Pandas overwhelmed by T-Birds

Thunderbirds 3 Pandas 1 by Ajay Bhardwaj

UBC women's volleyball coach Donna Baydock found the music in the main gym a little overwhelming. However, that was the only thing that overwhelmed the visiting Thunderbirds. They defeated the Pandas three games to one on Friday evening in the main gym.

The Pandas held a 14-6 lead in the fourth game of the match and served for the match on several occasions. But UBC refused to die and came back to win the game 16-14 and the match. "We weren't intense enough," UBC coach Donna Baydock said. "I want to see a higher intensity level. A strong team won't let us come back."

The Pandas held a 7-1 lead when UBC power hitter Jenny Rauh nailed a spike which prompted Baydock

to scream the rhetorical question, "Can anyone else (on this team) spike the ball?" That may well have been the turning point in the match. The T-Birds narrowed the score 8-4 before Panda coach Suzi Smith called a time out to settle her troops.

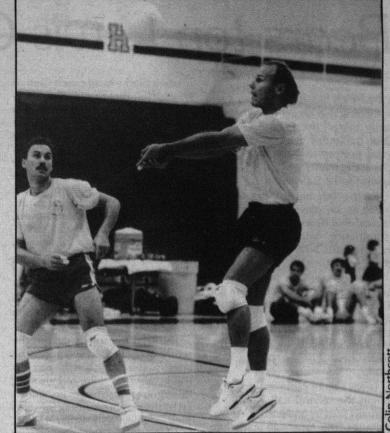
The comment by Baydock "was to fire them up. The rest of the team were being so safe all the time. I wanted to try to make them hungry."

UBC won game one 15-5 before the Pandas came back in game two. The Pandas served aggressively to take an early lead, but the T-Birds fought back to take a 9-4 lead. However, the Pandas began hitting over UBC blocks and mounted a comeback to close the score to 11-9. Middle Cathlyn Robinson evened the score at 11-11 with a timely kill and four consecutive points later, the Pandas had evened the match at one game a piece. They won the game 15-11.

Universal Debbie Dyson had a field day killing balls, connecting for 18 put aways. "Their goal was to set Dyson over our shortest player, my setter, Kyla Lee. We just overplayed it," Baydock said.

In game three, the T-Birds spotted the Pandas a 5-2 before waking up. Smith yelled out "let's not give any easy ones away" to her charges, in vain. The T-Birds won the game going away 15-12, setting the stage for the game four rally.

"We definitely have the talent to go all the way," Baydock said. "We definitely have a strong enough team." Strong enough to overcome the Pandas easily.



The Golden Bear volleyball squad played their Alumni on Friday night in the main gym. The good will match was a good way for coach Pierre Baudin to give his freshmen a little bit of work. The teams played to a 2-2 draw.



King Arthur's Round Table seldom had more distinguished chair-warmers than the Bears Den did on Friday night. Hockey alumni Parie Proft, Darren "Turk" Turner, Dennis Cranston, and Jeff Helland were there for the Bears game.

I had a chance to talk with Cranston, and he and I agreed that it just didn't look right, seeing Stan Marple wearing number 16: Sid Cranston's number from last year. Nothing against Marple; he's a hard-working young player who may develop into a long-term asset for the Bears. Some-how it just seems wrong, seeing 16 out there. It's not helped by the fact that Stan and Sid share the same general build (5'9", 183 lbs. versus 5'10", 183 lbs.), so it's not obvious that Sid is gone, when you glance at the ice and see a fireplug-shaped number

If Athletics don't want to retire sweaters—and personally I like to see the low numbers out there, something which is missing on teams which retire a lot of numbers—then perhaps they should at least "rest" them. Reward players who play their whole careers here by retiring the numbers for seniors for a year or two. The numbers hanging in the raft-

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WORK OVERSEAS

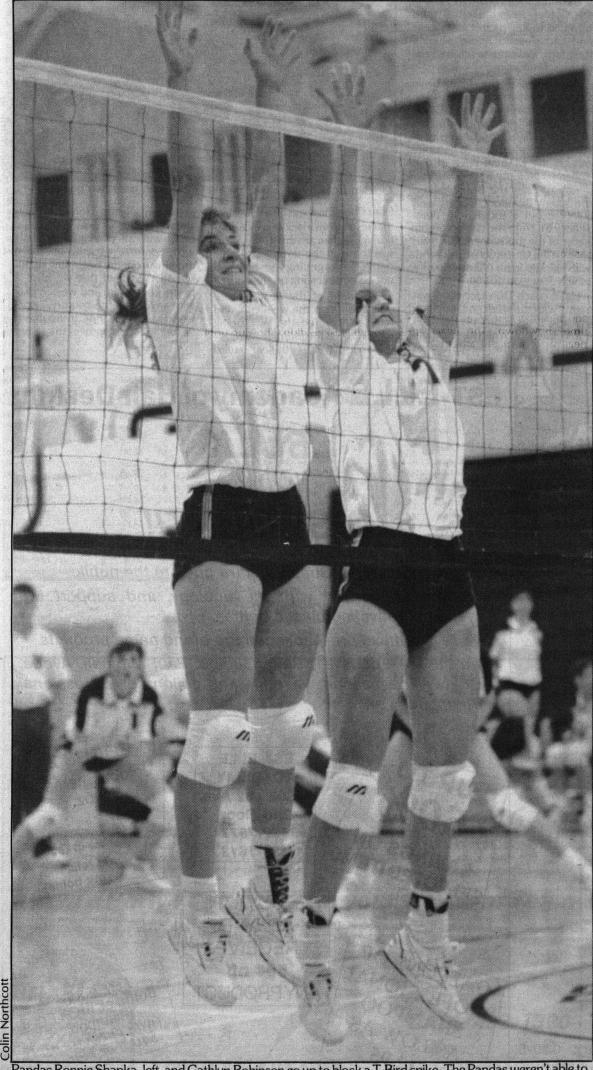
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Pandas Ronnie Shapka, left, and Cathlyn Robinson go up to block a T-Bird spike. The Pandas weren't able to do that enough, dropping a 3-1 decision.