

Horwood's Bears are already playing must-wins. p. 16

Kathy and Ken Shields bring eleven CIAU championships with them, wherever they go. p. 17

Sports

Old Time Hockey

—Huskies come to town two points up on Bears—



Mark Spector

Ned's dilemma

Gee, Ned, the weekend is coming up. What are you going to do?
"I don't know. Maybe I'll go to some sports here on campus. I've never done that before."

Here's a schedule, Ned, it looks like there's plenty to do. "Wow. Hockey both nights at 7:30. Basketball, too. Hmm, same time as the hockey. And volleyball. If I want to see the Bears and the Pandas I'll have to go on... hmmm, let's see. Oh, Friday night."

Well, Ned, if you want to see either hockey or hoop you'd better go this weekend because next weekend they'll both be on road trips. Of course, if you can wait for two weeks they'll both be back again.

There's very few Neds on this campus, as anyone who reads this section semi-regularly will know.

So why does the Athletics Department take the two most popular teams and square them off against each other?

Your faithful and earnest reporter tried to find an answer to that question. All that he found out was something he already knew: if someone, somewhere slips up in the university sports world, he needs not worry.

Everyone else will cover up for him. Schedules are set a year in advance, with priority going to hoop and volleyball because they share the same gym. They have something called a five year rotation so that one school doesn't get shafted every year. They also keep changing the makeup of their schedules, thus throwing any system out of whack.

Other than that, nobody would come out and say that Athletics screwed up last spring when the schedules were pushed through. But Athletics did screw up.

"It's up to your Athletic Director or your representative at the Canada West meetings to get those things straight before they even show up," says Ken Olynky, the basketball coach at the U of Lethbridge who devised the current draw. "And at the meetings someone has to point out 'Hey, this isn't going to be a great weekend for us. Maybe we can make things change a little-bit with the other schools'."

"Each A.D. has that responsibility to look at the schedule at his own school," concurs CWUAA Secretary Treasurer Bus Phillips from his Vancouver office.

The U of A Athletics Department wasn't looking. They sure as hell weren't pointing.

Now they are paying. "We have lots of facilities to enable us to shift things around a little better here," says Bob Steadward, our A.D. and representative at the meetings. Men's Coordinator Jim Donlevy is equally to blame.

But think of all the money they're saving by letting the football coach do that job.

Steadward would go on to describe how the other little institutions are pushing the great big U of A around, sandwiched (of course) between a lot of Miracle Whip.

The Bears have precious few fans. Now they will have less.

"They're a bunch of intellectuals yet they don't know their --- from page four when it comes to making a schedule," was how one Edmonton writer put it as he boarded a flight for the Grey Cup, thus missing the Golden Bear Invitational that same weekend.

It's true. He was right.

by Mark Spector

In a time when a fan has trouble even remembering the colors of the uniforms of some of the teams that roll into town, it's always nice to know that the old faithfuls still exist.

Since the CWUAA has taken the three vagabonds from the shaky climes of the Greater Plans Athletic Conference (Brandon, Manitoba, and Regina) under its wing, and with the puck program in Lethbridge still wet behind the ears in only their third year, sometimes it takes a pair of old rivals to get a team in that playoff spirit.

This weekend the Saskatchewan Huskies come to town and find themselves in an unfamiliar position — two points in front of the Golden Bears and in third place.

"Saskatchewan is never a given, especially with them in third place and us in fourth," says Bears goalie Darren Turner. "They've got some big strong players and they come prepared to play. So do we."

But as familiar as Alberta may have become with the green and white clad Huskies (the Golden Bears are in their 74th season, and the U of S has been around for about that long), something that they can't be very used to is fighting for a playoff spot at this point in the season. The Bears have won their league 40 times over the years, and although a playoff berth should be in store for them this season, nothing is signed, sealed, and delivered.

With 12 games remaining they trail first place Calgary by eight points and Manitoba by seven, while the spectre of UBC remains three points back in fifth.

"It's the first time since I've been here (that the playoffs have been even remotely in doubt)," said five year veteran Bill Ansell. "We're still confident that if not first we can still finish in second or at least third."

Splitting the series in Vancouver with the Thunderbirds was a costly factor however, as the other top three clubs all swept their games, gaining a big two points each on the Bears. With Otto Jelinek's budget cuts the new playoff format will look like this: Coming to Edmonton in March for the CIAU tournament will be six teams instead of four — four will be conference winners (CWUAA, OUAA, QUAA, and AUAA) with two more wild-cards if Alberta wins Canada West, and only one if they don't.

But the job at hand is the Huskies, and that in itself is no small task. They are led this year by a pair of rookies, Ken Morrison (3rd in league scoring, 18-18-36), and left winger Adrian Sakundiak, (8th, 14-16-30).

Morrison is a former 60 goal man in Kamloops of the WHL that Clare Drake worked on over the summer to come play in Edmonton. "It was the logical choice for him to go there," admits Drake. "Saskatoon is his home town." As for Sakundiak, he earned Player of the Week honors this past week after the Huskies pounded Regina twice, 9-1 and 7-2, and he divided eight points evenly between goals and assists in the two games.

He's got one of the hardest wrist shots in the league, and after seeing him for the first time back in September at the Molson Golden Bear Invite it wasn't hard to tell that he'd



photo by Bruce Gardeve

Bears will have to sweep Saskatchewan this weekend if they are to have any chance at first place.

be a good one.

The two clubs split their season opening series in Saskatoon, with Alberta winning 8-5 but then losing 8-6. They also split home ice victories at their respective preseason tournaments, but the Bears hold the edge at this point though, with a win over Christmas in Calgary,

downing the Dogs 5-3.

Puck Poop — Drake will start Turner Friday if he's ready to return from a ligament strain in his ankle. . . Other injuries: Sid Cranston should play despite a slightly twisted knee incurred in UBC; Jack Patrick has been out since Christmas with an intestinal 'flu' that has seen him

drop 15 pounds. . . Rob Glasgow started skating last Monday. He's recovering from a broken ankle in which the ligaments were all ripped and his fibula broken also. He may return by February. . . both games are on CJSR-FM 88.5 with the pre-games at 7:15 Friday and Saturday.

Bears red taped out of Games

by Mark Spector

Their dream has died.

The hockey Golden Bears' hopes of playing in the upcoming World Universiade Games in Czechoslovakia have seemingly met their demise. The tab for the proposed trip would have come to roughly \$51,000, a sum that was far beyond the immediate resources of the Athletics Department.

The Bears were turned down in their requests for funding by Hockey Canada, the province of Alberta (Parks and Recreation), and the Alberta Sports Council. But their best hopes were with the organizers of Universiade '83 which was held here in Edmonton.

The profits from that event reached the \$1.5 million mark, and it seemed only logical that the money would come from there. But bureaucracy has stood in their way.

At this point they are right in the process of "forming a board to create a foundation for these profits," according to the Chairman of Athletics at the U of A, Dr. Bob Steadward.

As Canadian University Athletic Union champs, the Golden Bears were the natural choice to represent Canada at the Games, which run around the same time as Read-

ing Week.

"In '83 we asked the other countries to come here," said Bears coach Clare Drake, "now with the Czechs and the Russians playing, it looks like a helluva competition."

When asked if he felt whether the recent brawl between the Canadian and Russian Juniors turned any possible funders away from the idea, Steadward replied: "I think it's the exact opposite. I think that they would like to see us go. With the type of hockey that the university league plays and the type of ambassadorship that we could provide, I think that it would have a very positive effect in smoothing over the conflict."