

# Pandas hammer BC, but Vikettes too much to handle

by Tim Enger

**Pandas 76 UBC 52  
Victoria 65 Pandas 50**

As a home opener, it wasn't a classic but it got the job done.

Finally, after playing fifteen straight road games, the Panda basketball team got to play in front of a home crowd, and they responded with a 76-52 victory over UBC in a

sloppy contest played Friday night.

If the truth be told, the game shouldn't have been as close as it was (if you can call 24 points close), as UBC's shooting was a sorry sight on this night. They were fortunate enough to benefit from some Alberta turnovers to keep it within three touchdowns and a field goal.

And there were turnovers, plenty of them on both sides.

"We tried to come out flying like we did against Saskatchewan," said post Yolanda Kruyer, the leading scorer in the game with 21 points. "But instead we came out with slow feet and played terrible defence in the first half which kept them in the game."

"To tell you the truth, I think the girls had trouble dealing with the large crowd," said head coach Diane Hilko.

The game started off with both teams pressing and staying pretty close on the scoreboard. Then Alberta caught fire with the help of some long range bombs from second year forwards Kathy Keats and Zofia Yeomans, and quickly built a ten point lead which they were to carry into the half. Halftime score 38 - 28.

The second half started about the same way it did last weekend against the Huskiettes with Kruyer pouring in all the points. In total, she scored the Pandas first nine points of the half before passing the torch to fellow post Lisa Janz who caused two turnovers and scored the next six points.

After going 2-0 against the perennial doormats of the Canada West it was now put up or shut up time for Diane Hilko's troops as they faced the two-time defending league champions.

But unfortunately for the Pandas, the Vikettes were just too experienced and too tall for the young Alberta team to overcome . . . yet.

"Obviously we're disappointed with the loss," said forward Kathy Keats, "but now we know we can play with them and we won't be so intimidated next time."

It became apparent early that the defending champs did carry some factor of intimidation with them as the Pandas came out of the blocks tentative and seemed to have a lot of trouble shooting over the tall Victoria zone.

Also, the Vikettes quick inside passing game drew more fouls than the Pandas could afford to commit early on. As a result Alberta lost its best player in recent games, Kruyer, with 11:38 left in the first half after her third foul put her in danger of fouling out.

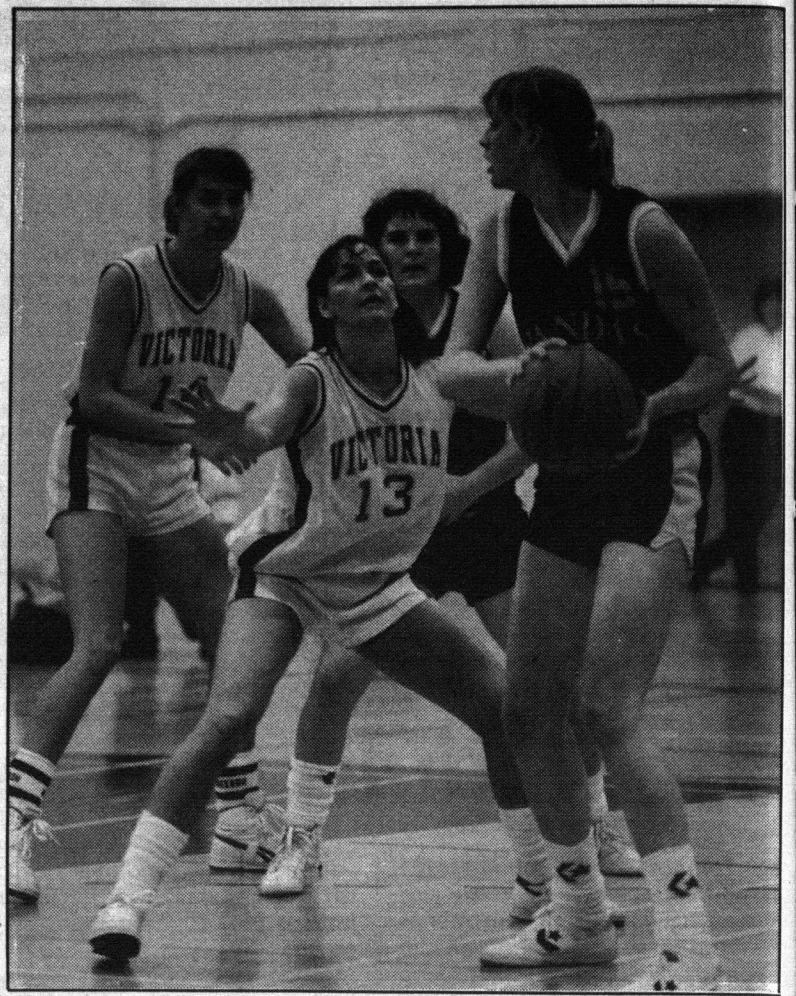
At the half the score read Vikettes 32 - Pandas 23.

Alas, while Alberta may have a good quarterback in Smith, Victoria has a regular John Elway directing their attack in the form of 5'9" Calgary native Karla Karsh.

With Karsh at the controls the Vikettes turned on an offensive onslaught at the beginning of the second half that featured a running game that would have made a track team jealous. This in turn ballooned the Victoria lead to 19 points with less than 12 minutes to go.

But a funny thing happened on the way to the rout — the Pandas fought back with a little offensive show of their own.

As the game wound down the Vikettes scored some meaningless lay-ups to make the score misleading in terms of how close it really was.



Pandas Yolanda Kruyer works against a tough Vic squad.

## Basketball

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

	W	L	F	A
Victoria	4	0	283	207
Alberta	2	1	205	152
Lethbridge	2	1	189	184
Calgary	1	2	208	197
Saskatchewan	1	2	135	199
B.C.	0	4	188	269

### SCOREBOARD — WOMEN

Jan. 16: British Columbia 52 at Alberta 76; Victoria 76 at Saskatchewan 47.  
Jan. 17: British Columbia 44 at Saskatchewan 53; Victoria 65 at Alberta 50; Calgary 69 at Lethbridge 78.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

	W	L	F	A
Saskatchewan	3	0	239	212
Alberta	2	1	228	213
Victoria	2	2	302	279
B.C.	2	2	272	273
Calgary	1	2	185	206
Lethbridge	0	3	193	236

### SCOREBOARD — MEN

Jan. 16: British Columbia 71 at Alberta 91; Victoria 71 at Saskatchewan 84.  
Jan. 17: British Columbia 68 at Saskatchewan 73; Victoria 60 at Alberta 64; Calgary 72 at Lethbridge 66.

### FUTURE GAMES

#### WOMEN and MEN

Jan. 23: Alberta at Calgary; Saskatchewan at Lethbridge; British Columbia at Victoria.  
Jan. 24: Alberta at Lethbridge; Saskatchewan at Calgary.

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