

Bears left reeling after upset

by Alan Small

Upset was the name of the game at the Golden Bear Classic volleyball tournament. The two favourites, the Golden Bears and the Calgary Volleyball Club ended up playing in the bronze medal match instead of the gold.

A lapse in concentration against Edmonton Pucks left them on the outside looking in at the gold medal final.

The ended up meeting the Calgarians in the consolation final — the team they were expected to



play in the gold medal game — but lost a 3-2 decision to keep them out of the medals.

"We had them picked as the best team here," said Bear head coach Pierre Baudin, "we played very well against them."

However, it was the semi-final game against the Pucks that left the Bears reeling.

"We should be able to beat

Pucks nine times out of ten," said Baudin. "It was a typical young team underestimating the competition." Pucks ended up beating the U of A 3-1 (15-13, 12-15, 13-15, 9-15) after the Golden Bears won the first game of the match.

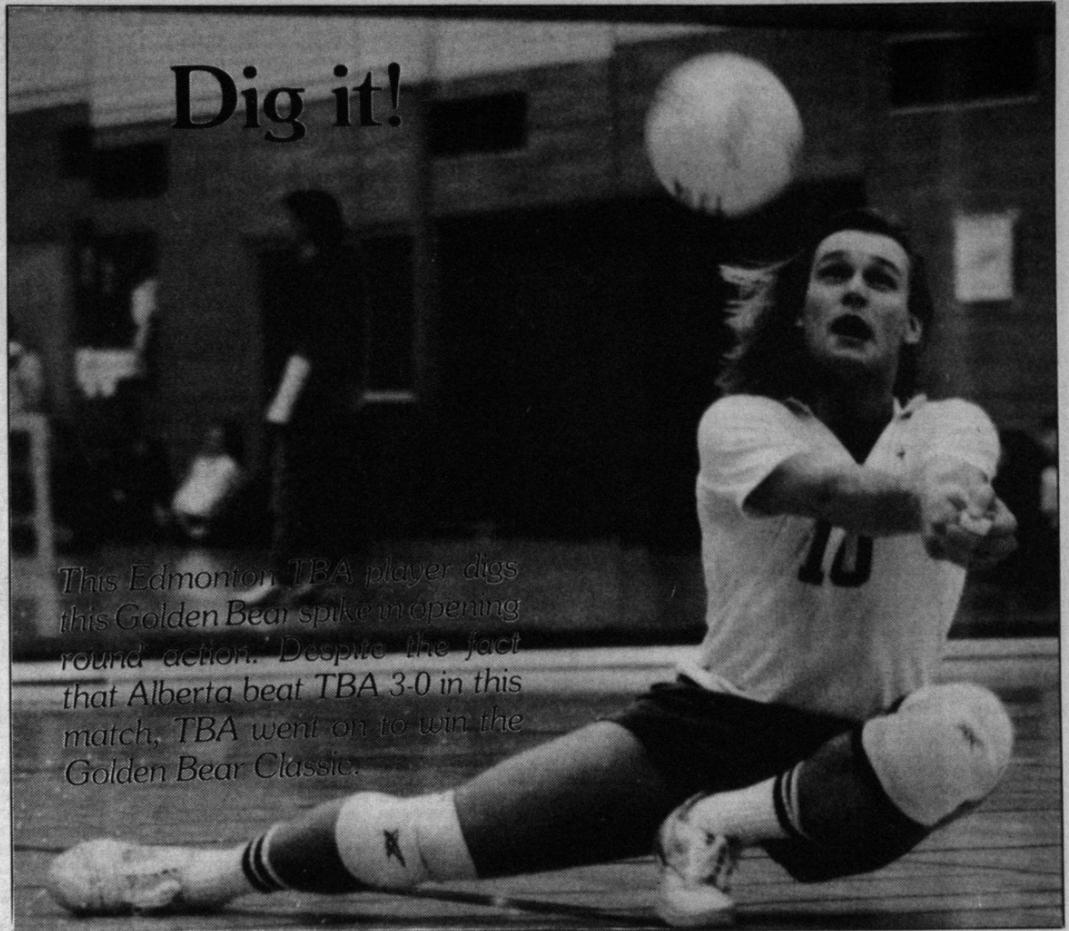
"They're a very big team and we woke them up," Baudin said, "they started to play some scrappy defence and they believed they could win."

The Bears play Pucks and club teams in the city in exhibition games during the week and usually fare well. That was not to be the case this weekend.

In the round robin, the Bears defeated eventual tournament winners Edmonton TBA, and won 3-0 (15-11, 15-13, 17-15). In their other round robin match, they easily disposed of the University of Regina Cougars 3-0 as well (15-8, 15-8, 15-7).

TBA defeated Pucks in the final 3-0.

The Bears resume their conference schedule this weekend when they host the much ballyhooed University of Calgary at Varsity Gym on Friday and Saturday. The Dinos claim to be the best team on the continent right now, after defeating USC and UCLA earlier in the season.



This Edmonton TBA player digs this Golden Bear spike in opening round action. Despite the fact that Alberta beat TBA 3-0 in this match, TBA went on to win the Golden Bear Classic.

Clive Oshry

Horns hammered

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cover. After last weekend's results, the Bears are still two points from the top berth in Canada West.

"We'd like to be one spot ahead," Drake said knowing Cal-

gary won't give it to the U of A, "we'd like to have the second game against the UBC, and the second game in Regina back. Regina will be a force to reckon with in the second half. It's a lot like last year. It'll be a race right down to the wire." Both of those games Drake mentioned were losses that Alberta should have never incurred, if they were play-

ing at the top of their game.

The only difference is that there are five teams (Alberta, Calgary, UBC, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba) vying for the top spot in the conference, as opposed to the three that were in the running last season.

The Golden Bears play their first games at Varsity Arena in 1989 this weekend, when they host the Brandon Bobcats Friday and Saturday nights. Gametime is at 7 pm.

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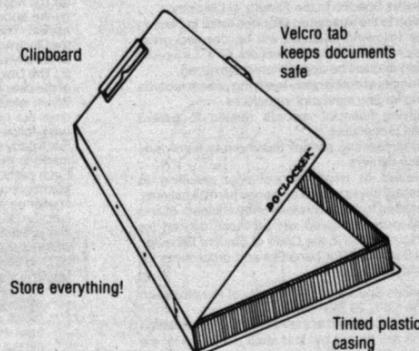
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