



University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, the defending champions of the WCIAU basketball loop, will be in town this evening to open the 1961 schedule.

Advance notice on the T-Birds have them as the team to beat once again and Steve Mendryk's Golden dribblers will have to sweep this series if they hope to upset the westerners.

Head coach Mendryk has a good crop of rookies this year and he is high on their potential. Leading these rookies is Gary Smith, yes, the same fellow who did such a fine job of quarterbacking the football B'ars. In the exhibitions to date Smith has been outstanding as a scorer, play-maker and team leader. Sort of reminds the senior students of Don Munro when he was in his rookie year.

The series should be the best one of the year for the new gym and will be a welcome break from the pressure (hah) of exams.

Many things may and probably will happen this year in the realm of basketball but one can be certain of at least the following taking place:

No longer will the roof cave in during a game at the U of A, but an occasional pipe may fall on the unsuspecting fans.

Nor will the visiting team ever again finish the game still wondering when the lights will be turned on.

Manitoba will accuse Alberta's referees, once again, of being the blindest men in existence.

A new record will be recorded for

attendance at the U of A.

At least one dog will manage to sneak into the limelight and cause referees to wonder why they didn't stay home.

Ed Tomyk, one of the best referees in Alberta, will glare at the cheerleaders as they hold up proceedings.

Alberta will be fighting it out with UBC for the top spot.

And this campus will be the scene of some of the best bounceball games in many a year.

On the hockey front, the guns won't start blazing in earnest for another weekend but then things are expected to start popping.

The Golden Bears and the Lacombe rockets had a nice little play day last Friday which only proved that between the two teams there was evidence of some good hockey players. Incidentally, the Bears won 9-6. As Leo LeClerc said, when he heard the Bear players had played with the U of A and not Lacombe, "well that's one way to win a game, absorb the other team."

The same Mr. LeClerc will be losing one of his proteges to the Golden Bears, of all teams, very shortly as the word is out that Bob Marik will probably be suiting up with Drake's outfit. Seems like a matter of too much school work for Bob who will be graduating in Commerce in the spring.

Bob is a smart, hustling type of hockey player and can do nothing but good for the Golden Ones; it will be interesting to see which side of the fence he will be on Wednesday night.

Bob, by the way kind of hates to leave the Kinglets, as he figures they will go all the way this year.

MENDRYK THINKS THAT

Height Compensates For Inexperience

The week end of Jan. 13 and 14 presents the first of the WCIAU home-and-home basketball series, as the champion UBC Thunderbirds await the

Golden Bears in a double-header on Friday and Saturday nights beginning at 8:30 p.m. in PEB.

In the first game between

these two teams last year, Alberta led until the final 2 minutes, when UBC closed the gap, and finished the game with a 53-50 margin.

According to veteran coach, Steve Mendryk, all things point to a very fine game. With the recruiting of so many rookies, he is confident that the 6'2" average height of his starting line-up will more than amply compensate for the lack of experience.

He is convinced that with the five of: Maury Van Vliet, Jack Hicken, Harry Beleshko, Geoff Lucas, Gary Smith, and Peter Stothard, starting, the Golden Bears stand an excellent chance of making this a victorious weekend.

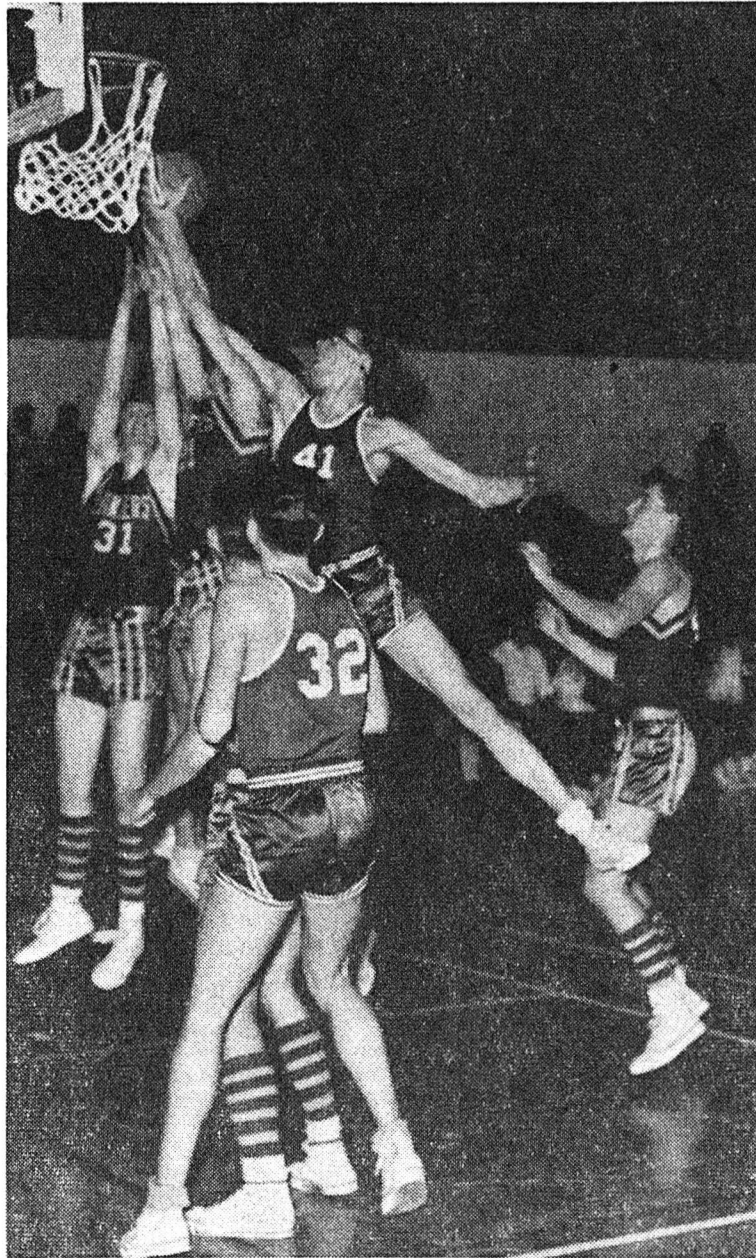
For UBC, Ken Winslade is the big threat. Last year he was voted the "most valuable player" in the WCIAU. The team's record shows them to have lost only one game all season—to U of M; and thus become the 1959 WCIAU champions. However, Mendryk feels they will not pose as big a problem as last year, because of the loss of a number of their better players.

The Bears are in tip-top shape for their first encounter. They have been practising every evening from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for the last three months. Already they have ten exhibition games under their belts, whereas last year they had had four men they first met U of M who had had 14.

As testimony to their degree of fighting condition, only last Friday they walloped the Mac "Bulldogs", consisting of such names as Ed Lucht, Oscar and Art Kruger, Don Munro, and Rollie Prather. The Bears held Lucht to no field goals in the entire game, his only points coming from foul shots. The fuzzy ones were leading by 23 points by the time Mendryk sent in his second string.

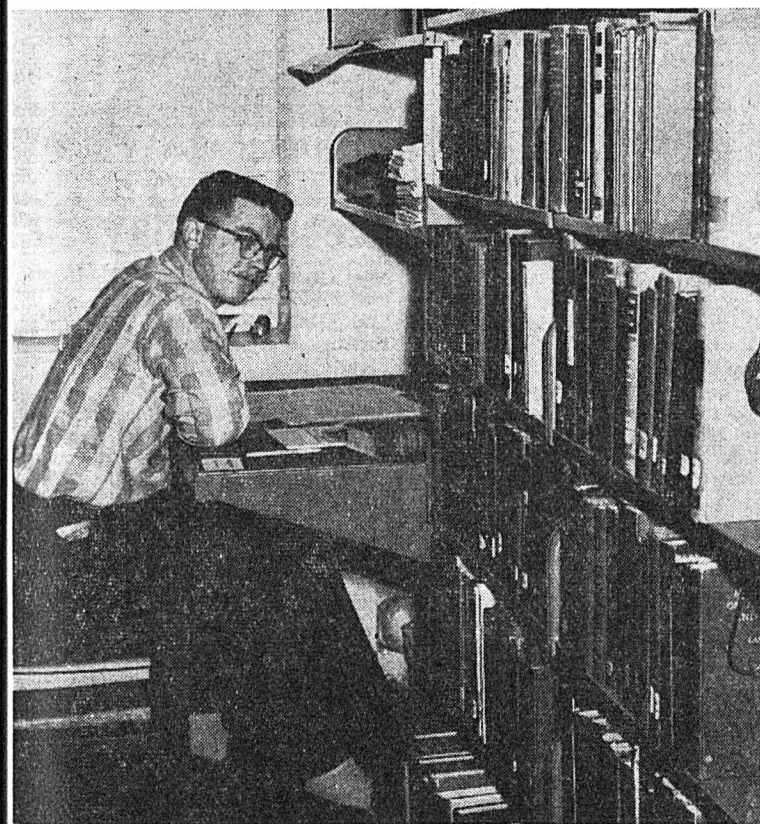
Coach Steve advises the fans that the University league is probably the best basketball series in Northern Alberta or even Canada, as evidenced by the fact that last year UBC swept the Vancouver city league.

The team is looking to the University for a strong turn-out, and staunch support of their first intercollegiate game in the new PEB gym.



UP AND OUT

Photo by George



Former UA Student Receives Scholarship To NYU Of Fine Arts

A former U of A student, John McKendry is now attending New York University's Institute of Fine Arts. He received one of the 29 graduate scholarships granted for the 1960-61 academic year for instruction and research in the history of arts and archaeology.

This Institute is set up to help students working toward master's or doctor's degrees, professional careers in museums, art conservation, art criticism, University teach-

ing, and independent scholarship.

It is housed in an imposing 32-room marble building, the James Duke House, which is one of the few surviving mansions along upper Fifth Avenue in New York City.

Being the first department of fine arts in the United States, the Institute was founded at New York University in 1835 by Samuel F. Morse, inventor of the telegraph and a leading American painter of his day.

Student Awards "Give Recognition"

"Students' Union Awards give recognition to students who have made outstanding contributions to campus life. They are separate from the system of awards for scholastic achievement which has been set up by the Administration".

Page 27 of the Student Handbook outlines the awards, which include: Gold "A" rings and pins, Executive "A" rings, Silver "A" rings, and Gold Key Society membership awards. Athletic awards are determined by a separate committee of the Block A Club.

The Students' Union Awards Committee began the first phase of an extensive programme early in December by reviewing past investigation procedures and by beginning to gather lists of prospective award winners.

Established according to Students' Union bylaw specifications, the present Awards Committee consists of: Peter Hyndman, Co-ordinator of Student Activities as chairman; Andy Stewart and Martha Munz, representatives of Students' Council; and Sam Baker and Louise Calder, representatives of the Gold Key Society.

Executives of all campus organizations have been requested to submit the names of prospective award candidates to the Committee. Likely candidates will be contacted during late January and will be required to fill out information forms which will be considered by the Committee.

Information is thoroughly examined during the regular meetings of the Awards Committee. In mid-Feb. after all investigation is complete and all information has been reviewed, the

Students desiring to draw the attention of the Students' Union Awards Committee to the activities of a student they feel merits consideration by the committee are requested to forward particulars by letter to the chairman of the Awards Committee, Students' Union Office.

Students desiring personal consideration who have not been contacted by the Awards Committee by Feb. 10 are also asked to forward particulars to the chairman of the Awards Committee.

Awards Committee meets to prepare a list of awards nominations for Students' Council. This meeting may continue for as long as six hours.

The final decision on award winners rests with Students' Council, which keeps the results secret for several weeks. Winners are then notified by the Colour Night committee.

Colour Night, the formal presentation of Students' Union, Athletic and related awards takes place Friday, March 17 at a banquet and dance in the Macdonald Hotel.

A separate committee established by Council in Dec. is studying the present awards system. Its recommendations may affect this year's awards procedures.

The Awards Committee also submits a list of possible Valedictorians and Class Historians to Council late in January. Nominations for these positions are being received by the Co-ordinator of Student Activities in the Students' Union office until noon Sat., Jan. 21.

Official notices pertaining to awards will appear in The Gateway. Further information may be obtained from the Co-ordinator of Student Activities.