

Alan Small



There was an interesting column by Marty York in Wednesday's *Globe and Mail* yesterday about the two quarterbacks that will be participating in Saturday's Vanier Cup.

Bob Torrance, who victimized the Bear defence for 44 points in the first half of the Shrine Bowl this season, will be leading the Calgary Dinos. The Dinos won the west, and defeated the Western Mustangs last weekend in the Central Bowl.

The other team, the St. Mary's Huskies, has their own star pivot. Chris Flynn has impressed many football people in his university career. York's story quotes J.I. Albrecht, a journalist from Halifax, who also has been the GM with the Montreal Alouettes and the Toronto Argonauts.

Albrecht said, "Of the Canadian college quarterbacks I've seen during my 28 years in Canada, none could even hold Flynn's jockstrap."

What scares me the most however is the second half of Albrecht's quote, "Flynn could start at quarterback for Notre Dame at the University of Miami tomorrow. He's that good."

We're not talking the Notre Dame Hounds or Miami, Ohio. This is the Fighting Irish, the team that developed the forward pass and brought football from the dark ages sixty years ago. Miami has played in six consecutive New Year's Day bowls and has developed Jim Kelly, Bernie Kosar, and Vinny Testaverde. For some reason, I don't believe that Chris Flynn ranks in the above group.

York goes on to say in his column, "They both throw well. They both run well. They both belie their youth with maturity and intelligence." What York forgot about is that the two sophomores will never be the starting quarterback in the CFL.

They'll get as much of a chance at playing in the CFL as Greg Vavra, who has bumped around from Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver being their quarterback that runs the other team's offences in practice so the defence knows what to expect. Just say thank you to the CFL and their stupid designated import rule. Todd Dillon, an American, can play for any team in Canada despite the fact that he's lousy, while guys like Torrance, Flynn, UBC QB Jordan Gagner, and Vavra will be forced to watch from the sidelines in frustration as CFL GMs keep bringing up the Dillons, the Schlicters, the Salisburys and the Mueckes from south of the border.

For their sake, I hope that Albrecht is right. That way they may have a chance to be the next Mark Rypien, the Calgarian QB who plays for the Washington Redskins. They certainly won't be given the chance to be the next Russ Jackson.

Home and home hockey grudge match

by Randy Provencal

Call it a grudge match. Maybe even a little revenge from last year's playoffs. However you look at it, this weekend's home and home series between the University of Alberta Golden Bears and the University of Calgary Dinos will prove that the rivalry between the two hockey teams is still a hot one.

The 6-2 Bears are looking to avenge last year's playoff exit which came courtesy of the Dinos, and at the same time tie them for first place in the C.W.U.A.A. Calgary have won all of their eight games this season.

"There's no love lost, that's for sure," Bear captain Sid Cranston uttered Tuesday after his team lost 5-3 to a revamped Canadian Olympic squad. "We have some things to prove to them. You know, we feel we're as good a hockey club as they are."

Now it's just a matter of proving it.

The Bears have been struggling as of late — splitting their last two series with the Universities of British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

"We've been inconsistent over the last two weeks," Bears coach Clare Drake admitted. "We haven't been able to maintain a high intensity over six periods (in a weekend)."

But he doesn't want to press the panic button just yet. After all, the power play and penalty killing are both tops in the conference. The Bears have 24 power play goals — seven more than any other team in Canada West — in 43 tries for a 55.8 percent efficiency rating. The Bears have



Team Canada forward Kris Draper evades a pair of Bears during their game Tuesday.

killed off 85 percent of their penalties while scoring a league leading four short handed goals.

"We're really pleased with our special teams," coach Drake said, yet observed that "we've got our work cut out for us" this weekend against the 8-0 Dinos.

U of C's Barry Bracko, the league's leading scorer and player

of the week, said he's hoping his team can take one from the Bears at home and use that to their advantage in Calgary Saturday. "We hope to steal maybe one here on Friday," he said.

Bracko sees the Dinos when he looks at the Bears team. "I think we play similar styles. We're both good skating teams," he pointed

out. That will make for an exciting game in Calgary," he mentioned, for "our rink has lots of room to skate."

GOAL POSTS: Friday's game starts at 7 pm at Varsity Arena... Saturday's game, from Calgary will be broadcast on CJSR, with the game starting at 7 pm.

Canada wins snoozer

by Alan Small
Canada 5 Alberta 3

"It was kind of a nothing game for us, if you put it bluntly."

Those words come from Warren Skorodenski, the goaltender for the Canadian squad, and it summed up the play of both the



Bear Marty Yewchuk gets a face full of mitt from Team Canada's Brian Tutt (R).

Canadian national team and the Golden Bear hockey squad in Tuesday night's exhibition yawner.

Despite the fact the Bear lineup was augmented by five Calgary Dinos, most notably Canada West's top two scorers, Barry Bracko and Mark Fioretti, Alberta could only send three pucks behind Skorodenski.

Like most exhibition matchups however, this game was without most body contact as both teams played a hard skating game. No one wanted to see anybody hurt.

"There were no more than four bodychecks thrown," said Bear forward Doug McCarthy, who was the second star of the contest. "I think they were all thrown by the goalies."

"We just played well enough to win," said Skorodenski. "We were told not to get too carried away. They don't need anybody hurt right now and we don't either."

The Canadians were lead by Gary Emmons, the game's first star, who scored the eventual winning goal at the 3:46 mark of the third period when he snapped a shot past the glove hand of Bear goalie Blair MacGregor, who shared the game with starter John Krill.

With the score 4-2 in the second period, Bear defenceman Guy Paradis blasted a slap shot through the five hole on Skorodenski to

put the Bears within striking distance, but the Canadians played a strong defence in the third, allowing only six shots in the final frame. Emmons added his second goal of the game to clinch it for the national team.

Canada's other goals came from the game's third star Mark Jooris, Bryan Deasley, and Brian McReynolds. The Dino connection got together on one goal for the U of A as Ryan Fox scored on a feed from Bracko during a power play. Adam Morrison scored the other Bear goal.

IN THE CREASE: Skorodenski is looking to use the national team as a springboard to a new contract in the NHL. Skorodenski has played parts of six seasons with both the **Chicago Blackhawks** and the **Edmonton Oilers**. His best season was the 84-85 campaign, where he played in 27 games for the Blackhawks and had a 3.22 goals against average... Skorodenski has had a house in Calgary, the Oly's home base, so he will only live out of suitcase for road trips. "It's kind of nice to be home for the winter," said Skorodenski, who played his junior career with the now defunct **Calgary Wranglers**... The lone player in the Canadian lineup that has played at a Canadian university is **Ken Lovsin**, who played two seasons at the University of Saskatchewan.

Rob Galbraith

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