

Wenman tops at Fieldhouse meet

by Kevin Allan

The U of A took top honors in a dual meet against the U of Saskatchewan Saturday at the Mensmen Field House. Ken Wenman, a 20-year old relative of Surrey B.C. was involved in four victories. He won the pole vault competition by a margin of six feet, recording a 16'6" jump. He also won the long jump, the 50-metre dash, and ran the initial leg of the 4x100 metre relay. The Bears had a convincing margin over the Huskies 77.5-69.5 thanks to Wenman and teammate Darrell Menard, who won both the 1,000 and 3,000-metres. For the Pandas the Huskies weren't quite so easy as they narrowly edged the U of A team 55-51. U of A however, had the better team total: 128.5 to 114.5.

Diachun outshines but U of A takes Tournament

The Bears and Pandas gymnastic squads got into action this weekend at Varsity Gymnasium. The Bears competed against the University of Calgary while the Pandas took on UBC.

The Pandas finished on top with a team total of 80.25 points compared to UBC's 68.95.

Jennifer Diachun, a former national champion, who transferred from Ontario to UBC this year cleaned up as expected. She took top marks in all events for a total of 33.40. The Panda squad took the remaining 5 spots.

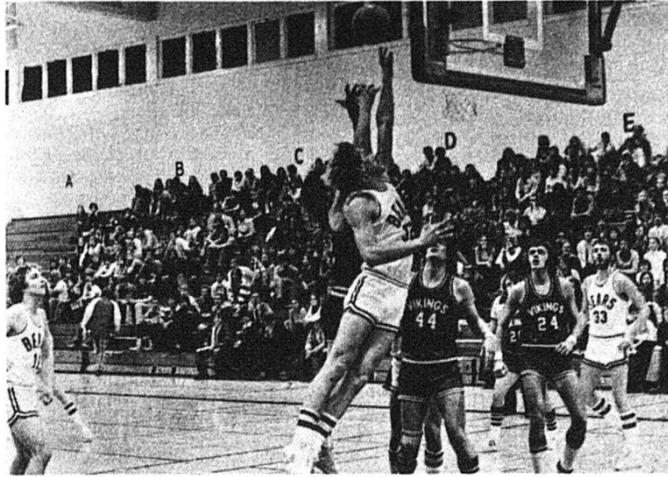
The Bears had a bit of a break when Calgary's Daryl Lowe was unable to compete in the tournament. Howe is Calgary's top gymnast and a candidate for the national team. Bears took top spot with a total of 158.25 points with Calgary coming close with 150.42.

by Darrell Semenuk

After splitting a pair of games with previously unbeaten Victoria Vikings, the basketball Bears may become a religious team.

It's true that after having lost on Friday 65-60, and also losing another veteran through injury - 6'6" Len Davidiuk, they came back, rookies and all, to take a spirited 77-69 decision over the Vikings. But it's not themselves they'll be praying for. The Bears (3-5) trail Victoria (7-1) and Calgary (7-1) for the two playoff spots, and they're going to need help from the other teams in their quest for a playoff spot.

It might not be unusual to see Barry Mitchelson's troops pausing for five minutes in prayer in their practice sessions from now on. Either that or put in an order for a dozen voodoo dolls depending on their inclinations.



Davidiuk's height will be sorely missed.

Photo by Brian Gavriloff

Bears' task was made even harder when they dropped their first game with Victoria 65-60 after leading 40-25 at half time.

The turnabout in the final 20 minutes wasn't sudden, the Vikings just kept picking away and the Bears' lead grew smaller and smaller until with 5:28 left it evaporated. Coach Mitchelson stressed the word poise after Saturday night's win, something the Bears lost on Friday.

Saturday night the Bears needed poise as much as Red Army needs Vadislav Tretiak. Playing without veterans Bain McMillan and Len Davidiuk the Bears needed a super performance from everyone. They got it, with Colin Fennel and Dave Holland playing one of their better games in weeks.

Even though Bears were out shot 50% to 36% in the first half they held Victoria to enough shots to come out even at halftime 34-34.

The Vikings got as close as one, after about 9 minutes into the second half but Bears then built up a comfortable 10 point lead with 8 minutes remaining.

That's when poise becomes another player on the court, and Bears played with poise for the rest of the game, never allowing Victoria to within 4 points.

with 17 points shooting 50% from the floor. Colin Fennel had 15 points while Baker and Holland had 14 apiece. An indication of the type of defense that the Bears played is the number of shots taken by the Vikings. Victoria took only 48 shots while the Bears directed 89 at the hoop. Victoria shot 52% compared with the Bears 39%. Jim Duddridge led Vic, with 20 points, including 12/13 on the free throw line. Vikings had 21 of their 69 points from the line.

Bear Bruises: Len Davidiuk suffered an ankle injury Friday night and will have his foot in a cast for a week and its possible he may have suffered some ligament damage. Bain McMillan is still suffering from a groin injury, and will undergo whirlpool treatments. No date has been set for his return and his status is a day to day thing.



Brian Smith flying high. Photo by Brian Gavriloff

Bears' Brian Smith and Gord Osborne finished one, two with 47.52 and 43.65 points respectively.

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