

Sports

Bears take west in coastal split

by Alan Small

The Golden Bear soccer team completed a U of A sweep of the Canada West soccer titles Friday when they beat the Victoria Vikings 2-0.

An early goal by center midfielder Salvi Cammarata put the Bears in the driver's seat, forcing the Vikings to go for the equalizer. Some great goaltending by Duwayne Lang kept the Bears in front as the Bear keeper made one big stop in the first half and two in the second, including a save on a penalty kick. It was Lang's second save on a penalty this year against the defending Canada West champions.

The Bears scored another late in the second half, on a goal credited to forward Norm Odinga, who finished off a header by Rob Biro.

"They put us under a lot of pressure early," said Bear head

coach Len Vickery. After we scored, they had to press forward."

The Bears couldn't keep their undefeated streak going for the rest of the season however, as they played in UBC the next day and were beaten 2-0. One can assume that maybe the Bears celebrated a bit too much after their conference clinching win, but Vickery said that wasn't the case.

"We were trying to keep our record intact," said Vickery, "but I also made one or two changes to get the full squad involved. We played much better than we did in Victoria."

The Bears, as CWUAA champs, will travel with the Pandas to the CIAU championships in Vancouver on November 12. Like the Pandas, they will have little knowledge of how their opponents will play. The Bears don't even know who they play right now.

"We will possibly play the Atlantic champions in the semi-finals," said Vickery, "we don't know what we're expecting. If we win that, we will face the Quebec-Ontario winner." They will join the Pandas, who won the Canada West women's title the week before.

Right now, the University of Toronto, who have been ranked number one earlier this year, would have to be a favorite to make the nationals, but unlike the Bears, they must play playoff games where a quick goal or a bad call by a referee can cost you a national championship.

CORNER KICKS: The two goals the T-Birds scored against the Bears were the only goals the Bears let in in conference play this season... UBC went into the game against the Bears fresh off a 9-0 annihilation of the Saskatchewan Huskies, who are the door-mats of the conference this season.

U of A dumps Brandon

The Golden Bear hockey team scored a pair of convincing road wins this weekend when they defeated the Brandon Bobcats 6-3 and 11-2.

Doug McCarthy led Bear scorers with seven points in the series, as the Bears kept up with provincial rivals Calgary, in the race for the top spot in Canada West. Both teams are 4-0.

The Bears stay home this weekend to face the UBC T-Birds, who are fresh off two wins over the Regina Cougars. Games take place Friday and Saturday at 7 pm.

if they play as well as they did at times this year, not many will want to watch it either.

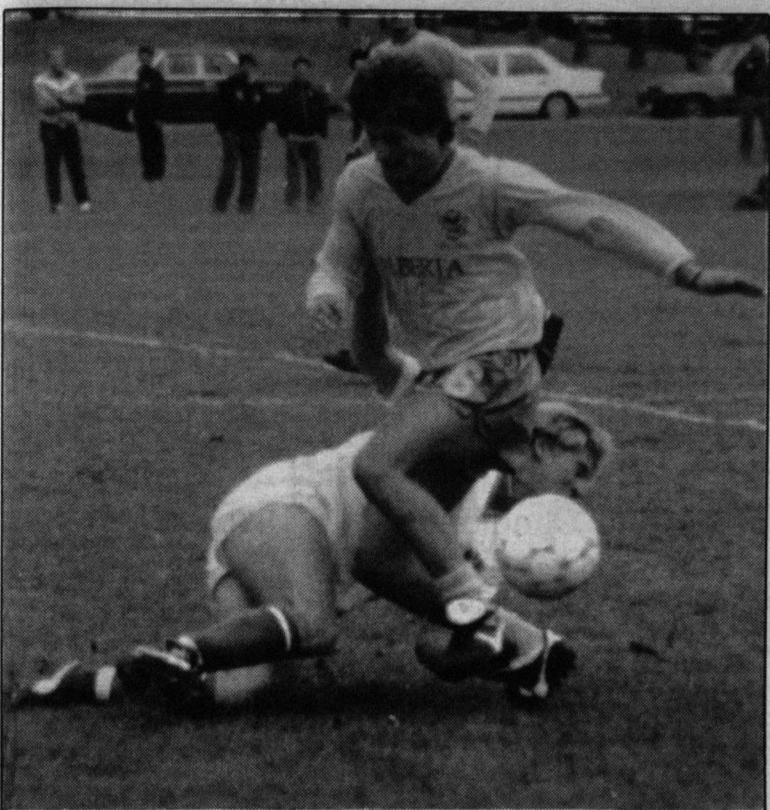
Two games were played at Northlands Coliseum this weekend, with Denis Savard and the Blackhawks in town on Sunday, and Scott Stevens and the Capitals playing on Saturday. These teams play in the Coliseum once or twice a year, yet the

"Maybe it should be 'City of Chumps.'"

supposed hockey experts in the city decided to take part in Hallowe'en activities instead.

These same experts will phone John Short and say that we should go to a balanced schedule so we can see teams like Chicago more. These same experts will phone John Short and wonder why Stan Fischler picks Scott Stevens as the best defenceman in the league.

I'm starting to miss Wayne Gretzky now. Not because of his hockey skills; Oilerwatching is more interesting now. The reason this city was named the "City of Champions" was because of Wayne Gretzky, and not because of this town's attitude. If it was maybe it should have been "City of Chumps."



Bear forward Rob Biro had an assist for the Bears this weekend.

Bears inconsistent in hoop tourney

by Alan Small

One loss was encouraging. The other was "played like the proverbial dogmeat."

A frustrated Bear basketball coach Don Horwood was left perplexed after his team went 1-2 in their first intercollegiate action of the season, in Winnipeg.

The Bears opened against the Brandon Bobcats, the defending CIAU champions, and nearly squeezed out the victory over the "Tulane Connection".

"We had plenty of chances to win it," said Horwood, "we just

couldn't convert some late turnovers. We all felt we could play better."

The Bobcats went away with a four point victory at the hands of the Golden Bears, in a game which Horwood said would be "a good test to see how close we are from the top five."

The Bears came out smoking in their second game, against Ryerson, and jumped out to a 29-8 lead after 10 minutes. Horwood used the hole bench and they cruised to a 20 point win. Post Bill Lavergne and forward Ed

Joseph both had strong games for the Bears.

Their final game ended up being a physical contest, where both teams fouled each other at will. The difference was Waterloo being able to make the big free throws, while the Bears struggled to a 14 point loss.

"They are a team similar to us. They're not a dominating team," said Horwood, "It ended up being a free throw battle and we missed the front end of four one-and-ones."

The Bears fell behind by nine points at the halfway point, but "kept fouling needlessly" in the second and never closed the difference to less than four points. They ended up losing by 16,

80-64.

"We never found the open man. We had tunnel vision," said Horwood of the loss, "we're not the kind of team like Brandon that can win on talent alone."

Now that the Bears have seen what some of the top competition looks like in intercollegiate basketball in Canada this year, Horwood believes his team is in that calibre, but "will have to be more disciplined on offence."

The Bears will get a chance to show off a more disciplined offence on Sunday afternoon, when they face Lewis-Clark State, from Lewiston, Idaho, in their annual 49th parallel shootout at Varsity Gym. The game starts at 2 pm, not at 7:30 as it was scheduled.



So this is the "City of Champions"?

The same city that doesn't sell out two weekend hockey games, the only major league game in town?

The same city that is having trouble supporting the Eskimos, who are a winning team (until recently)?

The same city that won't support professional soccer?

The same city that won't build a new baseball park or renovate an old one so that the AAA baseball team can move out of an ancient dump?

Maybe we should call Edmonton the "City of Fickle Fair-Weather Sport Fans". They have deserted the Oilers now that Gretzky is gone. They have deserted the Eskimos since the departure of Warren Moon. They have deserted professional soccer completely. They won't have the chance to desert the Trappers, because City Hall has tied the hands of the owners and forced them to play in a ball park that made the Durham Bulls look like major league.



Only 15,900 saw Chicago's Mike Eagles score three points against the Oilers on Sunday.

Once Major League Baseball ostracizes Edmonton because of the lack of a facility, the best baseball we'll see is senior league. The people we'll have

to thank for that are the same people who renamed the town "The City of Champions." They are the ones who voted down the renovation of Clarke Sta-

dium.

The Eskimos may be history if fans don't come and watch it. The best football we'll have to watch is the Golden Bears, and

Rob Galbraith