



Bears Joel Kern (8) and Ben Spiller (2) go up to stop Dinosaur power hitter Bruce Edwards. The Bears stopped the Dinos on both Friday and Saturday evenings.

## V-ball Bears get satisfaction

**Bears 3 Dinos 1**

by Ajay Bhardwaj

Last year the Golden Bear volleyball squad could get no satisfaction against the University of Calgary Dinos. They tried and they tried and they tried but they still couldn't. However, on Friday night at the main gym, the Bears showed why coach Pierre Baudin is excited about this year, by beating defending CIAU champion Calgary 3-1.

"It's the first time I can remember we ever beat Calgary," power hitter Dean Kakoschke said. "It's great." Indeed, the Bears didn't beat the Dinos in a match last season. They won this match 15-11, 6-15, 15-12, 15-9.

"There's a north-south rivalry," Bear coach Pierre Baudin said. "There's more at stake," said the coach, who's tired of getting pink score sheets, generally given to the losing team. "I've got a stack this high."

Baudin had expected that the Friday evening encounter would set the tone for the rest of the weekend.

The teams split the first two games, before the Bears took control of the match. The Dinos built a 3-0 and led 6-3 at another juncture, before the Bears rallied behind Kakoschke's leadership to lead 9-7. At 14-2 for the Bears, setter Doug Anton blocked a Calgary spike, giving the Bears a 15-12 win.

An intense Baudin rose from his chair for the change-over and said to the scorekeeper, "now we're going to see some real volleyball."

In the fourth frame, the Bears held leads of 5-2 and 9-4. Calgary coach Greg Ryan encouraged his players to "stay with it" and to "fight hard." However, his encouragement couldn't stop the Bears, and they won the game 15-9.

"We're mis-ranked," said a dejected Ryan, whose team came in ranked fifth in the nation. "We've lost five starters. The Bears have an experienced team. It's a tough league and we started three rookies. We're not healthy, Andy Cameron (a power hitter) is out. We missed having one more elder player on

the team."

Cameron was an individual who Baudin was concerned about playing against. However, he also conceded that, "Cameron will make a difference, but I don't think the match would have been that different. We won because we played tough."

The Bears also received a strong performance from middle-man Ben Spiller. "Ben was brought to the team for leadership," Baudin said. "The team rallies around him. Ben's got the personality we needed on the floor, he's enthusiastic."

The win could vault the Bears into the upper echelon in the CIAU volleyball. "We've proven we should be in the top ten," Baudin said.

## Bears win grudge match

**Bears 3 Dinos 2**

by Peter McKiernan

It was time for the University of Alberta Golden Bears to prove that they will indeed be a strong competitor in this year's CIAU National Championships. The opportunity to do so arose in last Saturday night's match against the defending champion University of Calgary Dinos. Despite a very tough Dino team, the Bears pulled out a 3-2 victory in what could be described as a grudge match to the end.

The match was marked with excellent plays by both teams. Powerful spikes, long rallies, and great blocks contributed to the fast paced action.

Dean Kakoschke, a member of last year's CWUAA all-star team and winner of the Golden Bear Player of the Year Award, was a dominant force on the Bears' inexhaustibly powerful offense.

After three games, the Dinos had a 2-1 lead, but the Bears battled

back and in the end earned a 3-2 victory. Golden Bear coach Pierre Baudin described the game as "a battle all the way." Baudin, in his fourth year as coach, felt his players "played up to their potential."

After a disastrous season last year, Baudin is happy with his new team, stressing that "they have a lot of character," but are only "half way" to the national championships. If Saturday's match was any indication, the Bears have the potential to place high in the CIAU rankings.

The performance of the Bears will be aided by rookies Jason Shewchuk, who was rated the best high school volleyball player in Alberta last year, and Jordan Herget.

Not to be underestimated, though, the whole men's Canada West league is stacked with very strong teams that are going to make life extremely hard for the Bears in the competition to advance to the nationals.

## Offence stymied

**Bears 2 Cougars 2**

by Ajay Bhardwaj

Who'd a thunk it? The Golden Bear hockey team, last year's Canada West champions, picked up only one point in a four point weekend at home against a University of Regina Cougar team that didn't make the playoffs last year. It's the first time the U of A hasn't won at least one regular season home game in a weekend since the 1985-86 campaign. But that's not the strange part. The strange part is that Bears didn't score more than two goals on Saturday night, despite outshooting the Cougars 41-24.

"We played good tonight," center Adam Morrison said. "We just didn't get the breaks. We're having trouble getting goals."

What? The Bears are having trouble getting goals? A team that has boasted the last two Canada West scoring champions is having trouble putting the puck in the net? A team that's led by Doug McCarthy (71 points last season) and by Adam Morrison (39 points last season) is having trouble putting the puck in the net?

You bet. The Bears have only scored 54 goals in twelve games this season. And it's hurting them. They'll limp out of Varsity Arena with a 7-3-2 record. "Certain guys have to take the scoring role and I'm one of them," said center Marty Yewchuk, who had six goals going into the series, but was suffocated by tough Regina goalies.

"It's not a lack of finish," McCarthy said, who had a goal in Saturday's game. "It's a lack of composure around the net. There's not enough confidence around the net."

"It's a combination of trying too hard and maybe thinking too much," said winger Brett Cox, who also didn't get a goal.

SHOOTERS — p 13

## "We believe" says Panda

**Pandas 3 Dinos 2**

by Ajay Bhardwaj

"We believe," a rookie said to veteran during a time-out during the University of Alberta Pandas-University of Calgary Dinos match on Friday evening. And the Pandas showed that they did 'believe' by hanging on to defeat the Dinos 3-2 in a heart-stopping match.

Tied at 15-15 in the deciding game of a best of five match against the National Champions, Panda coach Suzi Smith called a time-out. "When we believe in ourselves, we'll win that match," Smith said. The Pandas won the match 15-7; 7-15; 15-12, 11-15; 17-16.

In the fifth game of a match a point is scored on every serve. The first team to 15 with a two point lead, or to 17, wins the game and the match.

The Dinos took a 16-15 lead before the Pandas charged back to win 17-16. The victory was the first for the Pandas against Calgary in Edmonton in eleven years. The winning point was enough to make Smith spring from her chair and pump her fist in victory.

"There are 200 rallies in a match and it came down to one," Smith said. "It could have gone either way. It's nice to be on this end of the stick."

The win pushed the Pandas record to 3-2, but more importantly, the Pandas showed that they wouldn't choke for a second time. Two weeks ago they held a 14-6 lead against visiting UBC, only to let the match slip away. "We know that we let up against UBC," Smith said. "The key is to say, 'Okay, identify the error and correct it.' Two weeks later we're mentally stronger."

The players were tired this week, but I kept pushing them. We had the endurance because of tough practices. We knew that if we won tonight it's because the girls earned it."

The victory meant a great deal to Smith. "It meant most to me because it was close. When you invest so much into a match you want to win. You're always looking for signs that you're going to another level. Win or lose, we ran a faster offence and we were intense over five games."

## Dinos pound net Pandas

**Dinos 3 Pandas 0**

by Peter McKiernan

To put it simply, Calgary completely dominated the hapless University of Alberta Pandas in last Saturday night's Canada West Volleyball action in the main gym. The Calgary Dinos made short order of their opposition by hitting them with a barrage of powerful spikes and outstanding defense in a 3-0 victory over the Pandas.

Panda coach Suzi Smith was not impressed with the performance of her team, conceding that they "didn't play well tonight." Despite the poor play of the Pandas, Smith expects the team to place "really well" in the Canada West standings by the end of the season. The Pandas are presently in a 4th place tie with Saskatchewan, two points behind Calgary, UBC and Victoria.

It was hard to believe that this was the same team that, just the night before, had posted a 3-1 victory over the defending CIAU champion Dinos. The Pandas were constantly caught making costly errors, which the Dinos took complete advantage of.

Dino coach Brad Kilb described his team as having the attitude of "refusing to lose." Kilb, a past graduate of the University of Alberta admitted he wanted "to beat the U of A more than any other team," but added that overall, any win was important because "it's going to be a real dogfight in Canada West

volleyball." Smith once played for Kilb.

The Dinos' powerful play can be partially attributed to excellent setting by Edmonton native, Michelle Genereux. Teammate Candace Holt also played an exceptional game, highlighted by some outstanding spikes and impenetrable blocks.

## PANDA VOLLEYBALL



**Dig it!**

Pandas Ronnie Shapka, bottom, and Colleen Pistawka get down and dirty to dig out a spike against the U of C. The women are ranked seventh in the nation after three weeks of Canada West action.

Greg Dziwenko