

—Chuck Lyall photo

WHERE THE HECK ARE MY CONTACT LENSES?
 . . . wonders Bear goaler Dale Halterman in Friday's 5-3 loss

Monarchs are kings as Bruins lose two

By **BOB ANDERSON**
MONARCHS 5, BEARS 3
MONARCHS 5, BEARS 1

You couldn't really blame the University of Alberta Athletic Board if they were to consider a change of name for this university's hockey club.

Perhaps Golden Schnooks would sound not bad.

Or even Golden Bums or Wieners.

Brian McDonald's outfit certainly aren't deserving of their real name, the Golden Bears on the basis of their play of the past weekend.

The leaders of the Western Canada Intercollegiate Hockey League with a 3-0 mark dropped a pair of contests to the Edmonton Monarchs 5-3 and 5-1 and in doing so, looked anything but impressive.

"I don't know what it is with this club," said a dejected McDonald following last night's 5-1 thumping at The Gardens. "But I do know one thing and that is that there are going to be some changes in this club darn soon."

"Some of the veterans are going to find their jobs in jeopardy."

BRUINS OUTGUNNED

Whatever the reason, the Bears just couldn't get going against the Monarchs, second place holders in the Alberta Hockey League. The smooth skating seniors outgunned the Bruins at almost every turn.

The games all but rounded out the pre-Christmas schedule for the Albertans with only a Dec. 22 exhibition encounter against Alaska Methodist at Varsity Arena remaining to be played.

The Monarchs got off on the right foot in Friday's encounter at Varsity Arena before 1,250 on-lookers when flashy winger John Fisher flipped a rebound past Bear goaltender Dale Halterman midway through the opening period.

Fisher made it 2-0 in the second

converting Bryan Bennett's pass-on on a Monarch power play.

Dale Conrad, recently returned from a stint with the Salt Lake Golden Eagles of the professional Western Hockey League, caught Halterman out of the net and just managed to slide the puck past the sliding netminder.

Bob McGill increased the lead to 4-0 four minutes later and the Monarchs were on their way.

Third period goals by Milt Hohol, Dennis Zukowski and Don Falkenberg narrowed the gap but Fisher's third marker of the game sewed things up for Doug Messier's club.

The Bruins were caught off guard by the Monarchs' neat passing combinations and couldn't contain the seniors with any kind of a forechecking game.

Halterman came up with 27 stops while Barry Richardson blocked 25 for the winners who took 12 of 22 penalties.

Last night's encounter was much the same story.

A reluctance on the part of the Bears to tangle with the Monarchs in the corners allowed the winners to come up with the puck time and time again.

Milt Hohol was the only Albertan to show any desire to mix it up physically with the Monarchs, a surprising fact considering he had been roughed up pretty good by Conrad in Friday's game.

Jack Braun, Ron Tookey, Gary Young, Rich Healey and Conrad lit the red lamp for the winners while Sam Belcourt hit for the Bears. Monarchs led 2-0 after the first period and 4-1 after 40 minutes before only 400 fans.

Jack Gibson of the Bears re-injured his right ankle in the middle frame and did not return. It's not known how long the injury will keep the big winger out of action.

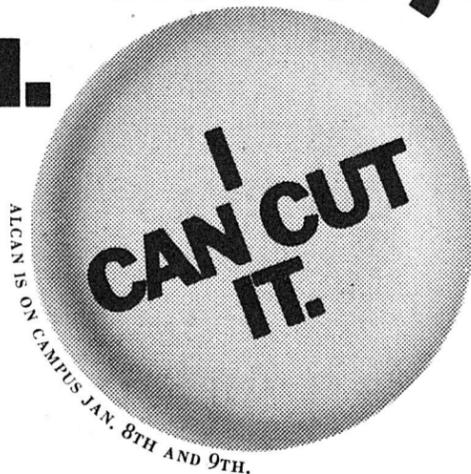
Bob Wolfe was tested 26 times by Monarch sharpshooters, while Bernie Alain and Jack Cummings kicked out 23 shots between them at the other end of the ice.

In regular WCHL play on the weekend, Manitoba Bisons whipped previously unbeaten Winnipeg Wesmen 10-3 and 10-0, and Saskatchewan Huskies won their first of the season, stopping Brandon Bobcats 4-2 in Brandon.

WCHL STANDINGS

	W	L	F	A	Pts.	Pct.	GBL
Alberta	3	0	16	9	6	1.000	—
Manitoba	3	1	37	14	6	.750	½
UBC	2	1	24	12	4	.667	1
Calgary	2	1	13	11	4	.667	1
Winnipeg	2	2	14	27	4	.500	1½
Brandon	1	3	16	18	2	.250	2½
Sask.	1	3	10	17	2	.250	2½
Victoria	0	3	8	30	0	.000	3

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