

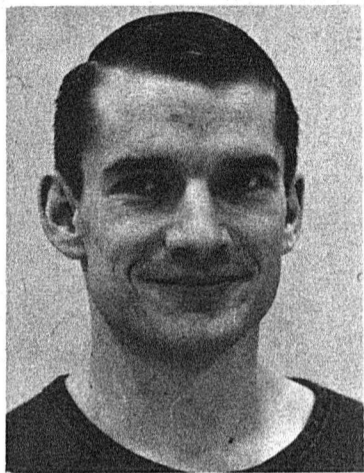
T-Birds are team to beat

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The University of British Columbia Thunderbirds are the defending WCIAA champions. Last year, under Peter Mullins, they ranked second in the nation.

Ian Dixon, rated Canada's most valuable player last year, moves from a guard to a forward position. Neil Murry starts at the other forward position. At pivot, University of Calgary transfer, 6'3" Ken Shields, a conference all-star last year, leads the way. He is backed by 6'5" Frank Rothering. Backcourtmen Bob Molinsky, another all-star, and Phil Langley are the best in the Western Conference.

The Thunderbirds have a veteran lineup. The team will again feature good shooting and a tough defence.



BRUCE BLUMELL
... starting guard



DON HUNTER
... starting guard

They will have to win their early games to regain confidence. Another question mark is Gillis. The veteran has a history of knee problems.

scoring and the forwards seldom control the boards.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

The University of Manitoba Bisons have a new coach and renewed hope for the coming season. Former U of A Golden Bear, Darwin Semotiuk leads the Bisons into the 1967-68 season.

The Bisons have experience and talent. Team captain, 6'3" Eric Bartz, and 6'4" Greg Gillis return at the forward positions. At pivot, 6'4" Ross Wedlake is battling an outstanding rookie, 6'7" Bruce Dobbin. At guard, Irc Hanec, shifty ball handler, and high-scoring Terry Ball, both veterans, will start.

The Bisons have a few question marks. Last year, they finished in the cellar, losing 13 of 14 games.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

The University of Saskatchewan Huskies have four starters returning. Coach Bob Mirwald looks for improvement on last year's 6 and 8 record.

Tom Gosse and Jim Sikulick return on the forward line. Jim Herbism, a rookie, will join them. Playmakers Pat Foster and Doug Kester will be the starting guards.

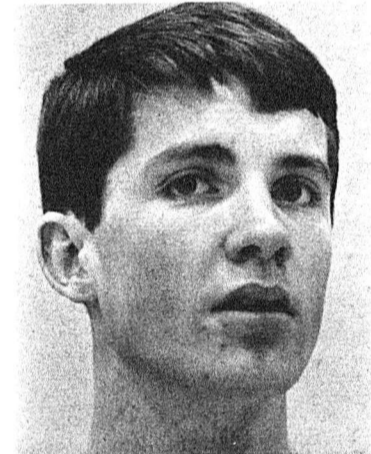
The Huskies feature a pressure defense and good team speed. However, the guards contribute little

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

The University of Calgary Dinosaurs face a rebuilding year. Coach Don Newton lost every starter and only two veterans, Al Kettles and Dale Stuckey, return.

Clarence Amalung, 6'5" rookie, has won the pivot position. Dave Ireland, 6'5", will join Kettles on the forward line. Teaming with Stuckey in the backcourt will be either Glen Alexander or Wes Balderson, a deadly outside shooter.

The Dinosaurs, like the Golden Bears, lack experience. The forward line must control the boards to keep the Dinosaurs respectable.



DAVE SWANN
... starting forward



LARRY NOWAK
... starting centre



WARREN CHAMPION
... starting forward

The '67-'68 Golden Bears

LARRY NOWAK (6-6, 190), from O'Leary, centre, good rebounder, fine low jump shot.

DICK KRENZ (6-3, 183), from Victoria Composite, centre, good drive from high post, good short jump shot, "real tiger".

WARREN CHAMPION (6-5, 185), from Victoria Composite, good all-around forward, one of the best high school players to come to U of A in the past 3 or 4 years.

DAVE SWANN (6-4, 175), from Western Canada in Calgary, forward, good shooter, great deal of potential, fine acquisition out of Calgary high school system.

IAN WALKER (6-3, 170), from Strathcona, aggressive, tenacious forward, can go both ways.

BRUCE BLUMELL (6-0, 170), 5 year man, grad student in history, fine driving guard, will come with outside jump shot.

JIM EBBELES (5-10, 150), from Regina, made jump from Bearcats, fine play-making guard, good outside shooter.

BILL BUXTON (6-1, 180), 3rd year guard, real hustler, coaches feel he could develop into his own as intercollegiate player this year.

DON HUNTER (5-10, 145), from Manitoba, grad student in physical education, good outside shooting guard, shows promise.

KEN TURNBULL (6-2, 175), from Victoria Composite, guard or forward, good jump shot, fine rebounder.

Bear basketball team opens new season against Bisons

By **JIM MULLER**

The Golden Bears will open the 1967-68 WCIAA basketball season tonight and tomorrow night with a pair of games against the University of Manitoba Bisons.

"The boys are definitely up for the Bisons. They know that the games count as two points in the win column," said Barry Mitchelson.

Allen Melychuk will dress tonight replacing Jim Ebbeles. Ebbeles is out for two to three weeks with a slight case of mononucleosis. Melychuk, another graduate of Victoria Composite, joined the team only last week. Previous to this, he was with the Edmonton Wildcats.

The Bisons, coached by former U of A star Darwin Semotiuk, have experience, speed and offensive talent.

FORWARD LINE

On the forward line, 6'3" captain Eric Bartz leads the way. Greg Gillis, the other forward, averaged in double figures last year. Bruce Dobbin, 6'7", has won the centre position from Ross Wedlake, a potential all-star. Wed-

lake may move to a forward position replacing Gillis.

At guard, an experienced trio operates. Terry Ball, another excellent offensive threat, and Irc Hanec, passing ace, will start; Bill Moody, with two years experience with the Winnipeg Madisons of the Manitoba Senior League, provides support.

Semotiuk has solved some of the defensive problems and has installed a fast-break offence. To win, the Bisons must stop Champion and control the Bear's fast break.

FIRST WIN

Mitchelson would like his first win in league competition to be at the expense of former teammate Semotiuk. He hopes the Bears can control the boards and stop the Bisons outside shooting. The Bears need a strong all-around performance to defeat the more experienced Manitoba squad.

Game time is 8:30 p.m. tonight and 8:15 p.m. tomorrow night. Tonight's game will also feature a gymnastics demonstration at half-time. Admission is free to all U of A students.

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