

Best in the West but nowhere to go

by Ron Ternoway

The University of Alberta Golden Bear water polo team has a problem.

They're the best in the West with no place to go.

The Bears, under the skillful coaching of Cisco Hincz, host their own invitational tournament this weekend, and the chances are excellent that the Bruins will come out on top over several Western university crews including Manitoba, Regina, and Calgary.

The Bears haven't lost a game in three years, and are unlikely to break their string this year. According to Hincz, Manitoba's the toughest competition, but the Bears easily beat the Bisons in Regina last weekend.

The sad part is, after this weekend, the Golden Bear water polo team has nowhere to go. Water polo isn't a CIAU sanctioned sport, so there's no national competition. So the Alberta squad, packed with players of national team calibre, will disband after Saturday, never getting a chance to show that they're among the best in Canada.

"I really think that we could beat anyone in Canada," says Hincz. "We've got a strong, fast,

experienced team that would give anyone a good fight."

When you look at the Bear roster, you see that Hincz's talk is far from idle boasting. The Alberta crew contains several national and ex-national team members, including Darryl Martin, who travelled with the team to Cuba and Mexico a couple of years ago, Don Richards, an ex-Golden Bear swim team member, and Vern Kumpula, another National team member. Other players include George Rosich, Barry Kennedy, who played for the Canadian champion junior Bear squad last year, and goalie Steve Kovacs.

Even coach Hincz gets into the act sometimes, but just when the going gets rough. "The storybook endings of the coach coming off the bench and scoring the winning goal are really quite true about this team," said goalie Kovacs.

Water polo is gaining popularity and recognition, according to Hincz, and the day may not be far off when there will be regular Western league play and eventually a national final.

But until then, the Bears will just have to wait.

***** Volleyball tourney *****

The University of Alberta men's and women's volleyball teams are co-sponsoring a high school tournament.

The all day tournament is scheduled for the main gymnasium, west wing, Physical Education Building, beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday.

As well as co-sponsoring the event, the Bears and Pandas will officiate and play in an exhibition game against the Edmonton Phoenix men's and women's teams. Pandas play the Phoenix women at 11 a.m. the men play immediately following the women's game.

Bear coach, Lorne Sawula, hopes the tournament will become an annual affair. "The idea is to give high school teams an opportunity to play, see high calibre competition volleyball, and promote interest in the game," said Sawula.

Teams in the tournament are from Red Deer, rural areas surrounding Edmonton, as well as several Edmonton schools. Ten women's teams and fourteen men's teams are expected in the one-day competition.

Finals in the women's event begin at 4 p.m. Men's finals are scheduled for 5 p.m.



"ALL RIGHT BOYS, REIN IN."

...Coach Cisco Hincz giving orders to his water polo charges

Women's intramurals

What happens when twelve women on skates, each carrying a broom, start chasing a little red ball? Bumps, bruises and a fun-filled evening, that's what. If you are a nonbeliever, drop by varsity arena on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evening and see for yourself.

Broomball has proven to be one of the most popular sports in the Woman's Intramural Program. Absolutely no skill is necessary. Finals are going Nov. 29. Support your local broomball team.

Another sport that is proving to be popular is curling. Twenty-eight teams took the ice Nov. 13. A double knockout bonspiel was scheduled with teams entering into the finals on the 20th. The second bonspiel will be held on January 22 and 29 using the same format.

Volleyball has been completed and P.E.I. finished first in league "A", Education 11 came second in league "A", Upper Kelsey came second in League "B". Kappa Alpha Theta won field hockey honours with Rehab. Med. finishing in the runner-up position.

Individual bowling honours went to Sandy Gerdamy, Marg Hogan (210) with Louise Walker (209) in second spot. Kappa

Alpha Theta accumulated the most team points.

The Intramural Program is slowing down for the Christams break. Now is the time to find out about the second term program. Sign-up. Deadlines for Badminton, Waterpolo, and Billiards is January 6, 1972.

Drop by the Intramural office today!

FENCING

University of Alberta host the fifth annual Sunlife Fencing Trophy tournament this weekend.

The open individual tournament is scheduled for the fencing room, West Wing, Physical Education Building, Saturday and Sunday.

Foil, epee and sabre will all be used in the contest. Alberta is expected to make a good showing according to coach Fran Wetterberg. "We should place no lower than second or third in most events and could win some," said Wetterberg.

Fencers are expected from the Edmonton Fencing Club, University of Calgary, University of Saskatchewan, University of Saskatchewan (Regina Campus), and University of Alberta. Forty competitors will take part in the tournament.

Spectators are welcome at the tournament. Competition begins 9 a.m. Saturday.

Track & Field

Coach Brian McC Calder takes his track and field squad to Winnipeg for the first meet of the season this weekend. The dual meet will be the first of the season for the Alberta crew, who wrapped up the cross-country section a couple of weeks ago. Men will compete in 125 yard, 250 yard, 880 yard, distance medley and 200-yard shuttle-hurdle relays. Field events include high jump, shot put, and long jump. Coach McC Calder plans to take 18 men and 9 women to the meet. "We are taking some good individuals to see what they can do," said McC Calder. Bisons are expected to have a strong team because of their new track and field facilities.



ACTIVITIES

Engineering "Z" could probably use John Jenkins, but their "A" team sure doesn't need him. They have defeated Kappa Sigma, Law, and Mac Hall and should win their league in Division I hockey. No parties for these boys; they seem pretty serious.

Medicine "A" and D.U. "A" collided last Monday night in Division I basketball. With former Bears Bain MacMillan and Paul Pomielartz, D.U. was able to squeak by with a 35-32 win. Ian Walker and Dave Swan were just not enough for Medicine. Law "A" is also in this same league and there are going to be some interesting games when the league continues after Christmas.

Those of you on the handball, racquet ball, and squash ladders must have played two games by December 10 or your name will be pulled off. People on the top level of each event and who have not been receiving challenges do not have to worry about this rule.

Standings to date include: archery, golf, turkey trot, tennis, cycle-drag, flag football, basketball golf and freethrow, and indoor soccer. In "A" conference Law is still on top with 1041.5 points, but by capturing the indoor soccer title, Arts and Science is pushing them with 981.5 points. St. John's has 522 points to hold down the number one position in "B" conference and Agriculture is second with 462 points.

Our intramural "Athlete of the Week" is Mal Pritchard of Lower Res. He scored two goals in leading his hockey team to an 8 to 2 romp over Rugby last Thursday night. On Sunday night he notched two more goals in a 3-2 loss to the Phi Deltis. Mal can also score in basketball. He scored 15 points in Lower Res' last win in Division II play.

Eight quarter finalists advanced to the Co-rec badminton playoffs held last night, but the winners' names were not available at press time.

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