



The Pandas and Golden Bears host the Golden Bear and Panda Classic volleyball tourney this weekend at Varsity Gym.

Photo by Rob Galbraith

## Last bounce for b-ball Bears

by Alan Small

The Golden Bears basketball team start the do or die part of their season this weekend.

They take on the Calgary Dinosaurs in Calgary, who have come off two impressive victories over the Lethbridge Pronghorns.

The Bears on the other hand had the tough task of taking on number one Victoria on the island. Although they had kept it close with the Vikings, all they got out of it was two additions to the loss column.

"We ran the man-to-man offence well against the Vikings," Bears head coach Don Horwood said, "we played them tough."

Calgary plays the man-to-man defence as well.

Calgary is at the same point in their basketball program as the U of A. The loss of graduating forwards Donovan Lawrence and Kurt Kelly has been tough on the Dinos. Only three players, Harlon McMaster, Rob Driscoll and last year's Golden Bear Invitational MVP John Vigna are returning from last year's club.

BACKBOARD — p.10

## U of Alberta hosts netball classic

by Alan Small

The Golden Bear and Panda volleyball clubs host their big tournament of the year this weekend.

The Golden Bear and Panda Classic starts on Friday at the Varsity Gym Friday, Saturday, and Sunday as the U of A hosts university, college and some of the top senior club teams in the province.

The Bears will take on Mount Royal, the #1 college team in Canada. Red Deer College, two senior AA teams from Edmonton

and Calgary, and the University of Regina. Regina defeated the Bears last weekend at the Huskie Invitational tourney in Saskatoon and the Bears are looking for revenge.

"Regina shouldn't beat us," Bear head coach Pierre Baudin said, "when we play them this weekend, I'm going to sick the guys on 'em."

That wasn't the only team that Baudin worries about. The two senior club teams have former Olympians and national team members all over their rosters.

"The tournament gives a good range of teams," Baudin said, "it has teams we can beat, teams that will be fairly close with us, and teams that will be a little bit better than us. If we play as well as we can, we should be able to beat all of the teams there."

The Bears will be playing with only 10 players too, as hitter Steve Kentel may miss action with a mouth infection and rookie hitter John Pallas sprained his ankle at the tourney last weekend, then broke

his other leg falling down some stairs going to class. It's Kentel that the Golden Bears will really miss.

"Steve had the best weekend since I've coached him," Baudin said, "he was successful on 50% of his attacks and he passed the ball extremely well. I hope he's healthy for the tournament."

**LAST SPIKES:** The Pandas will take on the Alberta and Saskatchewan provincial teams, Red Deer College and three club teams from Edmonton and Calgary.

## Pandas vault into new season

by Alan Small

The Panda gymnastics team is gearing up their defense of the Canada West crown.

They got off to a quick start by handing the U of C Dinies a pair of losses.

On Saturday, the Pandas defeated the Dinies 100.9-98.6, as Michelle Hannemann took the individual crown for the meet with a combined score of 34.6 while teammate Debbie Patterson finished second with 33.75. Sheri Blunden of Calgary led the Dinies with a third place finish.

Hannemann had the top mark of the day on the vault, with a 9.25 while Patterson scored a 8.45 on the beam to take that event. Maria Con won the bars with a 9.05 and Blunden won the floor exercises with a 9.1 score.

In a meet on December 13th, the Pandas took the top six places, when Patterson, Lisa Jefferies, Hannemann, Monica Knech, Shelly Stark, and Debbie Galas finished first to sixth respectively.

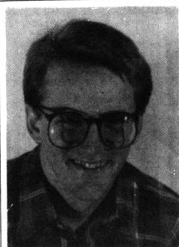
Hannemann scored a 9.5 on the vault and an 8.55 on the floor twin both events. Patterson won the other two, the balance beam (8.55) and the uneven bars (9.35).

Panda coach Stephanie Bishop is looking for big things for her squad this year and for years to come as her top two gymnasts Patterson and Hannemann are only in their third and second years of school respectively.

The Pandas also finished second in the CIAU last year, and already Patterson, Hannemann, Jefferies, Knech, and third year gymnast Michelle Graham have qualified for the national championships.

The Pandas next action is against the UBC at Vancouver in a dual meet, before they go to Seattle Pacific University in a meet with Calgary, UBC, Boise State, and Alaska-Anchorage University.

Gateway January 14 1988 9



Randal Smathers

## Fighting rule is dangerous

Two hockey players skate into the corner hard, they bump, perhaps throw an elbow. They face each other and drop their gloves and sticks. A few punches are thrown and if one player starts to get hurt the line-men jump in and separate them.

That is the way things have happened in hockey for the last eighty or ninety years. Now however, there is a growing concern with violence in hockey. As a result a move has started (as it does every few years) to ban fighting in hockey. One outgrowth of this trend is the rule in Canadian University hockey about fighting.

A player who fights now receives a five minute major. As a game misconduct and an automatic one game suspension for

the next game as well. This rule is designed to reduce violence in hockey. It doesn't work; in fact, it does the opposite.

In the U of A-UBC game last Saturday, Bear forward Stacey Wakabayashi went into the corner with a T-Bird defence man, in a manner similar to the one described above. His teammate Jeff Helland came to his defence by intercepting a second Thunderbird.

the officials to restore order.

Both players were assessed five minute majors and game misconducts for their stick swinging, quite correctly, as the stick duel was dangerous. The fight however, was inconsequential by comparison. Regardless, the players each received majors, game misconducts, and the obligatory suspensions. Unfortunately, the moral seems obvious: don't drop

player, but he also was willing to hit another player with his stick. In this case, both players also received game suspensions for the stick duel, but that isn't a given, and that makes all the difference.

The answer is not to give the extra game for every game misconduct penalty, because that just makes referees hesitant to give penalties which they probably should. The answer is to



Rick Serafin (far left) and Jeff Helland break the fighting rule.

The result did not involve a fight, but instead the UBC player, Rick Serafin, hit Helland in the face with his hockey stick. Helland responded with an equally ugly slash of his own. Serafin then dropped his weapon—a hockey stick—and his gloves and threw a few punches at Helland's head. Helland did not drop his gloves, but covered up and waited for

your stick and gloves.

At least part of the problem is that the automatic suspension makes players hold onto that four and a half foot long weapon when they get mad, and that just isn't a good idea. Jeff Helland is not a dirty hockey player, but he was willing to hit an opponent with his stick. The stats show that Rick Serafin is not a dirty hockey

crack down on bench-clearings, multiple-player fights and the like, but to reduce the penalty for fighting down to a simple game misconduct.

After all, as Jeff Helland told me yesterday, there never has been that much fighting in the league anyways. If this rule isn't changed soon, somebody's going to get seriously hurt.

Photo Rob Galbraith