

Sports

Hockey Bears tested by Lethbridge

by Mark Spector

The Alberta Golden Bears rolled north on highway '2' late Saturday night feeling like the older boxer that had just won a close decision over a young up and comer. They had just completed a two game sweep of the Lethbridge Pronghorns, but they head home with a new-found respect for the 2-10 cellar dwellers from Alberta's windy city.

Craig Dill had the hattrick to lead Alberta to a 6-2 win Friday night. On Saturday, four different Bears scored as Alberta completed the sweep with a 4-1 victory. Alberta's record now stands at 11-1 (an amazing 21-1 including exhibitions).

"We knew that they were a team that didn't have an awful lot of talent, but they work hard and are good diggers," commented right-winger Stacey Wakabayashi. "The unfortunate thing for them was that we were playing really well." The 'Walker' had a pair of goals in the Friday night game and was chosen the outstanding Golden Bear in the series.

The two teams were tied 2-2 after the first period Friday when Al Tarasuk netted his eighth of the season off a two-on-one with 17 year old rookie Bret Walter at 8:46 of the second period. Walter, along with defenseman Colin Chisholm, had two assists on the night.

Then came the goal that broke the Pronghorns' back.

Curt Brandolini took a five minute crosschecking penalty for hammering Lethbridge's outstanding player of the weekend Scott Orban (two goals Friday) after the play. After an ineffective Pronghorn powerplay failed to put the puck past Bear goalie John Krill, Craig Dill stole the puck deep in the Lethbridge zone and fired a wrist shot over the glove of the startled Byron Osing, for Alberta's eighth shorthanded goal of the season.

"There's no doubt that that was the turning point in the game," lamented U of L coach Dave McDowell. "We had a chance to tie the game up with a five minute powerplay, but instead we end up



Pronghorns' goalie Brian Deley will soon grab the puck as Bears' Dennis Cranston looks on. Alberta upped their record to 11-1 with a pair of wins in Lethbridge.

giving up a goal and we're down by two."

"Our guys just don't communicate the way they should. We had the two-on-one break in the second period and they're not even talking to each other. I don't even think that they knew that there were two of them in on the play."

McDowell's club is in only their second year in the CWUAA, and is showing signs of steady improvement. After 11-3 and 8-4 losses in Edmonton three weeks ago, Lethbridge continued their climb to respectability with a solid effort on Saturday night.

Craig Dill opened the scoring for the second night in a row. With Alberta on a two man advantage, Dill steered in a Brian Deley rebound of a shot by Sean Clouston for Dill's team leading 13th goal of the year. But at the five minute

mark the Pronghorn's leading scorer Jim Odland (10 goals, 9 assists, 12 games) evened the count on Lethbridge's first scoring chance on Bear goalie Darren Turner (3.00 goals against average).

"I think that was their first shot of the game," said Turner of the high wrist shot right off the faceoff. "But you know what they say, if you can hold them to only one goal, it's almost as good as a shutout." Nonetheless it was a shame as Turner played shutout goal for the rest of the game.

The 5'10" goalie has played for the University of McGill and the Tier II Sherwood Park Crusaders. Along with John Krill they have turned what was expected to be a weak aspect of the club into a fairly strong one.

"There's definitely a bit of inexperience there, but so far there has

been very few bad goals allowed," remarked assistant coach Jack Cummings. Cummings spent four years in the Junior 'A' Western Hockey League as a goalie for the Edmonton Oil Kings and the Vancouver Nats, and one year in the International Hockey League in Columbus Ohio.

Wakabayashi (11th), Curt Brandolini (3rd, shorthanded), and Jeff Helland (1st) laid Lethbridge to rest for the second straight night.

Sean Clouston, the other 17 year old on the Bears, had a pair of assists in a solid effort for Alberta.

Bear Facts — Jack Patrick missed the roadtrip with a slight pull to the anterior cruciate ligament on one knee. . . The two youngsters, **Bret Walter** and **Sean Clouston**, have impressed thus far and should wear the Green and Gold for a few years

to come. . . Alberta scored two shorthanded goals this weekend to up their league leading total to nine in 12 games. . . Defenseman **Gerald Koebel** (6-17 in 12 games) was absent from the score sheet on the weekend and surrendered the team lead in scoring to **Craig Dill** (13-11 in 11 games). . . Henderson Arena in Lethbridge is no bigger than the average community arena and because they had lost their ice freezing system, they couldn't turn the heat on for fear of melting the ice. It wasn't too freezing though, the temperature in Lethbridge was about -27°C with a steady breeze. . . The Golden Bears take on the **Brandon Bobcats** at Varisty Arena this Friday and Saturday at 7:30. Both games will be on **CJSR 88.5 F.M.** with a pregame show at 7:15.



Friday	6	2
Saturday	4	1



Friday

First Period

1. Alberta, Dill 10 (Chisholm), 2:05.
2. Lethbridge, Orban 7 (Skoye, Olton), 7:00.
3. Alberta, Wakabayashi 9 (Brandolini), 9:08.
4. Lethbridge, Orban 8 (Oldin), 19:51

Penalties — Wakabayashi, Alta. 9:42; Leclair, Alta. 17:25; Thurston, Alta. 19:13

Second Period

5. Alberta, Tarasuk 7 (Walter), 8:46.
6. Alberta, Dill 11 (unass.), 13:31.

Penalties — Gi. Gervais, Leth. 1:42; Gi. Gervais, Leth. 8:22; Brandolini, Alta. major, 9:17; Tarasuk, Alta. 16:49; Odland, Leth. 19:36.

Third Period

7. Alberta, Dill 12 (Walter, Chisholm), 3:03.
8. Alberta, Wakabayashi 10 (Cranston), 6:12.

Penalties — Passey, Leth. 1:02; Koebel, Alta. 12:12; Johnson, Leth. 18:00.

Shots on Goal

Alberta 17 16 14-47
Lethbridge 17 10 8-35

Goal — Alta, Krill; Leth, Osing.

Saturday

First Period

1. Alberta, Dill 12 (Clouston, Otto), pp. 2:49.
2. Lethbridge, Odland 10 (Skoye), 5:00.
3. Alberta, Wakabayashi 11 (Brandolini, Cranston), 5:57.

Penalties — Kabayama, Leth. 1:19; Odland, Leth. 1:54; Tarasuk, Alta. 3:48; Fenton, Alta. Kabayama, Leth. 7:46; Walter, Alta. 14:13; Tarasuk, Alta. 18:52;

Second Period

4. Alberta, Brandolini 3 (Walter), sh. 2:07.

Penalties — Wakabayashi, Alta. 1:00; Draper, Alta. 9:47; Brandolini, Alta. Orban, Leth. 11:40; Tarasuk, Alta. 13:57; Kabayama, Leth. 14:52; Leclair, Alta. 18:04.

Third Period

5. Alberta, Helland 1 (Clouston, Draper), 7:56.

Penalties — Brandolini, Alta. Orban, Leth. 9:06; Fenton, Alta. 10:05; Dill, Alta. 11:09; Orban, Leth. 12:12; Orban, Leth. 14:43; Walter, Alta. Odlin, Leth. 15:28; Johnson, Leth. 17:08.

Shots on Goal

Alberta 9 6 12-45
Lethbridge 5 8 9-22

Goal — Alta, Turner; Leth, Deley.

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