

Victory assures Bears of trip to Quebec games

By DON MOREN

Darrell LeBlanc won the face-off, wheeled and back-handed the puck cleanly into the net.

The Bears' starry right-winger fired two more goals before the night was through to give the Bears a 5-2 victory and a trip to the Quebec Winter Games.

Alberta went on to win 4-2 on Saturday afternoon and sweep the two-game series from the still-winless University of Calgary Dinosaurs.

Despite their 0-10 won-lost record in intercollegiate play, the Dinnies are no longer the pushovers they used to be. The Bears were playing against a vastly improved hockey club.

Calgary was very much in Friday night's contest until late in the third period. Pat Givens opened the scoring at 13:22 of the first period with a low, hard shot from the point.

LeBlanc was a bright spot in the otherwise listless Bear offence. His first goal came at 14:33.

The Bears lived up in the second period. Gord Jones took a pass from Brian Harper, skated around one Calgary defenceman and fought off another defender to flip the puck past a sprawling Don Vosburgh.

The Dinosaurs tied it up early in the third period with Doug Dayman firing a good wrist shot into the upper left-hand corner.

Any chances the Dinnies had of squeezing out a victory were soon snuffed out by three Bear goals in five minutes.

Del Billings fired the winner at 12:08 by knocking in a loose puck into a wide-open Calgary net.

Twenty-two seconds later, LeBlanc got his second on a high wrist shot from 30 feet out.

On the third LeBlanc goal, Don Vosburgh came out of his net to try and steal the puck away from the former New Brunswick star. LeBlanc couldn't miss that night and shot it neatly between the goalie's pads for the hat trick.

Friday night's crowd of 1,900 was the largest for a Bear home game so far this season.

Jack Nicholl landed the hardest check of the night. The Calgary player not only fell flat on his back, but also managed to break his stick neatly in two.

The close Friday night game brought a better effort out of the Bears on Saturday afternoon. The Bears carried the play for the first period.

Gerry Braunberger scored at 9:02 on a double pass play from LeBlanc and Terry Cutler. Gord Jones banged one in from the side of the crease at 18:08.

Brian Harper continued the Bear rampage in the second period, knocking in a pass across the goalmouth from Jones.

Calgary soon destroyed any illusion of a rout. Rod White passed out from behind the net to Leroy English, who was in the clear. English made it 3-1 at 5:26.

The Dinosaurs scored again on another passing play from behind the net at 7:57.

Just as the night before, the Bears pulled away. Gerry

Braunberger got his second on the game, an insurance marker at 13:10.

There was no scoring in the third period. Alberta came close in several instances. Merose Stelmaschuk deked out three Dinnies, went in on goalie Don Vosburgh all alone, but missed the net.

Vosburgh was outstanding in the Calgary nets throughout the series and was a big factor why Calgary managed to stay so close for the two contests.

The Bears did not play one of their stronger series. Their shooting hurt them most, particularly on Saturday when they spent a lot of time in the Calgary end.

They had no trouble getting across the Calgary blue-line, but once they neared the net their organization was lost.

Bear coach Clare Drake gave credit to Calgary for their improved play. "They should split with Saskatchewan this weekend," he said wryly. The Huskies meet the Dinosaurs in Calgary.

The Alberta squad maintained its two point lead over the Huskies and now has a 10-1 won-lost record. The two teams clash in Saskatoon February 10th.

WCIAA HOCKEY STANDINGS

Team	W	L	T	Pts.
Alberta	10	2	0	22
Saskatchewan	10	2	0	20
Manitoba	5	5	0	10
UBC	0	7	0	0
Calgary	0	10	0	0



—Al Yackulic photo

DUM-DUM DINOS—Why is the Dinosaur goalie preparing to sprawl on his posterior pads? And why is his teammate charging straight at him like a retarded Apache? And why doesn't this retard even have a hockey stick in his sweaty little hands? The Dinos may be getting better, but better than what?

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