

Hockey Bears stay on top

by Jeff Chow

The University of Alberta Golden Bear hockey team took to the ice in Vancouver against the UBC Thunderbirds last weekend coming away with a tie and a win.

In the first game, the Bears and the T-Birds played to a 2-2 overtime draw, but the Bears found more drive Saturday for a comeback victory, 4-3.

With the three points, the Bears stay on top of the competitive Canada West division, one point ahead of Calgary. The Bears' record is now 5-0-1, while the T-Birds drop to 1-4-1.

"Overall, the two games were very hard fought," said Bear head coach Bill Moores. "We're pleased with the team's effort, especially in terms of jump and enthusiasm. Our guys showed a lot of patience and determination in both games."

Going into the season, one concern for the Bear coaching staff was team defence. Against Brandon, the weekend before, the Bears allowed ten goals.

"This weekend, we did better defensively by far," Moores said. "Team defence is getting better and better."

The other key to the Bears' success against the T-Birds was the play of veteran goaltender, John Krill. Krill, coming off a so-so performance against Brandon, played in both games and was strong.

"John played well," Moores said. "We're going to establish a number one goaltender. In the short schedule, John will need to see a lot of ice time."



Golden Bear forward Jason Rankin tries to break away from Bobcat center Kevin Mantell. The Bears took three of four points from UBC over the weekend.

In the first game, T-Bird Kevin Hoffman put the home side ahead in the second period. With the goal, the T-Birds ended a two and a half game scoring drought. However, just 21 seconds later, Bear captain Howie Draper tied it up.

In the third, Dan Wiebe responded for the Bears, while Joe Sobotin scored for the T-Birds.

In game two, with Bear forward Al Tarasuk off with a five-minute major, the T-Birds scored two powerplay markers, as Grant Delcourt and Rob Whiton replied. "Our penalty killing wasn't as good as it has to be," Moores said.

The Bears bounced back to tie the game in the second period with goals from Adam Morrison and

Tarasuk.

In the third, the T-Birds took the lead again on the powerplay as Mike Ikeda scored.

11 seconds later, Bear forward Rob Glasgow tied the game with his first of the season. Late in the period, Gord Thibodeau scored the game winner for the Bears.

Bear Facts: **Doug McCarthy** had 3 assists over the weekend and now leads the division with 10 ... **Ian Herbers** leads scoring for defencemen with 8 points ... Morrison fell to second place in division scoring. He has 15 points, while Saskatchewan forward **Wayde Bucsis** has 16 ... Canada West has a new overtime system, as teams will play five minutes of sudden-death, instead of a ten-minute overtime period.

Pandas in CIAUs

continued from p 12
Tanya Orr was injured, but she will be back this weekend.

David and her coaches have taken precautions to prevent anymore injuries before the championships. "We have to have healthy players," David said. "What's important is to win the CIAUs."

Another key ingredient in the Pandas' recipe for success at the national championships will be in-

tensity. "It's going to be a matter of who's going to be (mentally) the toughest, David said. "We have to play intensely."

In practice, the Pandas want to turn up the heat a notch or two. "We're definitely going to pick it up. What's good about this year is that we'll go straight from league play to nationals. Last year we had three weeks off. That's a good edge. We'll be devastated not to get to the final game. The players are hungry."

Drake happy with Jets

by Todd Saelhof

His 28 years as coach behind the University of Alberta hockey team bench came to a fine finale last season as Clare Drake coached the Golden Bears to the CIAU National Tournament. Drake, the winningest coach in Intercollegiate hockey history, left the green and gold fold this past summer to assume assistant coaching responsibilities under General Manager Mike Smith and Head Coach Bob Murdoch in the Winnipeg Jets' organization.

Last Wednesday, the Jets flew into town to take on the Edmonton Oilers, marking Drake's first return visit to Edmonton since the 1988-89 Bear season. The return, however, was not as successful as the former Bear coach hoped it to be. The Jets

ly positive for both Drake and the Jets. Drake brings to the Winnipeg franchise a bevy of ideas which helped propel the Golden Bears to 6 CIAU Championships and 17 Canada West crowns.

"If you've got good ideas you can sell them to people. Everybody has been very receptive," Drake said.

As well the Jets should be as Drake's record suggests, 697 wins in 1030 games for a .695 winning percentage with the Golden Bears. A new challenge, however, begins in Winnipeg. Needless to say, in a strong Smythe Division, expectations are a little different.

Even with superstar Dale Hawerchuk, Drake probably will not find any lengthy success behind the Jets' bench in the near future. Still, Drake is optimistic.

"We're hoping we can finish in third or fourth place. Not a lot is expected of us, but we're hoping to pick up some points. We're in a stage right now where we're a little more basic with our systems," Drake said.

The fair assumption to be made is that Drake's second challenge in the professional ranks, the first as Head Coach of the Oilers in the 1975-76 World Hockey Association season, will be tough. One which may cause reflection on the glory days at the U of A.

"I miss the University of Alberta in a sense that it's a great place to be. It's a great environment to work in and to coach in. I don't think there's any better," Drake said.

One gets the feeling the two time CIAU Hockey Coach of the Year will also miss the consistency of a Stacey Wakabayashi and the motivation of a Sid Cranston. Most of all, perhaps, the steadiness of a John Krill type goaltender eludes Drake in Winnipeg.

Irregardless of what Winnipeg does not possess, however, the Jets do have a master in Clare Drake. His appointment to a position behind an NHL bench has been long overdue, but now arises Drake's shot in the big leagues. It may not be a "golden" opportunity, but it is one that Clare Drake, a major contributor to the University of Alberta sports history, is excited about.

"I'm enjoying it with the Jets and its going to be a positive experience for me. — Drake

went down to the hometown Oilers 7-2 in a less than thrilling contest which left the majority of the 15,676 spectators yawning.

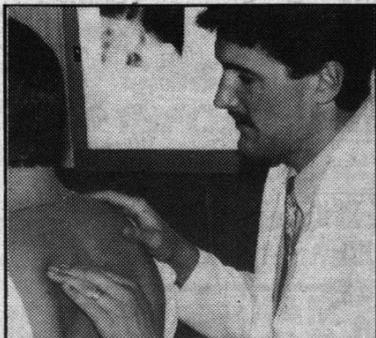
From head zookeeper in the Bears den to assistant pilot of the Jets, Drake obviously has a long road in front of him in making the coaching transition from a successful CIAU hockey team to a less than mediocre professional squad. The ex-Papa Bear of hockey, however, believes the correct decision was made.

"I'm enjoying it with the Jets and it's going to be a positive experience for me," Drake said.

With him in the NHL, the experience will most definitely be mutual-

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