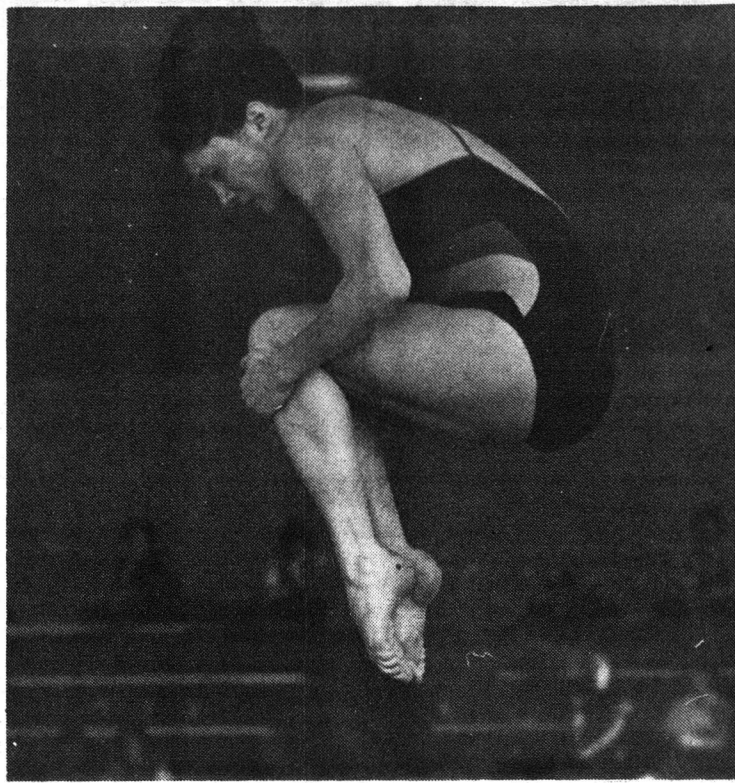


photo Tom Freeland



Panda divers are favored in this year's Canada West championships held this week in the West Pool.

Smith swim star

Six teams will participate this week in the West Pool as the University of Alberta hosts the Canada West swimming and diving championships.

According to Bears' coach John Hogg, the Bears are ranked about third among the six teams, behind UBC and Calgary. The Pandas sit about fourth.

One of the highlights will be the appearance of the University of Calgary's Graham Smith. In the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton Smith won six gold medals.

Alberta's top contenders will be Brent Desbrisay and Cindy Swartzack. Desbrisay won three CIAU gold medals last year and set three CWUAA records at last

year's conference championships.

Rookie diver Swartzack has won nearly all the events in the university competition she has entered this year. She is a pre-meet favorite in both the one and three meter competition.

Hogg says, "The ultimate purpose of the meet is to qualify as many people as possible for the Nationals in Toronto. We've got to shoot for the finals in each event. Once you're there anything can happen."

Swimming starts tomorrow, Thursday, and runs through to Saturday. Diving is Friday and Saturday only. Heats begin at 11:00 a.m. and finals are at 6:00 p.m. Diving finals are at 8:30 both nights.

Pandas win, Trix leads

The outcome was the same — just the opposition was different.

The Pandas won a pair of basketball games over Lethbridge and the Bears lost twice. Last weekend in Saskatoon both teams ended up with similar results.

Trix Kannekens moved into a slim one point lead in the scoring race over Calgary's Janis Paskevich with 45 points over two games. Alberta won 66-57 and 67-52. Rookie Sherry Knutsvig had her best game of the year on Friday with 18 points and Annette Sanregret had 12.

Saturday was Kannekens final home appearance of her career and she responded with 28 points. Calgary and Alberta battle this weekend in Calgary with the scoring race on the line. The Pandas have no chance to make the playoffs.

The Bears, meanwhile, remained stalled at two wins this season with 83-74 and 73-71 losses. Ken Haak had 20 points in a losing cause Friday while Lethbridge's seven-foot center Al Chapple threw in 23 on Saturday to lead the Pronghorns.

The Bears close out their season in two weeks at home against Victoria.

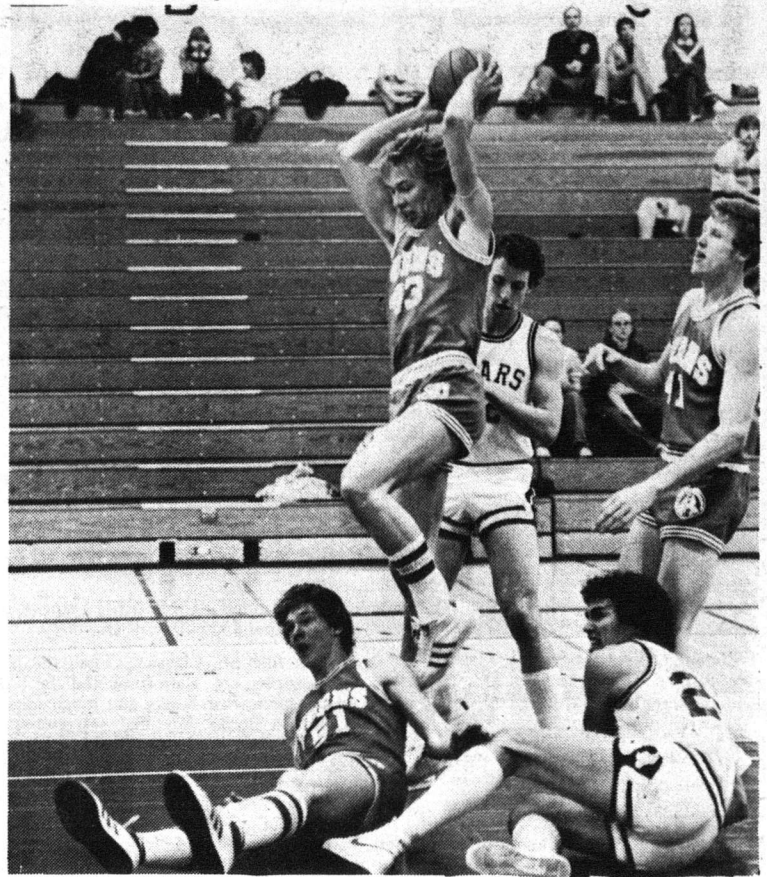


photo Ray Giguere

"No! No! Please don't hit me with the ball again!" seems to be the cry of a horrified Lethbridge player. Bears' poor record is another reason for Tom Grout (25) to have a look of pain on his face.

There's no place like home

Brian Watson's Golden Bear volleyball team will have the home court advantage when they go after the Canada West title this weekend.

Going into the fourth and final Canada West tournament the Bears are in a battle with Saskatchewan and Calgary for one of the two playoff spots. The Huskies lead with 12 points, Alberta has 11 and Calgary 10. After the final round-robin games

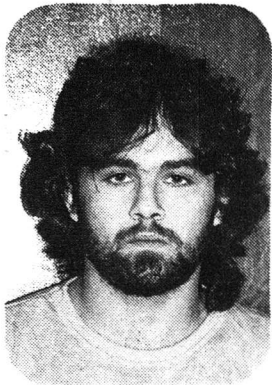
in Varsity Gym on Saturday the top two teams will play a best of five final for the right to participate in the CIAU championships.

Friday will be the key day for the Bears as they play both Calgary and Saskatchewan. At 3:30 they meet the Dinosaurs and at 8:00 p.m. it's the Huskies. They close out on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. with Victoria. At the same time Calgary meets Saskatchewan in a game that may decide a playoff

The Pandas record is not as impressive with just three points in three tourneys. So far the Saskatchewan Huskiettes are undefeated in 15 matches and should have no trouble repeating as Canada West champs.

Saskatchewan will likely face UBC in the women's final which goes at 6:00 p.m.

Athlete of the Week



SCOTT TATE

A third year Arts student from Edmonton, Scott Tate was voted the "Most Outstanding Wrestler" in last weekend's Canada West University Championships in Calgary. Tate won the 115 lb. weight class competition and will defend his national championship title at the C.I.A.U. Championships at Lakehead University (Thunder Bay, Ontario) on February 28.

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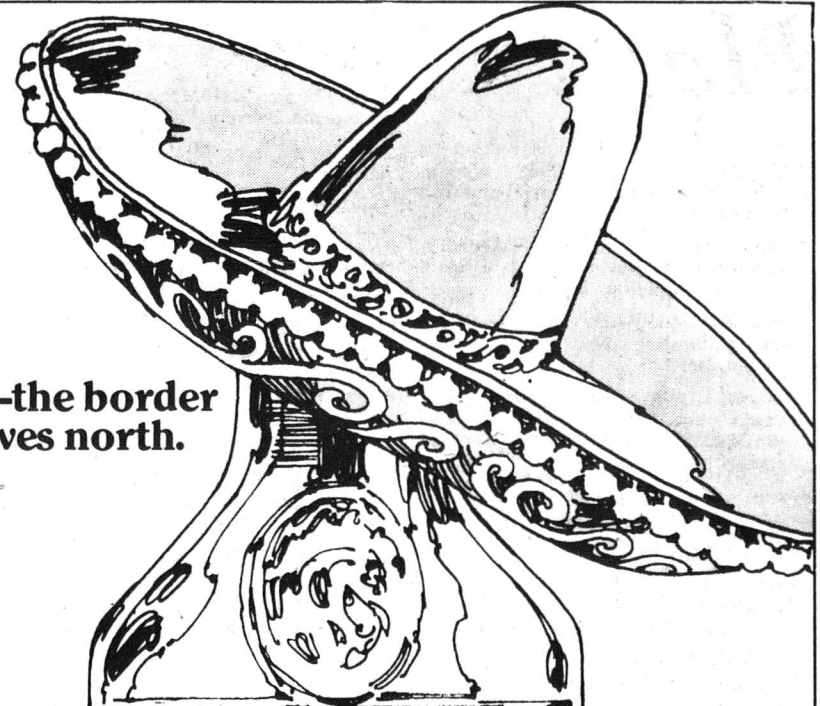
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