

GATEWAY To sports

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1963

'Clown Prince Of Basketball' Leads Stars Against Bears

Those funny, fantastic clowns of the basketball court are back.

The Harlem Stars, annual performers at U of A, will take the floor against the Golden Bears on Saturday, Nov. 9 and Monday, Nov. 11. Game time is 8 p.m. both nights.

The Stars are a top professional team who tour the US and Canada, taking on and usually defeating all comers. By some stroke of luck the Bears managed to defeat the Stars in 1953 and have suffered the consequences of their rashness ever since.

The pre-season games will give the Bears a chance to test themselves

against some real tough opposition and will provide experience for the freshmen on the team.

Big guns for the Harlem Stars include Young Blood Curtis at 6'3" and 185 pounds along with Donald Beckner, a 6'7", 218 pound giant.

The little fellow who provides all the fun is hilarious Shorty Buckner. Those who have seen his antics on the court will remember him, and those who have not should certainly be interested in taking in the game. He is also rated as the top set-shot man in professional basketball.

Against these professionals, Bears' attempts may seem quite futile, but they did beat the Stars in 1953—anyway it's a chance to have some fun and see really good basketball.



GET CLOSER—Bear coach Gino Fracas clutches Hardy Cup as he's carried off field following 29-2 defeat of UBC Thunderbirds. Will he carry yet another?

Photo by Gene Hattor

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Bears Prepare For Strong Gaels; East-West Clash Battle Of Giants

By Gary Kiernan

The meteorology department informs that a strong easterly wind will blow a gale into Edmonton on Nov. 15. The truth of the matter is, there will be 35 Gaels.

They are the Queen's University Golden Gaels, here to meet the U of A Golden Bears in the east-west "Golden Bowl."

The game is slated for Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. at Clarke Stadium. Because it is U of A sponsored, the game cannot be called an east-west final. However, the contest will involve the top teams in both the eastern and western leagues. Another important fact is that the Churchill Cup, emblematic of the Canadian inter-collegiate championship, will not be the winner's prize. However the honourable J. Percy Page, lieutenant-governor of Alberta has expressed interest in donating a trophy to the winning club.

GAELS UNDEFEATED TOO

The Golden Gaels, like the Bears, are undefeated in regular season action. Gaels, picked in a pre-season preview as the top team in the eastern league, are also called the best intercollegiate team in all of Canada.

Reason for giving Queen's this top berth include Jim Young, Cal Connor and Bill Edwards. Young, who was an all-star last year, is in his second year with the club. This year he is reputed to be the best fullback in the league. Connor worked out at the quarterback slot with the Montreal Alouettes throughout the training season, and turned down a spot with the Alouettes to return to Queen's and finish his studies. Edwards, sidelined last year because of injuries, was the leading rusher in 1961 and is back this year in top condition.

Coach Gino Fracas of the U of A Bears compares his team favorably with the Queen's squad, although he admits his information on the Gaels

is limited. On Tuesday, he had this to say: "They have a good quarterback, but so have we. They have a hard running fullback, but so have we. They also have a speedy halfback, which we also have."

SUPERIOR IN WEIGHT

The only department in which they are superior to us is weight, but the UBC Thunderbirds also had a weight advantage on us, and we beat them twice." Fracas hopes that he will

have more information on the Gaels by Monday. In the meantime practices will follow the same line as they have throughout the year.

Bruce Coulter, an all-star with McGill in 1960, made this remark at the time of the last east-west game: "The western team was tough, considering it was comprised mostly of freshmen. They will give us trouble in a few years." It could be that those "few years" are up.

Pucksters Lose Close One

The Golden Bear hockey team went down to a narrow 5-4 defeat at the hands of the Lacombe Rockets in an exhibition tilt played last Monday night in Varsity Arena.

Despite the fact that the Bears have been practising together for only a short time, they played very solid hockey for most of the contest and held a fair share of the territorial play. The Golden ones led until the middle of the third frame but wilted under a four goal onslaught by the better conditioned Rockets. Coach Clare Drake dressed 17 hopefuls for the game, seven of them new to the squad.

BEARS OPEN SCORING

The Bears opened the scoring late in the first period on a goal by Ian Baker. A tally by Jim Flemming increased the margin to 2-0, before Austin Smith of the Rockets found the mark midway through the second period. Dale Rippel's unassisted marker gave the Bears a 3-1 cushion as the middle session drew to a close. A scramble in front of the Lacombe net at the seven minute mark of the third period resulted in a goal by Bears' Larry Craig and the varsity squad took a short-lived 4-1 lead.

The latter half of the session saw the Bears fall apart under a surging Lacombe attack which scored four

unanswered goals to squelch Bear hopes for their first win of the year.

RUGGED GAME

Eight minor penalties were handed out during the encounter which featured plenty of rugged action. Each club collected four with the Bears' Jim Reaman being the bad man of the night, taking two trips to the sin bin.

Lacombe marksmen peppered Bear goalie, Dale Harder with 30 shots while Russ Kirk in the Lacombe nets was called upon to block 32 drives. Neither goalie could be faulted for his performance as most of the goals came on goal-mouth scrambles.

Coach Drake was pleased with his team's initial start and is quite optimistic for a good season. "The squad skated and checked well for most of the contest but we let up in the latter stages of the game," commented Drake.

He was especially pleased with Dale Harder's effort in the nets and former Moose Jaw Canuck Jim Reaman's performance on defence. Newcomer John Utendale showed up well with his speed and aggressiveness, and coach Drake expects big things of this fellow when he finally rounds into shape. University students will have another opportunity to see the Bears in action later this month when the Oil Kings come calling.