Dinos when they visited Calgary last month, and no doubt the Dinos will be looking for some revenge.

WHAT THIS all means is that the rest of the year will be tough going for the Bears if they hope to host the finals. Tough, but not impossible. As UVic head coach Guy Vetric said, "The Bears aren't dead—they're a long ways from being dead."

THE BEARS travel to Toronto to participate in the Ed DeArmon tournament over the Christmas break. According to Mark Spector in *The Edmonton Journal* on Monday, he feels that the people running the tournament may not be happy with their attendance now that the Golden Bears have lost their number one ranking. Considering that seven of the National top-ten teams have either beat the Bears by one point, or lost along the way in a tournament that the Bears won (the GBI)—maybe people in Toronto shouldn't take the Bears lightly. Look for the Bears to win their third tournament of the year over the Christmas break, and to beat the heck out of the teams there as they are still hurting from the two losses to Victoria.

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LAST WEEK I slammed the Panda basketball team for a lack of effort which I saw as being dishonest to people paying to watch. However, the Pandas went out and played with a lot of heart and desire. The column itself didn't make them play better—the Pandas did it themselves. We're going to expect them to work as hard as they did last weekend for the rest of the year.

FOR THE Pandas, the weekend match-up saw them play the second best team in the nation. This same team had lost to the number one team by just one point in one of their games the weekend before, so the fact that the Pandas were able to keep up for almost all of the

game against the Vikings means that they can play with anyone in the country. This is something that coach Diane Hilko has been telling everyone that will listen for the past three months. It was nice to see Victoria head coach Kathy Sheilds "sweating it out" as her Vikings were fighting for their lives with just two minutes to go in Saturday's game.

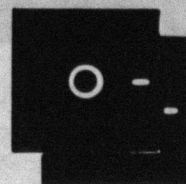
TWO OF the Panda rookies exploded and scored a barrelful (not just a bucketful) of points in those games on the weekend. M.E. Lazertte graduate Susan Chalmers led the team in scoring with an average of 19.5 points per game. Also Sal. Comp.'s Tracie Wilkie came in and scored a total of 20 points on the weekend, many of those with the foul and the bucket counting.

AFTER CHRISTMAS the Pandas will once again have the services of second-year veteran Tracey Cook. Cook, from Livingston High School

in Lethbridge, broke her finger in the Pandas' first CIAU game of the year at the Saskatchewan Invitational tournament on November 3. Playing the forward position, Cook will bring her 13 points per game into the Panda arsenal and in addition, will bring exactly what the Pandas need desperately—a whole bunch of rebounds. In the four games that she played, she racked up nine rebounds. Hilko is also planning on having her help to carry up the ball in order to relieve some of the pressure that the Pandas have been feeling on the press.

THE PANDAS are to travel to the Lady Wesman Classic basketball tournament in Winnipeg between Christmas and the new year, and Hilko is hoping to maintain the higher "level that we finished off against Vic", and keep going with the heart and soul that the Pandas exhibited on the last weekend of regular CIAU basketball for the '1980's. Next time we see the Pandas again will be next decade.

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## This is wallyball

by Carol Kassian

The growing sport of wallyball will be introduced on campus beginning in 1990.

Wallyball is an enjoyable team sport that is easy to learn. The general play of the sport is very similar to volleyball. In fact, the sport has been referred to as "off-the-wall" volleyball.

Wallyball teams consist of 2, 3, or 4 players. The unique feature of the game is that it is played on a racquetball/handball court. A net is installed in the court and the balls may be hit over the net as in volleyball, or against the side walls.

Although teams that are serving the ball cannot use the back wall of the court, the receiving team may deflect the ball off its back wall in order to keep the game going. The ceiling is also in bounds, but only

on the side of the team that hit the ball into the ceiling.

In August, net supports were installed in two of the U of A's racquetball courts. The supports were installed so that they would not interfere with the playing of either wallyball or racquetball. By accommodating more than one activity within the courts, the use of the facilities was enhanced.

In January, these two courts will be available for wallyball and may be reserved through the same booking procedures that are used for racquetball and squash. Bookings may be made two days in advance of desired playing days by presenting a valid user card or student I.D. card at the Equipment Room in the lower level of the Van Vliet Centre. If there is a large demand for wallyball, a third court will be modified.

Campus Recreation is also planning a wallyball tournament as a special event in late January or early February.

For more information, Please contact Carol Kassian or Hugh Hoyles at 492-2555.



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