

## Soccer huskies will challenge bears to operate as a team

Saturday's game against the Huskies should provide Gerry Redmond and Geoff Salmon with a clear idea of how much work needs to be done between now and the Western championships, and what the

strong and not so strong points of this year's squad are. The Huskies don't usually have a very strong soccer team and if the Bears don't win comfortably, then a lot of work will be needed.

John Baretta looks more or less certain to be the first choice goalkeeper, although he could be in Europe with the Canadian national team when the Western Championships take place. The defence could be made up of any four of Dave Clayton, George Lovell, (who scored five times against the Huskies in last year's Westerns) Rick Korol, Geoff Bird, Terry Whitney, and Glenn Murphy. Bird and Murphy could equally well play in midfield, along with Frank Tassone, John Devlin, and Matteo Piscopo, while the forward line will be chosen from Chris Kelly, Bobby Hrsak, Peter Chiu, Roland Leaute and Phil Craig. Piscopo is pretty useful up front as well. Of these players watch for Bird and Devlin to really spark the team in midfield, with the Australian hitting the hard shots from outside the penalty area, while Glasgow born Devlin has the knack of snapping up chances around the goal - that's how he scored vital goals in the championship year, 1972. While these two are creating, watch

Tassone worrying the opposition, breaking up their moves and helping out the defence. And if you want to see cultured defensive play, just watch Terry Whitney.

With as much talent as there is in this squad, as long as the

players work hard, communicate on the field, and stay loose, they should do okay. The emphasis now should be on getting to know each other's style of play, and learning to operate as a team.

by Rhys Davies

### Support Soccer Bears !

The University of Saskatchewan Huskies are in town on Saturday...not just the football team. Their soccer team is making the trip too, and they're playing the Bears on Saturday morning. This is the first opportunity of seeing how strong the Bears are really going to be this year, that is, if the Huskies manage to keep the score respectable, then coach Gerry Redmond will know he's got problems.

You don't need to be European or South American to enjoy a game of soccer, and you've got one of the best teams in Canada right on your doorstep ... National champions in 1972, and runners-up last year after losing a penalty kicking competition to Loyola. Last year's team demolished the Edmonton All-Stars 4-0, and, on their day, could probably have beaten any team in Canada. This year's team looks to be just as good, with two strong candidates for Canada's team at the Montreal Olympics, John Baretta in goal and Matteo Piscopo in midfield, Australian national team player Geoff Bird, and some fine players from Europe, including city All-Stars John Devlin and Glenn Murphy.

The joy of soccer is in its fluidity, in the way that the game keeps changing and providing the unexpected. To a large extent, this is due to the severe limits on bodily contact. You can't just send someone flying if he's in your way, if he's got or about to get the ball, or if he's just about to challenge someone else for it. You need skill, especially in timing, to win the ball in the tackle, or make an interception. I'm not saying that Football doesn't need lots of skill too, but brute force does play a much more significant role there.

Because violent collisions are ruled out, individual skill can be cultivated and used to a much greater extent - delicate ball control, body swerves, heading and shooting ability, as well as breathtaking acceleration - anyone who saw Johann Cruyff of Holland in the recent World Cup will know what I'm talking about. Added to this is the exhilarating spectacle of a team moving the ball from their penalty area to their opponents' in three or four passes, and then their opponents getting it back again, all this without stoppages. A forty yard pass from Terry Whitney is as exciting as a long bomb from Gerald Kunyk, just as the sight of John Devlin leaving them all behind is as much value for money as seeing Brian Fryer in full flight.

So try it. Get out there and support your Golden Bear soccer team. They deserve it.

Rhys Davies

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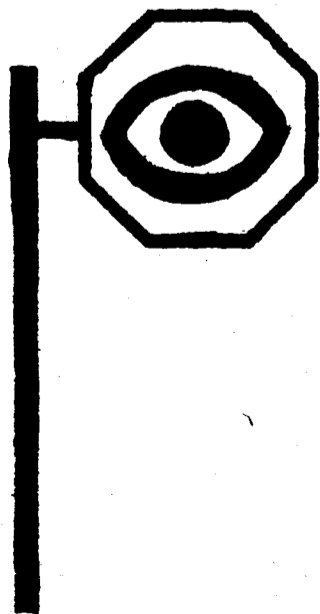
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