

# Sports

## Even a beer-lusting crowd can't put Bears in first

by Randy Provencal  
Alberta 6 Calgary 3

The Dinosaurs at Varsity Arena really took a beating Saturday night in part two of the home-and-home series with the Golden Bears.

First, the Dinos were verbally assaulted from the enthusiastic sold out crowd in attendance. Then they had to watch as an inflatable dinosaur was bounced around like a beachball by a dozen or so fans.

"I think the way the series ended up was a fair result," Bears head coach Clare Drake stated following the game. "I thought we outplayed them tonight and they outplayed us last night."

The coach was especially proud of his troops' efforts after the letdown they suffered in Cowtown. "It was a great comeback after last night, especially because we were down and we didn't play that well last night."

Only 1:18 into the game, Dinos goalie Peter Fry gave up a big rebound off Doug McCarthy's shot, right onto Adam Morrison's stick, who put it in the net.

Less than three minutes later Stacey Wakabayashi took a Sid Cranston pass at the top of the circle and beat Fry to extend the lead to 2-0.

"I know that right from the start there was a lot of hitting," McCarthy noted, "the entire team — not just the big guys but the little guys. I think when you see a guy like Dave Hingley go and knock over that (Ryan) Fox, and this is after almost three periods, it shows the determination that our team had. Fox has got to outweigh him by about 70 lbs and Hingley just ran right over him."

Another small guy, Marty Yewchuk, fought off a check, threw the puck to Dan Wiebe, who saw Todd Gordon wide open in front; 3-0 Bears.

Calgary closed out the period on a positive note, as Doug Quinn scored on a shot that snuck between John Krill's pads and virtually crawled over the line with only 52 seconds left.

The Dinos came out with a better effort in the second, but Krill was equal to the task, as he made several key saves, including a brilliant breakaway pad save off Todd Scieviour. Although Calgary had more chances early

in the period, it was U of A's Wes Craig who scored at 13:17, stuffing in his own rebound.

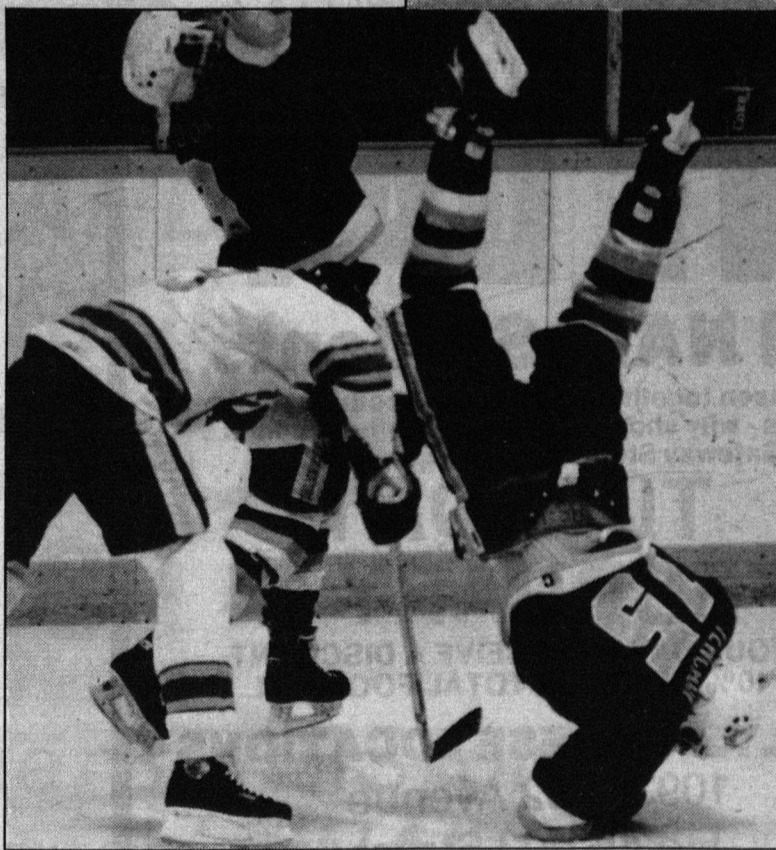
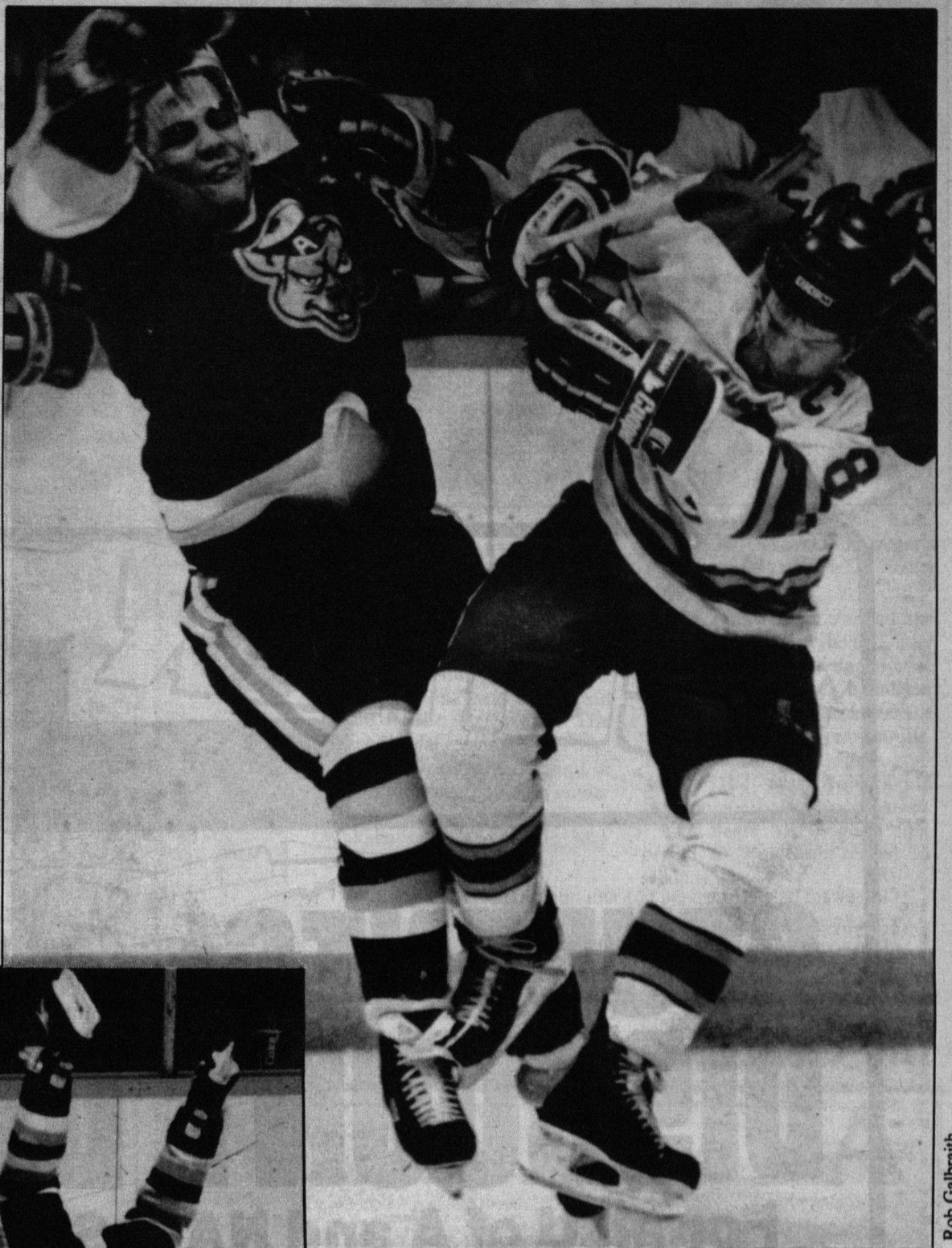
Sid Cranston ended the Bear powerplay drought when he got up after being knocked down in front of the net and slid McCarthy's pass behind Fry.

U of C closed the margin to three goals, as Terry Knight kicked the puck and scored. The puck didn't cross the line until Krill, who, reaching for the puck knocked it in, so the goal counted.

Scieviour scored at 2:53 of the third on a weak shot that Krill didn't appear to be ready for. But with Calgary penalized for their third too many men call of the night, Wakabayashi finished off a three-way passing play by converting on McCarthy's pass for his second of the game.

That goal, McCarthy said, could prove to be deciding who places first overall. "Now on the season's series (tied at two games apiece), we're up one goal on them. If we're tied at the end, we'd end up getting first place," he said.

"Now we've got to rely on Regina or Manitoba beating them. Me and Marty (Yewchuk) were just saying we're going to send all those guys in Manitoba Valentines Day cards," in hopes of influencing their performance against the Dinos.



### Ooh, that had to hurt!

Left: Marty Yewchuk (15) goes for a spill over Dino Scott Hillier. Top: Al Tarasuk (L) and Dino captain Terry Jones have a malfunction at the junction during Friday night's game in Calgary. Calgary leads Alberta by two points after this weekend's action.

Rob Galbraith

Alan Small



## Calgary's priorities are confused

The University of Calgary doesn't know what they have.

Their hockey team, along with the Golden Bears, drew a sparse crowd of 500 fans (1/4 of which were Bear supporters) to Father David Bauer Arena for the opening half of the home-and-home series with the U of A on Friday. At the same time, a reported crowd of 1800 people crammed into Jack Simpson Gym to see the Dinos and the Victoria Vikings battle in mens

and womens basketball action.

Friday's hockey game was by far the most important game in all of Canada West sports this weekend. The first and second place teams battled for first place in the conference. Add a dash of Battle of Alberta hype and you have a recipe for a great hockey game and theoretically, a great hockey crowd.

Instead, they decided to have "Fill the Gym" night on Friday when their basketball teams played meaningless games against the Victoria Vikings.

Yes, this was a one vs. two battle as well, but Victoria Vikings had a six game lead on the Bow River b-ballers. Also, Calgary's women's team had a three game

lead going in over Victoria, so that game meant little with respect to playoff possibilities.

Calgary could have easily had their basketball promotion on Saturday night (the same teams played) and promoted the hockey game to some extent.

That way, they wouldn't have to compete against themselves as much.

At the University of Alberta, the same two hockey teams (along with a keg of biere) drew 2,700 fans to the best hockey game Varsity Arena has seen since the last time the hated Dinos played here. 100 yards down, the U of A basketball teams drew about 700 people (about an average crowd) for Scott McIntyre Night and their

games against overmatched Saskatchewan clubs.

Don't for one minute think that Calgary is a basketball haven. For their annual tournament during the Christmas holidays, maybe 600 people were there for the final between Calgary and Victoria. At Alberta's tournament, about 1200 people jammed into soon-to-be renovated Varsity Gym to see a semi-final game between Golden Bears and Regina.

Calgary obviously proved on Friday that it isn't a hockey haven. Edmonton proved that it is. U of A hockey watchers should hope that crowds like the one on Saturday become more than an annual tradition.