



Photo: Brad Keith

In addition to regular practice the Nautilus machines and Jim Sexsmith have helped out.

Pandas slip through U of C net

by Karl Wilberg

At the U of A young teams are commonplace. However, this year has shown that young teams can be successful. Similarly, in spite of losing experienced players, Pierce Baudin, Pandas volleyball coach is, "cautiously optimistic" about this year.

According to Baudin, last year's third place finish was disappointing. The Pandas were talented and led Baudin to be "over-optimistic". Also, the team had problems adjusting to Baudin's own coaching techniques that were difficult from the previous coach's.

Consequently, Baudin believes the team did not adjust to the new style of play until the season's remaining games.

This year Baudin is happy with the team from the start. He states they have given "everything asked of them" and have "responded well" to training. The team has played in two meets and finished well at Bozeman Montana, taking fourth place. Baudin comments that the Pandas lost to US teams

ranked in the nation's top ten.

In Calgary last weekend the Pandas took the Tri-U tournament 3-0, 3-0. Baudin describes the Pandas play as gutsy. However, technically their play was termed "average".

The Pandas came from behind several times to edge Calgary. Baudin mentions the team had difficulties adjusting to Calgary's style, and a harder and heavier volleyball. Optimistically though, Baudin comments that technique will develop and the team has demonstrated "heart".

The Panda's strength seems to come more from spirit than experience. Baudin said "It's tough to expect a lot of a young squad," but they displayed "an unwillingness to lay down and die" in tough matches. Once, Baudin recalls, the Pandas were down 14-3, but refused to give the winning point for some time.

This year, according to Baudin, the Pandas will have to play with perfect technique. This emphasis is made to compensate

for the team's inexperience as well as a tough West conference. Baudin believes the U of S Huskiettes will be the toughest and is hoping to play them for the conference title.

To gain an advantage in CIAU West play, Baudin says his team will "have to go to a fast attack game. The Pandas, he states, are developing more of a multiple offense than most teams."

Another strong point is the Panda's middle attack. Debbie Shade and captain Sheryl Stevenson form the middle attack and Karen Sharrat will be relied on for setting the ball. Baudin is optimistic about these facets of the attack but mentions they do not have "the big block." Consequently, the team "has to resort to a two man block in the front row."

The defense will rely on "good serve receptions" states Baudin. He mentions it is important to a quick attack. In fact Baudin declares "If we have good serve reception we'll win"



Terry Jonestown

THE LIFE OF BRIAN is playing at the Garneau. It's loosely based, pretty inaccurately I'd add, on the Brian Heaney story. The real story is Brian wasn't born in Palestine, but in the Bronx. Brian spent many happy hours making papier-mache basketballs before he had a vision and wandered in the Eastern desert for seven years. Now he has assumed the title Ayatollah Heaney and has handed out floggings for sloppy play.

IT WASN'T BEACH BLANKET BINGO in Halifax for the football Bears. I hear the players went to the coast and needlessly packed portable jacuzzis, loud print shirts, and Coppertone.

One player commented, "I went to the beach and saw all these nets around, so I figured we'd play volleyball." Too bad for him, though. He continued, "Before we could finish the game, all these guys wearing rubber suits beat us up with cod fish."

I KNOW IT'S ALL BEEN SAID BEFORE but it's a serious problem at the U of A or anywhere else. You know what I'm talking about. Yeah, jock itch. It's reaching epidemic proportions. Entire Phys Ed sections are cancelled. Everywhere, people turn around and scratch at their privates, then turn around to face their embarrassed pals. How can you help? Easy, don't wear a strange j-strap and never trade straps on a first date.

and "we're really concentrating on that".

An advantage Baudin's team may have in the West conference is the use of Jim Sexsmith, an assistant to the Bears volleyball team, and also the Nautilus equipment. Baudin believes the weight training gives the team an increased

sense of confidence.

In any case, the Pandas have show determination and have the potential to succeed in close matches. If the young team can gain experience and technical skill before the season's end, the Pandas may finish with the defending champion Huskiettes.

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