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GATEWAY TO sports

PAGE SIX

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1965

Golden Bear Cagers Clinch WCIAA Title

By Larry Duignan

Led by the consistent excellence of third year Physical Education student Darwin Semotiuk, the University of Alberta Golden Bears, over the weekend, captured the Western Canadian Intercollegiate basketball title after a seven year drought.

Playing their final league games of the season the Golden Cagers managed to scrap their way to two victories over the oncoming University of Saskatchewan Huskies, 67-55 and 61-58.

Semotiuk lofted in better than 50 per cent of his shots from the top of the key on both nights in addition to his many assists. Hitting for 10 points on Friday and 18 in Saturday's endeavor the 5'11" guard was the weekend's top scorer. Bob Babki, the former Lethbridge Broder star, was next in line with 36 points, 24 of which were tallied in his Saskatoon based team's Friday night defeat.

Although, in the first game of the series, the Bears blew a ten point lead midway through the second half, a sudden flourish of action enabled Bears to come from a 51-50 deficit to a 62-51 lead with only a couple of minutes remaining thus paving the way to an easy victory. Mitchelson was the big gun in this particular match as he rifled home 21 points. The local

five as a unit shot .354 from the field as compared to Saskatchewan's .321.

The rebounding department followed the season trend with Alberta getting almost twice the number that the Huskies were credited with. Friday night the Bears grabbed 44 of the 64 and Saturday they got 39 of 64. Nestor Korchinsky once again dominated the boards on both nights with a weekend total of 33 rebounds.

Saturday night Semotiuk led the scoring parade followed by Korchinsky with 15 and Mitchelson with 10. The Bears had trouble getting started and didn't get on the top half of the score until the last few seconds of the first half which wound up 31-30. The two teams exchanged baskets for a few minutes before the U of A started missing again leaving Saskatchewan with as much as an eight point lead at times.

Finally, with three minutes remaining Fred Shandro on one of his patented fast breaks drove home a sudden lay-up to put them on the tall end of a 57-56 score. Coach Munroe immediately instructed his crew to freeze the ball which was quite successfully effected by a very cool team effort.

The game and the regular season wound up with the 3,500 member crowd on its feet applauding the championship effort.

The Munro coached squad will now be making plans for the Dominion finals to be played in Halifax March 12-13.

Pandas Split Championships, Take Synchronized Events

Panda synchronized swimmers won a smashing victory in the WCIAA Championship last Friday.

Coach Jean Ross' team swept every event to recover the trophy won last year by UBC.

Dale Johnson won the strokes and Julie Levine won the figures solo routines, then teamed up with Julla Rajer to win the duet. Miss Levine was also a member of the team that captured the team routine honors.

Marlene Brekke came second in the solo routine and was also a member of the team. Other team members were Dale Johnson, Jilla Rajer and Betty Koeing.

Coach Jean Ross is very proud of her team's fine effort because of girls like Julie Levine, who won the trophy for the outstanding swimmer at the meet two weeks after having a cast removed from a broken leg.

UBC Thunderette swim team won an impressive victory in the WCIAA championships at the weekend.

The coast squad amassed 108 points to Pandas 49 and Huskiettes 20.

Bonnie Bertram of UBC won the outstanding swimmer award by winning the 400, 200 and 100 yard

freestyle events. The first two were in WCIAA record time. British Columbia won every event including both the one and three metre diving.

The meet was closer than the final standings indicated. The U of A Pandas and the U of S Huskiettes have made encouraging progress.

After the heats on Friday night, the top six swimmers in each event took part in the finals held Saturday afternoon. Only seven seconds separated the first and sixth places in the 100 yd. backstroke and the difference in the 50 yd. freestyle was a mere three seconds.

Standouts for the Pandas were team captain Donna Moe with a fine second in the gruelling 200 yd. individual medley; Faye Scholes with a third in the backstroke; Gaye Stonell with a third in the 50 yd. freestyle and Audrey Tomick with thirds in the 400 yd. freestyle and the 200 yd. medley.

Bonnie McPherson came second in the one and three metre diving behind nationally prominent Hazel Black of UBC. Bonnie overcame a seven point deficit after the compulsory dives on the one metre board to gain an eight point edge over Lynn Helgasson of Saskatoon.

The Pandas completed the season with a record of four wins, one loss and a second place in the WCIAA championship.