



Once again the sun shines on the land of the Golden Bears. The wheel of fortune has come full circle; fickle fate and Lady Luck, at last, are Golden Bear teammates.

Both the hockey and basketball Bears are riding the crests of one game winning streaks! The cagers broke a seven game drought in handing a surprised Northern Montana team a 77-75 overtime setback last Saturday.

Coach Clare Drake's puck chasers stole a page from the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in losing everywhere but on the scoreboard as they edged the Oil Kings 2-1 in a rough and tumble game Tuesday.

If ever a team deserved to win, the Bears cagers did Saturday night. Time and again Mendryk's cagemen rallied to match baskets with the talented Lights. A never-say-die spirit and a concerted team effort gave the Bears a long-awaited victory.

The fruits of victory were particularly sweet in view of the Bears' abortive attempt to snatch victory in Friday's game after falling far behind in the first half.

After watching the Bear-Lights series I look forward with considerably less trepidation to the visit of the UAC Dinosaurs (the Lloyd Harris quintet).

And contrary to what Coach White of the Northern Lights believes, those two men in striped shirts in Saturday's game were not playing for the Bears—it only looked that way! Coach White left town convinced that the referees had "sold out" to the Bears!

Another Lights official ventured the opinion that the Bears should have little trouble with the U of S Huskies—and you know, I have to agree with him! (The Lights defeated the Huskies twice earlier this season.)

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Not too many of the fans at the Bear-Oil King hockey game gave the Bears much chance of winning before the game began. After the first period few were rash enough to predict a Bear win. After the second period many questioned the Bears' right to step on the same rink as the Kings. After the third period, a lot of sceptics wore sheepish grins!

I was one of the sceptics! I have always had considerable respect and admiration for the Oil Kings—perhaps too much!

As I see it, it was just a case of quite a bit of Bear sloppiness rubbing off on the Oil Kings, and just enough Oil King polish being absorbed by the Bears to give the Bears the margin of victory!

Give the Bears a month to work off the rough edges, and we should see some dandy games.

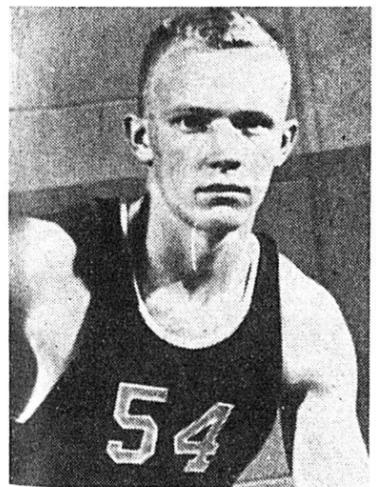
Bearcats Win Again

Tuesday night's Bearcat-McBain contest in the Eastglen gym again proved the unsurmountable superiority of the U of A team in their league.

Brent McMullin led the squad with 16 points, followed by Doug Hunter,

Lynden Hutchinson, and Gaalen Erickson, with 14, 12, and 11 points respectively, as the Bearcats chalked up the impressive 93-34 victory.

In the match, which was characterized by rough play throughout, the Bearcats again proved their superiority in both skill and physical conditioning.



SHARPSHOOTING GAAL-EN ERICKSON, an all-star guard last year continues to terrorize Husky League opposition.

Bears Go One Up On Kings, Win 2-1

The Golden Bears, last Tuesday, struggled through to victory in the first game of an old hockey rivalry. Coming from behind, the Bears defeated the Oil Kings 2-1.

It appeared at times as if the Bears were attempting to give a demonstration on the fine art of Bush League hockey. With a little more team work the Bears could conceivably have run up a higher score.

One prime fault which was plainly exhibited in the first two periods was a lack of support for the man carrying the puck.

LONELY PUCK CARRIER

The Bears seemed to expect an act of God to come to the assistance of whoever was carrying the puck. This also held true for a man attempting to check the Kings in their own zone. Several times the puck bounced clear only to be gobbled up by the Kings. The Bears were already skating back to a defensive position.

The first, and only Oil King goal came while the Bears were short-handed.

The Kings were rushing up the center when Ron Marteniuk tried to check the King center, Roger Bourbonnais. Marteniuk found himself way out of position and out of the play. Bourbonnais passed to Downey, Downey to Taschuk and the goal was scored. The time was 19:10 of the second period.

THIRD PERIOD REVIVAL

In the third period the Bears began to show some fine team work. They began to play better and to check better.

At 7:32 John Aubin scored from about six feet out on a pass from Ian Baker.

Seven minutes later John Nicholl scored the winning goal with the Bears short handed at the time. The assist went to Dave Carlyle.

The Bears outshot the Kings 38-24 over the whole stint. They also proved to be, officially, the cleaner club of the two, collecting four penalties to the King's eight.

After the game Bear coach Clare Drake looked like a man anticipating the first night of a honeymoon. He did think that the Bears had played a "little" sloppy during certain parts of the game. He was obviously quite pleased, however, with the result.

The second game of the annual Bear-Oil King series will be played Friday, Dec. 14, at the Edmonton Gardens.

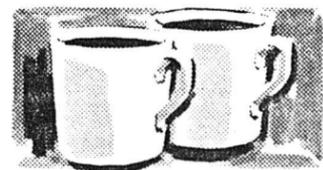
This weekend the Bears are out of town. They are playing a two game series in Peace River. In a recent tour of Northern Alberta the Bears won three and lost one.



FIRST CASUALTY of the hockey season, ironically, was referee Bob Wallace. Wallace broke his ankle while refereeing last Friday's Golden Bear-Lacombe Rocket exhibition game.



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