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# Sports

The Golden Bear  
wrestlers had their hands  
full with a touring Japanese  
troupe, p. 14



Alan Small

## Hockey Pools reign supreme

Do you ever hear this kind of statement in a bar or even in your own home?

"Kurri, why the hell did you pass it to Krushelnyski? I don't have him in my pool!"

I have heard this too many times. The proliferation of sports pools in today's society is even rivaling the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The only difference is that nuclear war is a possibility; sports pool madness is a reality!

In the beginning, sports pools were fun, partially profitable, and a great way of easing the boredom of a regular season of hockey which means nothing anyways. They added some more spice to an already spicy NFL season.

But what has happened? Instead of the sport being the main attraction, fans are just too worried about winning or losing their pools.

Now, pools are being used as a promotional tool. An Edmonton paper uses the sports pool idea so they can sell more papers, and more advertising space. If you looked at the Tuesday edition, the paper which contains the weekly statistics, these statistics were presented by a sponsor.

These lows are now reaching new heights.

Nowadays, fans are no longer caring about the competition. Before everyone had THEIR team. Today, they have THEIR players. And they're all from different teams. It just bugs me to hear, "Montreal lost 6-2 last night but Mats Naslund scored two goals so I don't care."

And what about injuries.

Heaven forbid one of your cherished players come up with a broken leg or a dislocated shoulder. That will screw up your whole pool and that means that you will lose your original "investment".

And what about scoring slumps? Already traumatic for the player, imagine what happens to the guy who picked him in a draft.

"When will that @#\$ed guy start playing?"

This makes the player's problems look inconsequential. Heck, by the time the end of the season rolls around, it will be lock-me-up-in-a-padded-cell time for most of them.

And then it will be time for the playoffs to start.

And we'll do the same stupid thing all over again.

Call 'em as  
you see 'em.  
Write for  
Gateway  
sports. See  
Mark!!

## Bears Cross Country team strides for second CIAU title

by Mark Spector

Another successful year for the Bears Cross Country team culminates this weekend with the CIAU meet in London, Ontario.

After claiming their fifth Canada West title in the last seven years two weeks ago in Lethbridge, the Alberta men's team heads to the Western University meet with much optimism.

"Heading into the Canada West meet (in Manitoba) we knew that we had a pretty strong team," said head track coach Al Weiker. "But the runners that we thought were our number one and two runners finished sixth and seventh there."

"We won Canada West but we still have the potential to do much better. If everyone has a good race

on race day (in London), everything should work out just fine."

Those two runners were, respectively, Jerry Rose and Tom Bessai. Rose, a member of both the '83 and '84 CWUAA championship teams at the U of A, serves as coach to both the Bears and the Pandas teams this year. Originally from Cambridge, England, Rose has run Cross Country for over fourteen years.

Bessai is in his third year in the Alberta program, and last year managed identical tenth place finishes at both the Canada West and National meets.

"Tom's vying for (a top spot) at the Nationals as well," says Weiker. Bessai competed for the Canadian National Junior team in Switzer-

land last March.

But you'd have to say that in order for Alberta to have a chance at capturing their second ever national title, they must receive a high placing from All-Canadian Scott McDonald. Also a third year runner, McDonald placed fifth at both post-season meets last year and was named top Bear runner for the season.

But heading east, the Alberta team doesn't really know what to expect from the other competing universities.

"We haven't competed with any eastern teams yet," admitted Weiker, "but realistically, we know that Ottawa will be very hard to beat. Waterloo is probably the second toughest team.

"But you really can't tell. You might have a guy who comes down with the 'flu' on race day and he might be your best runner. You just don't know."

They do know something about the course that they will be running on though. The 10k course consists of two 5000m loops. It is a hilly course that is all grass or dirt paths. It is a course that Weiker says favours his club.

"We were very confident going into Canada West," he says, "and we set our training so that we wouldn't peak there. It's sort of a dangerous precedent to look beyond, but . . ."

If you want to win, you might just have to take those kind of chances.

## Hoop Bears rain on Lewis-Clarke State

by Danny Schnick

It took just a moment for the basketball Bears to find the jugular vein of the Lewis-Clark State Warriors on Monday night. And when they did they showed no mercy.

In an all-round strong performance, the Green and Gold cruised to a 43-30 half-time lead and slaughtered the Idaho-based college by a final score of 100-69.

The NAIA division I led Don Horwood's squad for most of the

first ten minutes, getting behind the Bears defense with some fast running and passing. For a moment it looked as though it would be a repeat of last year's close match in which Alberta won by 4 points.

But this was not to be. The Bears implemented an aggressive full court run and jump-press defense that caught the Lewiston club totally off guard. The technique, done by double-teaming the opposing ball carrier, proved to cause fits for

coach Richard Hannon's squad throughout the entire game.

"Their aggressiveness and maturity took our game away. Our passing and rebounding was poor and our shooting was terrible," conceded Hannon.

"I was a little surprised they couldn't adapt to our defense," stated coach Horwood. "By sending everyone up-court you usually can break the double team coverage on the ball carrier. They didn't do that so the run and jump press worked extremely well for us."

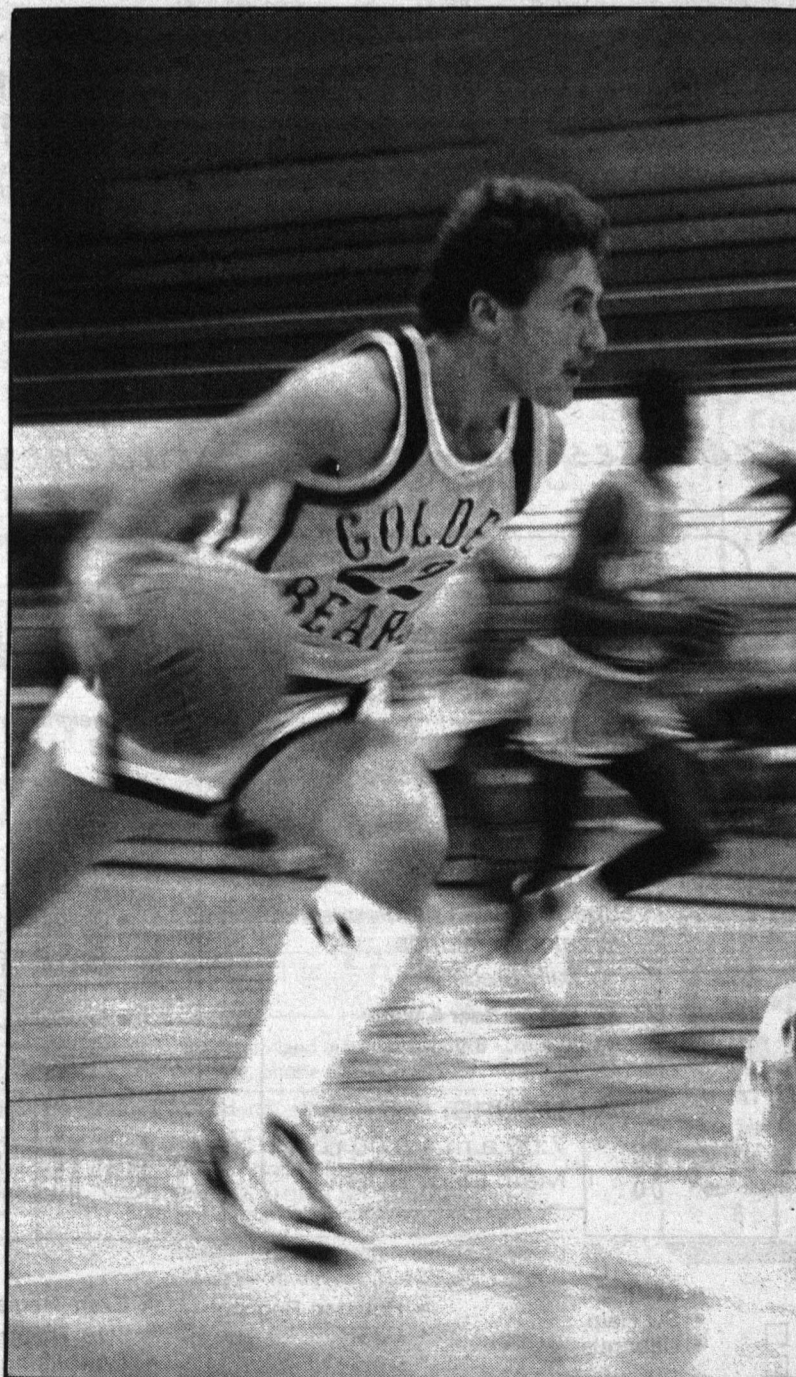
The Golden Bears also dominated around the basket.

Mike Suderman led the Bear's offense, nailing eight of 11 field goal attempts and six of seven free throws for 22 points. Chris Toutant notched 20 points and Dean Peters scored 15. While Mike Kornak was only 3 for 11 in field goal attempts he had an extremely strong defensive game.

Alberta hopes to continue their fine play in Regina Cougar Invitational on the weekend. The Bears open Friday night against the Uni-

versity of Mary from North Dakota who Horwood says are quite a good club. They play the University of Saskatchewan the next night and then the top team of the three plays the best team in the other side of the draw.

**Free Shots:** Lewis-Clark State, who play in the **Greater Cascade Basketball Alliance**, travelled to **Calgary** and **Lethbridge** after Monday's



Cliff Rowein brings the ball up court for Alberta photo Paul Menzies

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