

Smith to replace Mitchelson

After coaching the University of Alberta Basketball Bears for eight years coach Barry Mitchelson is packing it up. Mitchelson dropped the bombshell on his players Saturday.

The 33 year old ex-Edmonton Eskimo stated the prime reason for his decision was "the amount of time that the coaching was taking." Mitchelson wants to devote more of his time with his family, wife Robin and two young daughters. Along with his coaching duties Mitchelson also was occupied with coaching clinics, working with the Alberta Basketball Association plus his teaching duties at the university. "I'd usually leave home at seven or eight and come home at eight or nine. I'd go two or three days without seeing my children."

"It was a tough thing to give up. You can't do everything. My number one priority has always been my family. It's a game of tug and war between your responsibilities."

Gary Smith will take over as head coach of the Bears, although his official appointment won't be announced till late this week. Smith, 33 has been an assistant coach with the Golden Bear football squad for five years and has been their defensive co-ordinator. Smith is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and has had coaching ex-

perience in basketball at the high school level. In 1972 he was chosen Alberta Amateur Coach of the year by the Alberta Football Coaches Association. Mitchelson played basket-



Barry Mitchelson

ball and football at University of Western Ontario from 1961 to '64 and was the number one choice in the Canadian college football draft, and played 3 years for the Eskimos.

He took over the job as head coach at the U of A in 1967 and during his reign the Bears won Western Canada in 1968 and '74 and finished second three times. The Coach wasn't fortunate enough to go out a winner, and in fact suffered

through his worst season ever since taking over the head coaching job. The Bears finished with a mark of 9-11 and finished fourth in a six team league.



Gary Smith

The coach however, has no complaints after his tenure as head coach. "I've enjoyed every minute of my stay as coach. I look at myself as helping to maintain a basketball tradition at the U of A. Hopefully the new coach will be able to do that."

"The new coach," although Mitchelson wouldn't reveal his name, "will have some needs to take care of, he'll have to improve the height on the team."

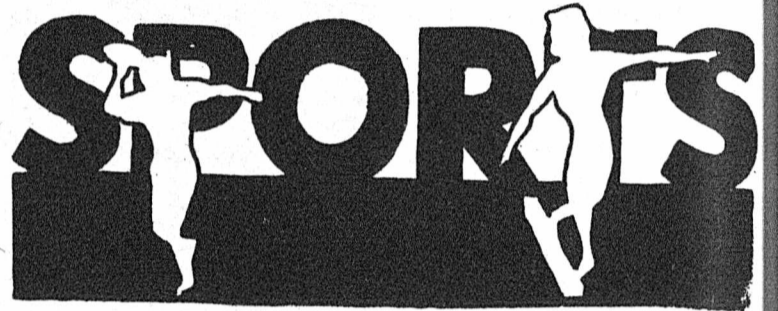
Smith may also inherit a stronger team than was expected at the close of this season. One veteran player on the Bears suggested that the change in coaching would make a difference in players returning for another year, and that it would also open the door for veterans Steve Panteluk, who was a first team all star two years ago and Rick Johnson to rejoin the team.

One other reason for Mitchelson's resignation is his feeling about the recruitment of Americans and scholarship abuses. "There can be athletic scholarships in Canada. I've

heard that there are. I'm opposed to the active recruitment of American players. We're here to service primarily the citizens of Alberta and to provide a service for our students. Each time an American is on the team that's one less Canadian playing."

Mitchelson, who is the co-ordinator for administration in undergraduate studies will devote more time to the graduate program and will continue to remain active in basketball, likely at the community level.

by Darrell Semenuk



Intramural Awards

Awards Night

The annual Men's and Women's Intramural get together, Awards Night, will be held Thursday night, March 26. The evening will begin with the bar opening at 6:00 p.m. at Lister Hall with dinner slated for 6:30 p.m. Tickets, \$3.00 per person, are available at both the Men's and Women's Intramural Offices from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Awards Presentations will be held at 7:30 p.m. to be followed by a dance featuring the Triangles.

The primary purpose of Awards Night is to acknowledge those people and units attaining a high degree of participation and achievement in the various sports. Will Tony Lambert or Art

Whitny of L.C.A. or Ryk Visscher of A.A.A. or Randy Ellis L.D.S. be the top participant of the Men's Program. Which units will win which conferences. How many people this year will receive a certificate for participating in 10 or more sports. Harry "The Hoop" Miller knows for sure but says come to Awards Night to find out for yourself and have a good time while you are at it.

An added attraction of the evening is the annual intramural staff vs. unit managers drinking contest, won by the staff for the past six years. In retrospect however, the losers are usually the happiest the next day.

Tickets for Awards Night are in limited supply so be sure to get yours soon. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Intramural Volleyball

The volleyball finals held Monday evening concluded the 27 event 1975-76 Intramural program. The Division I series featured Engineering vs. Physical Education and L.D.S. vs. Lower Res. The final match, a classic indeed, between Engineering and L.D.S. took 1½ hours to play, half an hour longer than normal. The outcome of the match, with game scores of 11-15, 15-12 and 16-14, was victory for the Engineers.

In the Division II series, Ryk Visscher and his A.A.A. Chieftans handily captured the title defeating Medicine 15-12 and 15-3. The Division III series featured a bitter struggle between 2nd Kelsey and Agriculture. In their usual fashion, the hard fighting "Aggies" put up a spirited battle in losing the match with games of 14-15, 18-16 and 15 to 11. Their coach and biggest supporter Earl Allen says to wait until next year when they hope

to come up with stronger spiking to complement their fine setter. The Kelsey team however had the quick defensive reflexes and are undoubtedly most deserving champions.

Congratulations are in order for all the winners, losers and participants. A bonus, according to players, for the volleyball league was the excellent calibre of refereeing. Thanks for the good job boys, we hope you will help us out again next year.



Cubans impress

It was short and sweet. The Cuban National men's team disposed of the Canadian squad Wednesday night in consecutive games, 15-10, 15-12 and 15-8. Despite the shutout the two teams put on a memorable display for the appreciative crowd of 3,000. The Cubans are currently on a 5 game tour of Western Canada playing their matches against Canadian team. The Cubans opened up a tight first game, pulling away from an 11-9 score. The second game saw the Canadians mount a 12-8 lead only to see the Cubans come back with 7 consecutive points to take the game. The Cubans wrapped up the sweep as they racked up a quick 14-4 lead and coasted to victory.

Photo Greg Neiman



Photo Bob Austin