

T-Birds too tough to handle for V-Ball Bears

UBC 3 Bears 1
Bears 3 Victoria 1
by Alan Small

It looked to be a great weekend after the first game against UBC, but it did not turn out that way.

The Bears were up 10-2 in the first game with unreal serving and T-Bird foulups and went on to win 15-8. It looked like an upset in the making, but then UBC came from behind to defeat the Bears in the next three games 6-15, 10-15, and 14-16.

"They served us off the court in the first game," UBC coach Dale Ohman said, "we had to get used to the court."

Greg Williscroft of UBC came up big for UBC with 30 kills, while the Bears were led by Steve Kentel who had 20.

The Bears showed something that they have lacked throughout

the season, though. Intensity carried them throughout the match and they got some youthful enthusiasm from reserve Bryan Schaefer.

"He (Schaefer) showed a lot of poise and intensity for a first year player," Bears' coach Pierre Baudin said. "He was a pleasant surprise."

Even with intensity, the Bears were in tough against a team which, on the average, must have been 3 inches taller than they were. It doesn't look too great in the future as UBC's big hitter Williscroft is only in his second year of eligibility.

"You can't stop him; we've just got to dig him," was all Baudin could say about him.

The Bears also had trouble with T-Bird Rick Kaufman. His power hook serve gave the T-Birds a big advantage even though the Bears were passing it well.

"It really threw off their timing,"

said Ohman. When asked where Kaufman got the serve, Ohman said he had it since high school in Vernon.

The Bears had a disappointing last game against the T-Birds as their come-from-behind bid ended up short 16-14. It might have been the reason for their slow start against Victoria, as they got blown out in the first game 6-15.

"We were asleep in the first game," said Baudin. "We never really woke up."

They woke up a bit in the second game as Kendall Mix came in and served nine points in a row against Vic's defence to spearhead the Bears to a 15-7 victory in game two. Mix, Schaefer and reserve setter Brad Evans came off the bench to help the U of A to their second victory of the match, 15-10.

The Golden Bears had it locked away even though the Vikings made a last charge, but like the Bears did the previous night, came up short this time to a score of 15-13. It was quite the nailbiter.

"We sure weren't up for this one," Baudin said. "We only seem to get up for the big games, like Calgary or UBC."

SIDE OUTS: Ben Spiller capped off another steady weekend with a team leading 15 kills against Vic... Setter Troy Lorensen sprained his ankle against Vic after his excellent performance directing the offence against UBC. "He was the best

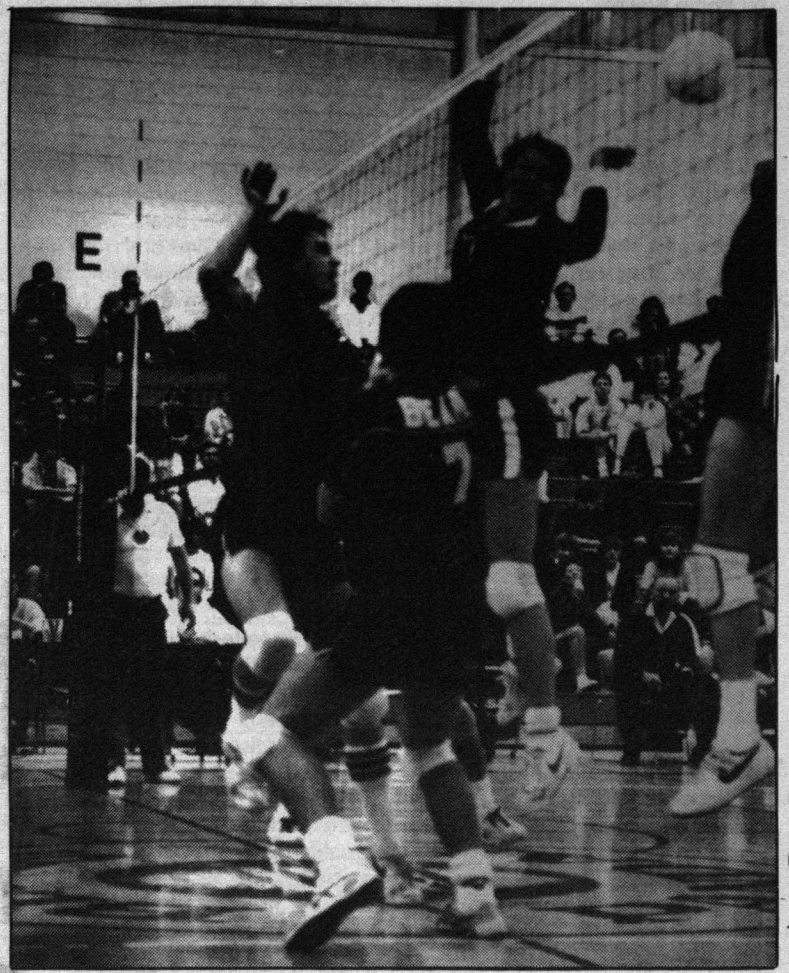


photo Greg Perkins

A predictable split for the Golden Bears against UBC and UVic. player on the court," assistant coach Dave Jones said... The Bears go to the Canada West tournament this weekend in Victoria in what will probably decide how their season finishes.

Basketball Pandas drop important pair

by Tim Enger
Calgary 60 Pandas 48
Lethbridge 77 Pandas 60

And the Broncos think they had a bad weekend!

After starting the Canada West Conference regular season off with a solid 2-1 record, the Pandas basketball team took their show on the road last weekend and dropped two crucial games to division rivals Calgary and Lethbridge.

for the second half, that would be a deficit they would never overcome, eventually losing by twelve, 60-48.

The next night in Lethbridge things didn't get any better, as Alberta came out flat and stayed flat save for the last three minutes of the game, losing 77-60.

"Statistically we were close to them in most aspects," said head coach Diane Hilko, "we just were unable to take advantage of the opportunities that were presented to us. I guess the loss to Calgary effected us more than it should have."

That and the fact that the Pronghorns had five players in double figures proved to be the Pandas undoing.

Alberta, now 2-3, gets a chance to do it all over again against the same two teams, this time in the friendlier confines of Varsity Gym this Friday and Saturday at 6:30.

"We have the talent to be able to beat those teams," states Hilko. "It's just going to be a matter of who wants it more next weekend."

Post-Ups: Not everything was gloom and doom for the Pandas as they managed to keep Canada West scoring leader Debbie Patterson, a player who has given them fits in games this year, to 14 points... Lisa Janz led Alberta in scoring in both games with 14 against Calgary and 18 vs. Lethbridge. Kathy Keats finished second in scoring in both occasions getting 11 and 16 points respectively.



Although these losses do not irreparably damage the playoff prospects for Alberta, they do however toss a large cloud over their plans for hosting the playoff tournament, which at the moment looks as if it will be held in Victoria.

Friday's contest vs. the U of C was not the rout it seemed on paper. Up until 2:30 left in the first half it was a one point contest. Unfortunately, after that point it was turnovers and Calgary's superior rebounding that turned the game into a nine point game in the Dinnies favor by halftime. Even though the Pandas came out strong

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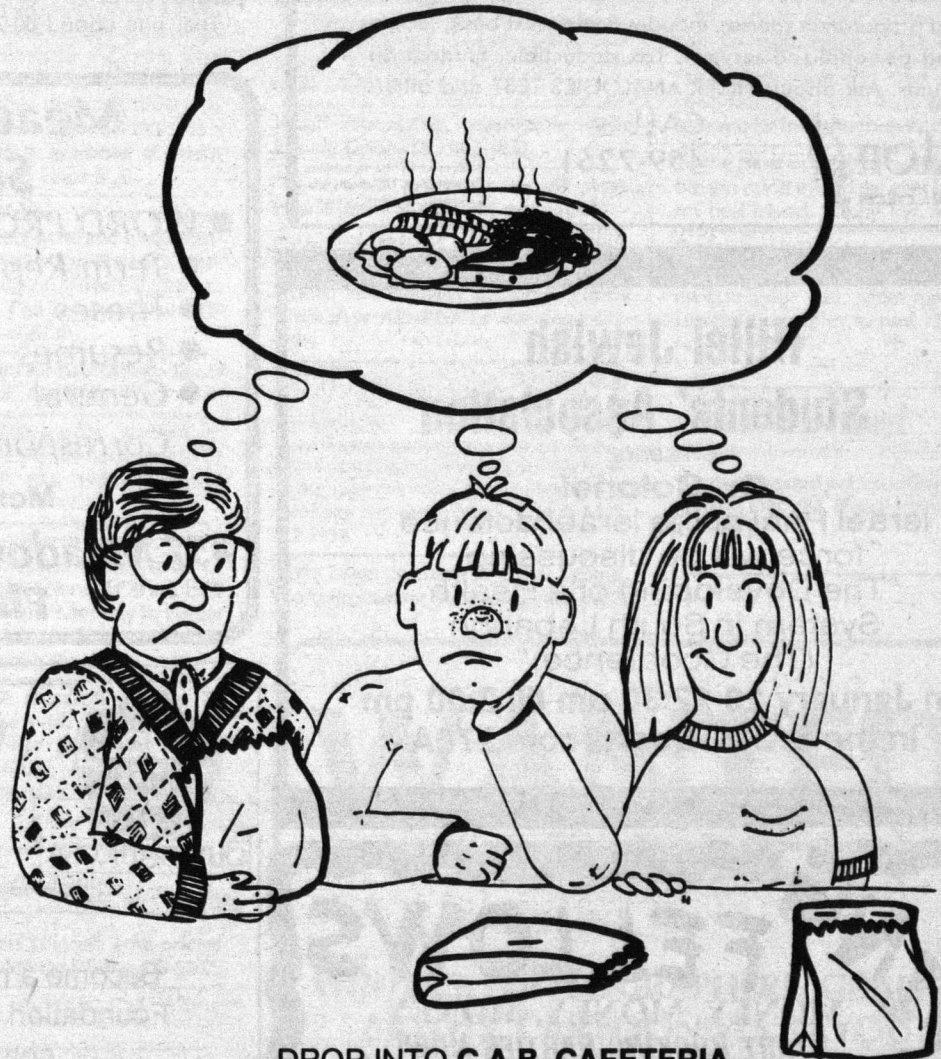
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