Hockey Bears No. 1

by Bernie Poitras

Bears head coach Clare Drake admits it's nice to be alone in first place in the Canada West hockey conference - even if it is because his club has played more games than anyone else.

His team secured top spot this past weekend by sweeping a twogame series against the U of Lethbridge Pronghorns. They dominated both games winning the first 6-0 and second 15-3.

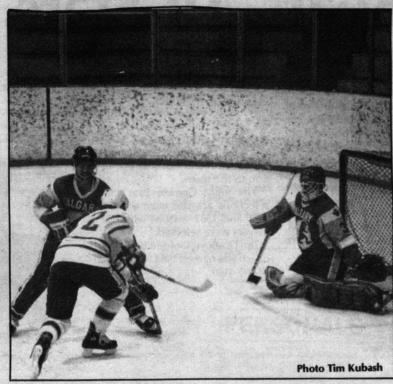
With an 8-2 record, the Bears have now moved four points ahead of both UBC and Saskatchewan. The Pronghorns are now

Bears' Forward Gerald Koebel led the attack with seven goals and three assists. Other 'guns for hire' in the Bears' arsenal this weekend included Dave Otto, (two goals, four assists), Rick Swan (two goals, three assists), and Parie Proft (four assists)

Looking ahead to the Huskies series on November 16 and 17, Drake said, "Being that it's for first place, this is a very key series. A lot will be decided this weekend."

What this upcoming series will decide is if the Bears can pull away from the rest of the conference or if the next three clubs (UBC, Calgary and the Huskes) can stay close.

UBC next travels to Calgary for a doubleheader. If both UBC and The Huskies pull off series sweeps, the division would again have three first-place clubs. But, if the Bears could get a split and UBC wins two,



Bears forward Gerald Kuebal is the Canada West Player of the week

it would still leave the Bears in first. UBC would then inch closer to the top and the Huskies would slip back a notch.

From the Den: Canada West Player of the Week is Bears' forward Gerald Koebel. Koebel's ten point weekend vaulted him from near obscurity to third spot among the scoring leaders...This is the second consecutive week that an Alberta player has taken the weekly award; last week, forward Craig Dill was chosen for his five point effort against Calgary...Bears' goalie Ken Hodge recorded his first shutout of the year in the 6-0 win...Koebel now leads the conference in goals with nine: Dill leads in assists with ten and teammate Breen Neeser leads in powerplay goals with three...As a team, the Bears have scored 14 powerplay goals and have allowed 13 while shorthanded.

First TV match in four years

Bears to play on ISN

First, we were introduced to Hockey Night in Canada: a Saturday night sporting showcase of National Hockey League teams.

Then came Monday Night Football: an under-the-lights National Football League production featur-ing three ex-jocks turned broad-

And now, that happy medium known as television has found its' way to the collegiate athletic ranks. in Canada for one night this coming Friday (Nov. 16), The Sports Network (TSN) will take up residence in Varsity Arena to televise a Canada West regular season game between the hockey Bears and the U of Saskatchewan Huskies.

The game, slated for a 7:30 pm starting time, will be televised coast-to-coast on the all-sports channel (24) with Peter Watts doing the play-by-play and Gary Green providing color commentary.

Watts, if you remember, used to co-anchor the Edmonton based television sports desk while Green, a former NHL coach with the Washington Capitals, has also been doing commentary for the USA network, an American based all-sports station,

It will mark the second such telecast of Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union hockey. The first took place just two weeks ago Friday, Nov. 2 when Western U played

Guelph. Even though TSN has been showing CIAU football games since September, the football Bears were never shown and so this will be the first sporting event from the Alberta campus.

In fact, it's the first Bears' hockey match seen on television in four seasons. Not since 1979-80, when the Bears captured the National Championship, have they had national exposure.

Bears' head coach Clare Drake was obviously pleased his club will be seen on television and expressed hope that the fans will respond because of it.

"I think it (national coverage) is great. I hope they will do a couple more games, too." said Drake. "I'd relly like to see the students get out (to Varsity Arena). It would be nice to be seen on television and to be

recognized for good school spirit." And since it's no secret that fans haven't been breaking down the doors to see the Bears, it would be fitting that if one game is sold out

this year, it's this one.

In the hope of luring even more fans, the Bears are promoting Friday's game as "Banner Night." The person(s) having the best judged banner (bed sheet size or thereabouts) will be rewarded with 15 cases of their "favorite refreshment". This, however, is not to be confused with"Cheers for Beers'

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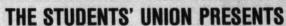
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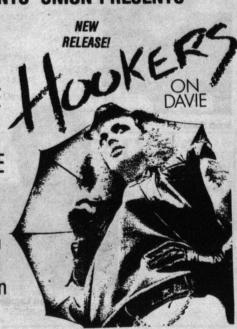
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