

# Victoria bounces U of A hoop clubs

by Alan Small

The Panda and Bear basketball teams were shown how big-time B.C. hoops is played last weekend.

Both were handed a pair of losses at the hands of the perennially powerful University of Victoria. The Pandas, in particular, were trampled by the Vikettes, who beat them both games 75-22 and 77-40.

The Bears had much better scores, but had the same results. They lost by scores of 76-74 and 87-76.

"There's only so many excuses you can make."  
— Hilko

"We were intimidated," said Panda head coach Diane Hilko, "they ran on us and then we couldn't put the ball in the basket."

The Pandas shot 19 percent from the floor, in their worst performance of the season.

The second time through, the Pandas did little better as the Vikettes lengthened a 12-point half-time lead to make the final score 77-40.

"We played 100 percent better in

the second game," Hilko said, "we followed through, and hustled back defensively.

Hilko wasn't going to make any excuses for her team's play. The Pandas just didn't play well.

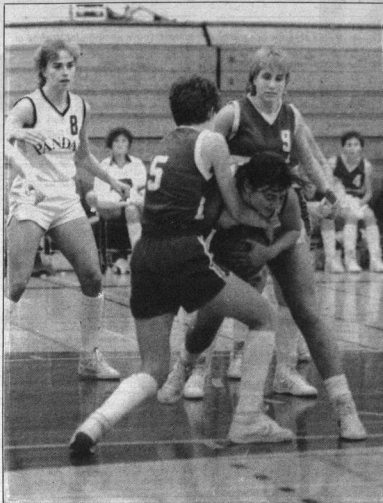
"We had a real tough time," Hilko said, "there's only so many excuses you can make."

It was a very disappointing result, especially after an encouraging Christmas schedule, where they split a pair at home to top ten ranked Winnipeg and some close losses to top teams in the Lady Wesmen Tournament in Winnipeg.

Hilko was pleased with the play of point guard Patti Smith, who was the top Panda on the court.

"Patti Smith played with poise, control, confidence, and aggressiveness," Hilko said of the sophomore.

**FOUL SHOTS:** Both the Bears and the Pandas face the University of Calgary next weekend, down in the Olympic City, in the brand new Jack Simpson Hall, freshly built for the Olympics. The Dinies are number one ranked in the CIAU and defeated the Vikettes twice already this season. The Dinies are unranked however... The Bears are 1-7 in conference play and 8-15 overall... The Pandas are slightly better with a 2-6 record in Canada West and with the same record overall.



The Pandas had their worst games last weekend at UVic. file photo

## Panda v-ball improves

by Alan Small

The Panda volleyball club showed more signs of improvement last weekend at a tournament in Winnipeg.

Against fourth ranked Laval, they lost the match 2-1.

Then a disappointing loss to the Saskatchewan Huskiettes denied the Pandas any chance at the

medals.

"We won the first game 15-4, but then we lost our intensity," Panda head coach Suzi Smith said. Saskatchewan is also a team that the Pandas had beaten this season, and were hoping to beat at the tourney.

They then lost two straight to volleyball power Winnipeg.

"We've beaten them three times now," Smith said, "this time we were better against them than we've ever played."

The second day was better for the Pandas as they defeated the University of Regina 3-2 and then lost a 3-1 decision to arch-rivals Calgary (15-10, 13-15, 15-13, 15-7).

"The close game (against Calgary) will give us more jam when we play them in the Canada West tournament (in late January).

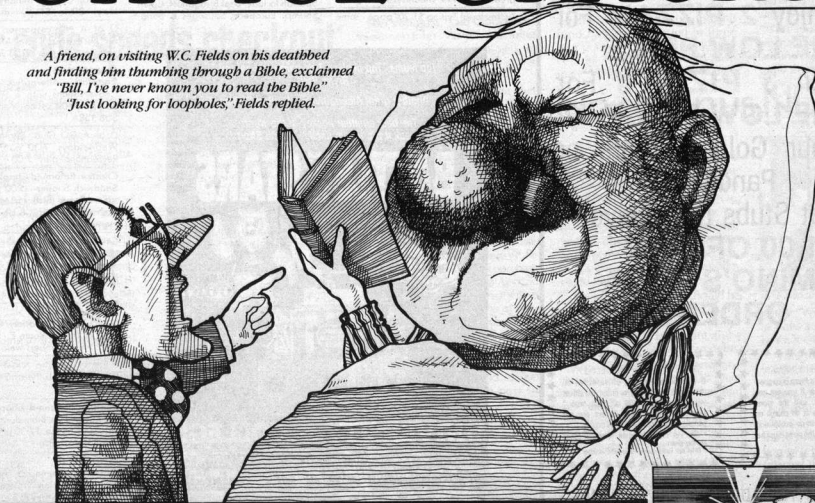
"If we never play the top clubs you never get better," Smith said of the Pandas going to play four top ten clubs in one weekend, "we're just about in the big leagues and we're out of the 'shmeagles'," Smith said.

"Shmeagles" are the Panda term for the lousy teams they play. The Pandas, though were one of the traditional "shmeagles" for years as the last time they've won a Canada West crown was in 1960. The last time they were in second place was in 1978. They've been in fifth or sixth place all decade.

The Pandas along with their Bear cousins host the Golden Bear and Panda Classic all next weekend in Varsity Gym. They will face some of the top club teams in Alberta as well as top notch ACAC competition and some of the provincial teams.

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A friend, on visiting W.C. Fields on his deathbed and finding him thumbing through a Bible, exclaimed "Bill, I've never known you to read the Bible." "Just looking for loopholes," Fields replied.



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