

Gymnasts take Klondike

The Pandas Gymnasts got 97.04 points at the Klondike Challenge, one of their best team scores this season. McMaster and Calgary scored 91.15 and 87.83 respectively.

The fourth team at the women's competition (AGF) was composed of 8 club gymnasts from four clubs in Edmonton and Calgary. AGF scored 99.32 team points.

Lisa Grieve from the AGF team won the all-around title with 34.75 points. U of A's Heidi Ross was 2nd with 33.01 points. Heidi also placed 2nd on balance beam (8.80) and 3rd on vaulting (8.26). Margie Drysdale added to the Panda's scores by placing 2nd on vaulting (8.46), 3rd on uneven bars (8.40) and 4th on balance beam (7.96). As well, Margie placed 5th all-around. Carrie Nawata was 4th on vaulting with a score of 8.23.

Audrey Gee placed 6th on bars and 6th all-around. Other Panda team members were Shelley Spaner and Heather Raven who performed well to complete the six member complement of the Panda gymnastics team. Elise Dworkin, 1982 CIAU National Floor Exercise Champion, sat out this competition nursing a strained shoulder muscle in order to prepare for Canada West Conference Championships this coming weekend.

The Pandas now have six team members who have qualified to Nationals. Only the top 36 women gymnasts from across Canada are able to compete at the National Championships at York University on March 11 and 12. Given that these six Pandas are all in the top 36 qualifiers, the U of A women will be a strong and competitive team at Nationals.



photo Henri Bureauud

Pandas host Canada West championships this weekend. From left to right are: Pam Avis, Ross, Spaner, Nawata, Dworkin, Drysdale, Nancy Luttrell, Gee, Stephanie Bishop, and Raven.

The Students' Union
in conjunction with the
North American Jewish Students' Network
present

Dan Shueftan

Professor of Middle East Politics
at Haifa University in Israel
in an open forum

Topic: The Geo-Political

Realities of the Middle East

Date: **Monday, February 28th**

Time: **12 - 2 p.m.**

Place: **in SUB Theatre**

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Sunday

10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Faculty of Arts

presents

a lecture by
University Professor

Dr. Leslie C. Green

Department of Political Science

"Is There an International Criminal Law?"

Thursday, February 17, 8:00 p.m.

Lecture Theatre 3
(Audio-Visual Wing)
Humanities Centre

Commentary by Kevin Kaardal
I am writing this article to correct some erroneous comments and insinuations made by John Algard in his Feb. 8th article "Pandas +."

In the article, he stated that the Bears basketball and football teams have a dispirited approach to their games and lack dedication. Speaking for the Basketball team, Coach Heaney feels that they exhibit more enthusiasm for the game than any Bears team has in years. As far as dedication is concerned, players from both teams practiced or are practicing 3 hrs. daily. This figure doesn't even include all the time spent playing in games away or at home. In all, it means that a great deal of time is taken away from their studies

which they must make up during hours when most people are relaxing.

The basketball team even has two players who are ineligible to play this year, but still give up their valuable time despite the lack of benefits. As far as intensity is concerned, the Bears practice as hard as any other team on campus.

If you doubt this Mr. Algard, I invite you to come participate in one, it may clear up your doubts.

The second comment that baffles me is his statement that the Bears basketball team is hapless. I assume this comment is directed at the Bears Canada West record and their lack of a national ranking. In Canada West play the Bears are 3rd in the toughest conference in the nation; one that boasts the

no. 1 and no. 3 teams in the nation. Their record (4-3) is comparable to Mr. Algard's exciting Pandas (4-5) and against Canadian teams (15-6) comparable to his exciting Bears hockey team.

As far as a National ranking is concerned, I too wonder along with Mr. Algard why the Bears basketball team isn't rated. Their record is comparable to some rated Eastern teams and they handily defeated 8th Ranked Winnipeg Wesmen here at varsity gym. Maybe the lack of a ranking is political?

The most uncalled for and unfounded statement made by Mr. Algard was not directed at the Bears' teams but at Fred Murrel. Mr. Algard stated that Fred was lazy. Well, the gentleman has obviously not practiced with or against Fred. As a person who has done both, I can attest to the fact that he works as hard as any other athlete on campus. If you don't believe me Mr. Algard, you try to sprint up and down a basketball court for twenty minutes straight, because that's what Fred has to do to play a single half of a basketball game. Believe me sir, it will change your opinion of what is lazy, a category Fred definitely doesn't fit in.

Don't get me wrong Mr. Algard, I'm not upset that you were cheering the Pandas. I believe like you, that we should applaud their accomplishments. However, when you applaud them at the Bears' or any other organization's expense, I must disagree and ask that the next time you decide to put your opinion in print, please make sure you have a clear understanding of the facts.

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