freshmen fail to defend title Hockey

by Mark Spector

The 1985 crop of Golden Bear freshmen is not what it was a year ago. this was made obvious on the' weekend as Alberta not only failed to defend their title at the Golden Bear Junior Invitational, they failed to win a game.

The tournament came down to an exciting finale between the Hobbemma Hawks and the St. Albert Saints, both of the AJHL. Hobbemma won the final game by a 5-4 score in overtime.

Alberta started the tournament

off with a game against the Saints on Thursday of last week. That •game ended in a 4-3 loss for the Bears. Alberta managed to outshoot St. Albert 30-24, but lacked the finishing touch around the goal mouth. Two goalies played for the Bears in coach Drake's eternal quest for a netminder to replace Hodge and Brooks of last year's squad. Coombes allowed one goal on six shots while Jomha let in three of 18 tries.

In their next game Alberta took on the Fort McMurray Oil Barons and fared no better. A 4-2 loss was all that the Bears could muster with Wes Craig scoring both goals for Alberta. The fact that Craig was cut following that outing shows just how impressed Drake was with his rookies.

Two 17 year olds did manage to impress Drake however. Sean Clouston and Bret Walter were both asked to continue practicing with the club. Some other freshmen that were not released after the tournament were Erick Thurston, Charlie Perperidis, Howie Draper, Brad Martinuik, and five goaltenders.

Several other rookies remain with the club. Coach Drake was counting on the return of last year's backup goalie Kelly Brooks, and would almost certainly have turned him into a starter this season. But Brooks has decided that for one reason or another he does not want to play hockey this year. That, coupled with the running out of eligibility by CIAU all-star goalie Ken Hodge, and the Bears are left with no returning goaltenders.

Drake invited eight goalies to camp this fall and the five that have lasted this long will no doubt get even longer look.

To stir the pot just a little more, word is that Kelly Brooks might just consider returning to the fold should the right person happen to give him a call. There is no doubt that the players would dearly love to see his return. Stay tuned.

The veterans will now join the club for a pair of games this week before Alberta plays host to the Molson Invitational Tournament which runs Sept. 27-29. at the Varsity Arena. Tonite the Bears play the Red Deer College Kings and tomorrow it is the Camrose Vikings. Both games are here at the U of A and start at 7:00 p.m.

by Don Filipchuck

Cross-country set to go

By Ashram Mustapha

Lately, if you have noticed the sounds of trees rustling and hard breathing in the river valley, chances are good that it is the U of A Cross-Country team in training.

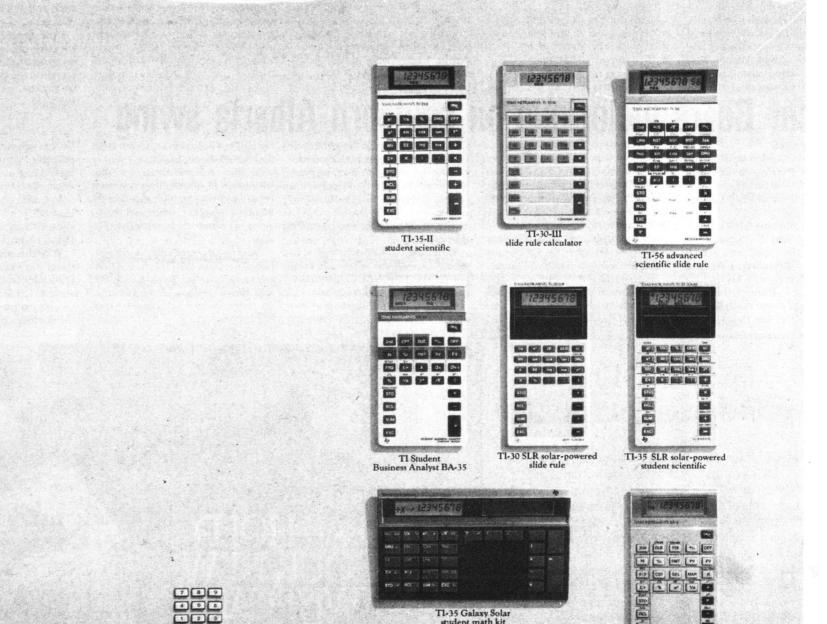
Their first meet of the season will be the Edmonton Road Runners Cross-Country Relay on September 29th.

The three, eight runner relay teams (men's, women's, and mixed) will cover a total of 26.2 niles over the river valley course.

Coach Jim Haddow expects to do well — especially with a strong womens team this year. "Even though we lost four members from last season we've still got some good replacements.'

Last year the Bears were Canada West champions and placed fourth in the CIAU's. The Pandas finished fourth in Canada West last year.









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