

Herbers' back home from junior journeys

by Alan Small

First year Bear defenceman Ian Herbers' hockey career could be summed up by Willie Nelson's song "On the Road Again".

The native of Sherwood Park is back at home base in Edmonton and so far has been a steady blueliner for the Golden Bears this season. The 6'4", 220 pound defenceman spent three years bouncing around from team to

"Here, school is number one and then hockey. In junior, it is hockey and hockey."
—Herbers.

team in the Western Hockey League before coming to the U of A.

"I started my WHL career in Kelowna," recalled Herbers, "it moved to Spokane, I played there for a half a year. Then I got traded to Lethbridge. Then Lethbridge moved to Swift Current."

While Herbers was at Swift Current, his play garnered enough attention for him to get drafted by the Buffalo Sabres in the tenth round. He was also wooed not only by Golden Bears, but also by University of Saskatchewan Huskies. Ironically, the Bears travel



Forward Al Tarasuk (left) and the Bears travel to Saskatoon to face the Huskies this weekend.

Rob Galbraith

to Saskatoon, for a two-game set against the Huskies this weekend.

When you have played for as many junior teams as Herbers was, and then you play university hockey, where a lot of junior players end up, you recognize a lot of faces you have played with

over the years. Last weekend, it was UBC forward Grant Delcourt, who was CWUAA player of the week with his performance against the Golden Bears. This coming weekend, Herbers will face some more in Saskatoon.

"I've got them (old teammates)

all over," said Herbers, "there's (huskie forward Ken) Morrison. Herbers went on to mention old teammates in just about every team in the Canada West conference.

"Herbers is a stay at home defenceman, despite the fact he

has two goals and six assists in six Canada West conference games. He has had little trouble adjusting to the style of play in Canada West, but the atmosphere around the U of A hockey team is a lot different than in juniors.

"Here (players) are a lot more mature," said Herbers, "but a lot of guys (in the WHL) are getting ready for the NHL. It's a lot more physical, a lot more fighting."

"There are harder road swings in the WHL," added Herbers, "here you have to worry about school. School is number one and then hockey, but there it is hockey and hockey."

Herbers also said that in university hockey, the players are very evenly balanced, whereas in the WHL, there are often three or four great players, and a lot more players who are a step below.

The Huskies will provide a different test for the Golden Bears than they have seen all year. The Huskies are strong at home, but have struggled early this season. They are 3-3 so far which leaves them tied for fourth with the T-Birds. They are coming off a pair of wins in Regina so the Bears will have to be prepared for a tough, physical battle that always comes from the Huskies.

GOAL POSTS: Sunday afternoon's game will be broadcast on FM 88 CJSR at 1:30... A strong weekend by the Dinos pushed forward **Barry Bracko** into the top spot in scoring past Bears **Doug McCarthy** and **Stacey Wakabayshi**.



Chursinoff leading hoop Bears

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players and they're going up against fourth years. They're doing a good job against them. I'd like to see how well they play when they are in their fourth year.

"We've got eight solid guys we can go with," Chursinoff added.

Chursinoff and Youngs are an important cog in the Bears trademark, pressure defence. It's a style that Chursinoff enjoys playing as opposed to a passive, laid-back defence.

"Teams are terrified to play us because of the way we play defence," Chursinoff said, "we're the best defensive team in Canada West. It's just a matter whether they can handle our pressure."

Last season, Chursinoff averaged 11.1 points per game in 35 Bear contests. He's headed for more this season, as he scored 27 in his last outing against Lewis-Clark State. He led the team in assists last year with 114. "Sean was having a great game and Dave went to him more," Horwood said, "you have to go to the hot hand."

University Scoreboard

Hockey

C.W.U.A.A. STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Calgary	6	6	0	0	44	22	12
Alberta	6	5	1	0	57	22	10
Manitoba	6	4	2	0	38	18	8
UBC	6	3	3	0	40	37	6
Saskatchewan	6	3	3	0	27	30	6
Brandon	6	1	4	1	21	42	3
Lethbridge	6	1	5	0	15	52	2
Regina	6	0	5	1	22	41	1

Results:

November 4: UBC 4 at Alberta 6
 Brandon 1 at Manitoba 12
 Calgary 9 at Lethbridge 4
 Saskatchewan 7 at Regina 4
 November 5: UBC 10 at Alberta 9 (OT)
 Lethbridge 2 at Calgary 7
 Saskatchewan 4 at Regina 3
 November 6: Manitoba 5 at Brandon 3

SCHEDULE:

November 11
 Brandon at Calgary
 Manitoba at UBC
 Regina at Lethbridge

NOVEMBER 12
 Alberta at Saskatchewan
 Brandon at Calgary
 Manitoba at UBC
 Regina at Lethbridge
 NOVEMBER 13
 Alberta at Saskatchewan

SCORING LEADERS FOR THE DAVE "SWEENEY" SCHRINER TROPHY

PLAYER	GP	G	A	PTS
Bracko, C	6	14	7	21
Fioretti, C	6	8	13	21
McCarthy, A	6	5	16	21
Wakabayshi, A	6	9	11	20
Dusevic, BC	6	3	13	16
Craig, A	6	8	6	14
Cranston, A	6	6	8	14
Ikedo, BC	5	5	9	14
Delcourt, B	6	8	5	13
Morrison, S	6	6	7	13
Thibodeau, A	5	2	11	13
Blisner, M	6	8	4	12
Scott, M	6	5	7	12
Campbell, M	6	4	8	12
Wheatcroft, C	6	3	9	12
Brown, M	6	2	10	12
Fearn, BC	6	6	4	10



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