

Bear Dave Youngs (R) puts up a prayer shot around Dino Jeff Smith.

## Nezic leads Dinos to v-ball wins

by Brian Crowley  
Calgary 3 Alberta 0  
Calgary 3 Alberta 1

Will the real Panda volleyball squad please stand up? This is the question most observers were asking, as inconsistent play by the home team led to decisive losses to their visiting rivals from Calgary on the weekend.

The Pandas entered the weekend riding high on the crest of two wins over Regina, a ranked team, the previous weekend. With a boosted national ranking (seventh), the team, and its fans, had hopes for an upset over the powerful, fourth-ranked Dinos.

It wasn't to be, however, as the Pandas came out flat in their first match on Friday evening. Calgary

proved they came to play, and posted a 3-0 (15-5, 15-9, 15-8) sweep. Dinosaur Christina Nezic dominated the match with 20 kills and 4 service aces over the tentative Pandas.

In Saturday's match, the Dinos started where they left off, as Nezic slammed a vicious spike to score the first point of game one. Calgary broke to a 5-0 lead, eventually capturing the game 15-2. Panda head coach Suzi Smith summed up her team's opening game. "The first game, we just weren't into the flow of the match yet." It looked like the beginning of romp.

It was a different Panda team that came out for the second set, however. More composed and

aggressive, they broke to a 10-0 lead. Suddenly, the Dinos looked very beatable, as Panda Brenda Hesse served out the last three points on the way to a 15-2 thrashing.

"The main thing our girls did tonight," Smith observed, "which is different from last night, was to be more aggressive. We have to be more aggressive, period. I kept pushing on them in the second game, saying 'c'mon, don't let up!'"

Calgary reacted to their collapse calmly. "I don't think anybody was really too worried about it," stated Dino Janette Degner. It was "a lack of concentration. We just relaxed too much." Dino head coach Brad Kilb agreed that his team's success in the first set led to complacency in the second. "It's so easy to sit back and think 'well, we did it.' We just eased up. The Pandas played well, and we played poorly."

The second set proved to be the highlight of the night for the Pandas, as Calgary regained control of the match, winning the final two sets 15-9 and 15-7.

Although the Pandas were disappointed, Smith noted a positive factor to emphasize heading into Lethbridge next weekend. "Tonight, we started to adjust a lot earlier, and that's why it became a better match. That looks good for upcoming matches."

The Pandas are now 2-6 in Canada West play, so a sweep of the Pronghorns is necessary if the Pandas are to keep alive any realistic hopes of making the playoffs. The next home action for the Pandas will come from the #2 ranked Vikettes from Victoria on February 3 and 4.

On the men's side, the Bears lost similarly: 3-0 and 3-1 to the Dinos, the number one team in the country.

The Dinos were led by national teamer Randy Gingera, who had 20 kills in the first match alone.

on late in the half, to lead going into the locker room by six points. Calgary never relinquished the lead from that point.

The Dinos were ten points up with seven minutes left. The Bears got within seven, and were charging for more, but guard Sean Chursinoff was blocked by Masikewich and then Rick Pease grabbed the rebound, went down to the Bears end and sank a three point shot. The five point swing was the last nail in the Bear coffin.

"The big difference in the game was that we got the big hoops when we needed them," said Dino head coach Gary Howard, "and we stopped them when they needed big hoops. We made some good defensive plays."

The Bears were left to foul the Dinos to stop the clock, but were too aggressive at one point, and they took an intentional foul, killing any hopes for a late rally.

The top Bear scorer was Chursinoff, who scored 25. Both Chursinoff and Youngs, who scored 17, played the entire forty minutes, and although it didn't tell in Friday's game, it certainly had an effect Saturday.

Saturday's 24 point loss was the worst loss the Bears have

suffered all season. The difference in Saturday's matchup was a 26-8 run in the first seven minutes of the second half. The Bears were down ten points after the first and in the second half were going in slow motion compared to the Dinos.

"We had to come out flying in the second half," said Chursinoff. "Instead we came out flat."

The Dinos used all twelve players in the first half. The Bears, on the other hand, only used two players off the bench, Brian Halsey and Mike Frisby, and they played only the final two minutes of the first half.

"I don't know if we were tired," said Chursinoff, who was rested for portions of the second half when the game was out of hand. "There are no excuses."

"I think they were frustrated a bit because of the way we played defence," Masikewich, who scored 21 points in the finale, said. "We just had to bury them as soon as we could."

"We were also frustrated by some of the calls that were not made," Horwood said. "We ran out of gas and they put the boots to us. That's the worst game we've played all year in terms of intensity."

## Burly Bronto bounces Bears

by Alan Small  
Calgary 90 Alberta 82  
Calgary 87 Alberta 63

CALGARY — Brian Masikewich and the Dino basketball team had the Bears yelling 'No Mas' after the Bears came up short in their weekend series against their southern rivals.

Masikewich led the Dinos in their Friday assault on the Bears, as his 24 point, eight rebound effort left the Bears gasping.

"We just wanted to get two complete games in a row," said Masikewich, who played high school ball with St. Joe's four years ago. Since then, he starred with the SAIT Trojans for two years and entered the Dinos fold last season. Wildly recruited by

both Calgary and Alberta, Masikewich gets pumped for taking on the top team from his old hometown.

"I know most of the guys on the team," Masikewich said, "and with the Calgary-Edmonton rivalry, it's always a good basketball game with Alberta."

Both Masikewich and forward Andrew Vaughan, who scored 20 points, had their way with the Bear defence.

"Anybody can go wild when nobody is guarding him," said Bear head coach Don Horwood, "our inside guys were right out of it."

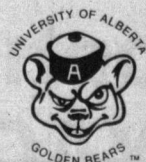
The lead bounced between the two teams several times in the first half until the Dinos turned it

Alan Small

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