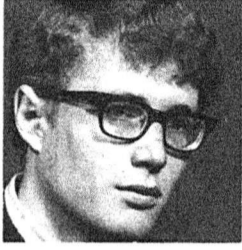


Gateway Sports



Bob Anderson ... one man's opinion

Usually I'm not one who places too much confidence in the favorite pastime of making resolutions for the New Year.

More often than not, the promises made on January 1 have a nasty habit of disappearing two or three days later.

But I was pleased with the resolution made this week by the group that controls Canada's international hockey team.

I refer, of course, to Hockey Canada's decision to pull Canada's team out of the upcoming World Hockey Championships because of the refusal of the International Ice Hockey Federation to permit us to use nine professionals.

That the IIHF should renege on its original decision to allow us the use of the pros is not surprising in light of other shaftings that this country has taken from that group.

For the last 15 years, Canada has been pushed around, bullied and otherwise mishandled when it comes to international hockey matters.

IIHF president John "Bunny" Aherne, who can be compared to a puppet on a string, has been mainly responsible for all the shit handed us.

The latest in the series of shafts was the result of a very neat coup by two other members of the IIHF, Sweden and Russia.

The Swedes wanted the 1970 Championships, scheduled for Winnipeg and Montreal, for themselves, as it would mean an additional \$500,000 for their coffers.

The Russians, on the other hand, were quite unhappy with the tournament schedule which had them playing back to back games at three times. Pity the poor Ruskiies.

So, taking advantage of a provision in the Olympic Games code, they spread the word that playing against Canada's pros would possibly impair the Olympic eligibility of the participating nations.

Since Russia controls the votes of both Czechoslovakia and East Germany, and Sweden the vote of Finland, it was easy for them to "persuade" the IIHF to throw out its previous decision to allow us the use of the professionals.

So, in the end, it was an either or proposition for Hockey Canada and the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association. Either accept the new terms or get the hell out.

For my money, they made the right decision.

Sure, the organizers of the tournament in Winnipeg and Montreal may be a bit unhappy about the whole deal, but at last this country has finally stood up for its rights.

Aherne and his International Olympic Committee counterpart, Avery Brundage, both of whom will never see retirement age again, just can't seem to realize that the Russians, the Czechs and the Swedes are in reality professionals in their own right, although they do a good job of covering it up.

The Russian pucksters are officially listed as being members of the Red Army, but in fact devote ten months a year to the chore of playing hockey. If that isn't professionalism, I don't know what is.

Hockey isn't the only sport which has been bandied about by international bodies.

Skiing and track and field, just to mention two others, have been the target of Mr. Brundage, whose concepts of amateurism date back to at least 1870. It was only a year and a half ago, that the 80-year-old czar forbid Olympic skiers from displaying the brand names of their equipment in newspaper and magazine photographs. How silly can you get, Mr. Brundage?

Now that we have finally taken the big (and long overdue) step, it will be interesting to see what the Europeans do about it. My guess is that they will be the ones who come running back to us, urging us to rejoin the fold, only this time on our terms.

If they don't, we've got lots of time and nothing to lose and we'll bloody well wait until they do.

The only solution is to make the World Championships an open affair, with all participating countries being allowed to ice their 18 best hockey players. Until then, the tournament will merely remain the sham that it now is.

Eastern swing a great success McDonald's puck Bruins ready for UBC, Victoria contest

THUNDER BAY, Ont.—It was a fitting ending for a highly successful exhibition tour.

Brian McDonald's hockey Golden Bears fought to an 8-8 draw with the Lakehead University Nor'westers here last night in the fourth and final game of a gruelling eastern swing.

The non-conference tour, which also saw the Bruins lose to Waterloo Warriors 4-3 and defeat Laurentian University Voyageurs 8-6 and Lake Superior State College 4-3, marked the first action for the club since early in December.

And the games couldn't have come at a better time, as the Bears resume their Western Canada Intercollegiate Hockey League schedule with games Friday and Saturday evenings at Varsity Arena.

"The guys were really tired tonight," said an obviously pleased McDonald following the contest. "We've had a pretty tough grind in the last five days, and I'm surprised at the way we came through it."

The Golden Ones had to do it the hard way, coming from behind an 8-6 deficit in the last five minutes with Bill Clarke's two markers giving the WCIHL leaders the tie.

DEVANEY NETS TWO

Tom Devaney also came up with a pair of goals, with solo efforts coming from Jack Gibson, Bob Devaney, Mike Lemieux and Milt Hohol. The Bears had defeated the Nor'westers 7-2 and 9-5 in previous non-conference encounters.

Particularly gratifying to McDonald was the play of Lemieux and Tom Devaney.

"Both had an excellent series," he bubbled, "and look to be rolling at last. Hohol also looked good in the four games."

One Bear who won't likely recall the trip as being a success is netminder Bob Wolfe who allowed 14 goals in the two games he played.

Nor will centre Al Cameron who separated a shoulder in the Laurentian contest. He is not expected to be in the lineup for the games against UBC Friday and Victoria Saturday.

Collecting goals for the Bears in the Waterloo game were Tom Devaney, Don Falkenberg and Lemieux, while Hohol with two, Gerry Hornby, Gerry Braunberger, Sam Belcourt, Lemieux, Cameron and Falkenberg potted markers against the Voyageurs in Sudbury.

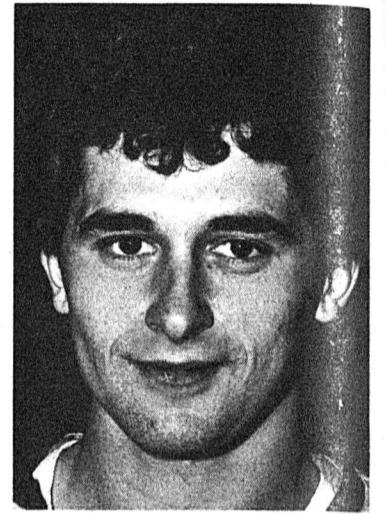
Bob Devaney, Gibson, Hohol and Hornby blinked the red lamp against Lake Superior. The game was played in Sault Ste. Marie.

MUST BE SHARP

The Bruins will have to be sharp this weekend if they hope to add to their 3-0 won-lost mark.

UBC's Thunderbirds, currently in third place in the WHIHL at 2-1, appear to have a tough club again this year. Their only loss was to the fifth place Winnipeg Wesmen in the Manitoba centre.

Victoria, on the other hand, has yet to win a game in three



MIKE LEMIEUX

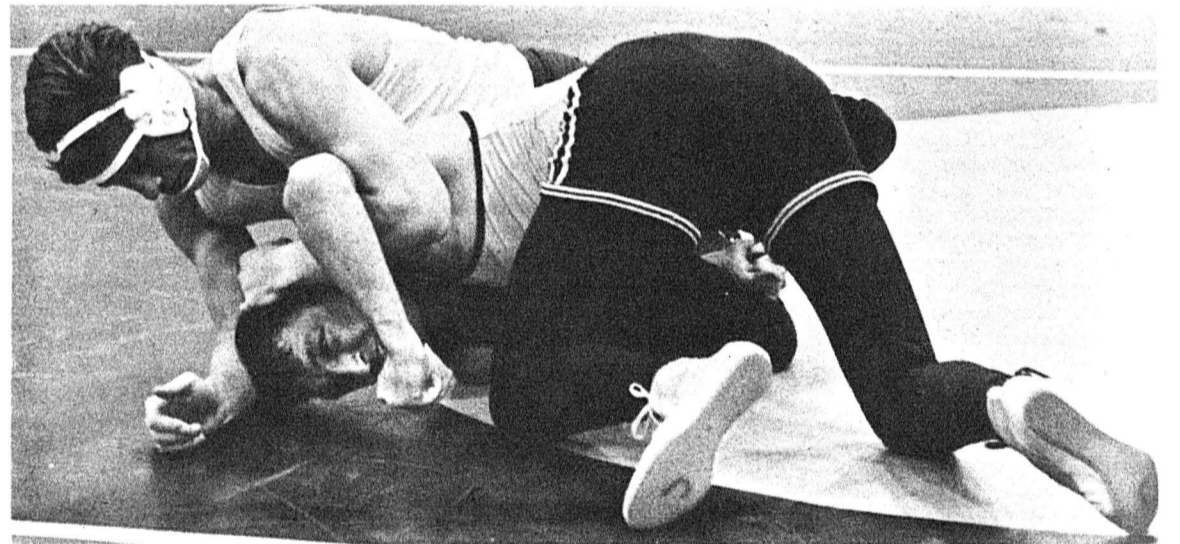
... great series

starts in its maiden season of WCIHL play. But the Vikings would dearly love to post an upset either against the Bears or the Calgary Dinosaurs, whom they meet Friday in Calgary.

The Thunderbirds boast an impressive array of returning veterans led by Wayne Schaab and Jack Moores. Schaab, who finished third in league scoring last season with 41 points, leads the pack this year with five goals and nine assists. Moores, an ex-Oil King, has been a league all-star during the past three seasons.

Other T'Birds to watch out for include goalie Rick Bardal, a four-year man, Laurie Vanzella, Mike Darnbrough, and Barry Wilcox.

Game time both Friday and Saturday at Varsity Arena is 8:30 p.m.



JUST ONE OF THE MANY TRICKS TO BE SEEN

... at wrestling tourney this weekend

Golden Bears ready for grapplerama

A sneak preview of the Canadian Intercollegiate Wrestling Championships will be held in this city on the weekend.

The Golden Bear wrestling team under Coach Bert Taylor will host the University of Alberta Wrestling Tournament.

The meet this weekend will attract about 70 competitors wrestling in ten divisions from both Canada and the United States. Teams from the University of Calgary, the Calgary Amateur Athletic Union, the Edmonton Amateur Athletic Union, Montana State, Gonzaga University and Whitworth College, both from Spokane, Washington and the University of Alberta will compete.

All matches will be held in the Main Gym. The opening matches are scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday while Saturday's bouts get underway at 10 a.m. and at 2 p.m.

The Bears will field a team that includes three Canadian weight class champions. Gord Bertie, Canadian champion in the 105-pound class, is a science student who transferred to the University of Alberta this year from Sir George Williams University in Montreal. He represented Canada in Argentina last year.

The Golden grapplers will be represented in the 134-pound class by Karl Stark, another member of the Canadian team to Argentina. Eighteen years old, Stark is an honors science student.

Another former Sir George Williams student, Serge Gauthier, will wrestle for the Bears in the 142-pound class. Gauthier, at 21, is the 145-pound class champion in Canadian intercollegiate circles. Serge is a third year physical education student.

Bob Thayer, another newcomer

to the Bears will wrestle in the 158-pound class. A physical education graduate student, Thayer came to the U of A after four years at Springfield College in Massachusetts.

Brian Heffel, the Canadian champion in the 163-pound class, will wrestle in the 167-pound classification. A grad student in physical education, he was a member of Canada's Olympic team to Mexico in 1968.

Montana State will be led by Merle Olson who wrestles in the 142-pound category. He is undefeated in competition this season.

The heavyweight of the tournament will come from Whitworth College. Mike Carr, a five-foot-four inch 270 pounder, will fight in the heavyweight division. He finished second in the NIAI Championships in the U.S. in 1969.