

# UBC searches for new basketball coach

BY NAOMI KIM

VANCOUVER (CUP) — While the high school, college and university men's basketball playoffs are coming to a close, another basketball race is underway.

But instead of the players it's

the head coaches who are now in the spotlight.

With the recent announcement that Bruce Enns, coach of the University of British Columbia's men's basketball team, is resigning, there has been speculation around the province about who would re-

place him.

"[It's] probably most prestigious job in the country," said Rich Chamber, who had a taste of the position when he filled in during Enns' one-year leave of absence in 1997-1998. "I think it will attract applicants from all over Canada and

it's a wonderful university...If it's not the best, it is definitely one of the best coaching jobs in Canada."

Enns has held the position for the past 15 years after coming from Winnipeg in 1985. During his time, his overall Canada West regular season record was 159-101.

Applicants for the job will be considered based on two main factors: one, coaching ability and technical skill, two, the ability to recruit new local and national talent to UBC.

"In Canadian universities, head coach is a tough job because you don't have that big recruiting network," said UBC Athletic Director Bob Philip. "You've got to do a lot of that yourself. Somebody that's technically qualified and somebody that can recruit and that can get along with people and put together a good program."

As well, candidates with university degrees will be preferred and a level three basketball coaching certificate required.

Potential local candidates include Chambers, who held the reigns of the UBC basketball program two seasons ago. He said he is "considering it, but still wound up with [high school provincial championships]."

"I will sit down with my wife and my family and probably discuss it at more length this weekend when I have time," said Chambers. "I thoroughly enjoyed the experience [at UBC] but I love what I'm doing now, too. So, it's a tradeoff."

UBC basketball alumni and coach of the Langara Falcons Kevin Hanson, whom Chambers considers to be a top candidate, is also thought to be in the running.

Scott Clark, the head coach of the Simon Fraser University men's basketball team, found out about the position through some of the players that he was fighting to recruit along with Enns.

The UBC coach had let the players know that he would be retiring.

Clark said he will wait and see the job posting for specifications.

"I'll look at it," said Clark, adding, "I really have no idea what the position looks like or entails or what the offer is like."

The attraction of the job includes UBC's strong athletics and academics programs as well as a favorable location. The position will also likely garner interest not only from within BC, but from other provinces as well.

## Dal's Leblanc wins AUAA heavyweight, fifth at CIAUs

BY GAZETTE STAFF

The AUAA wrestling championships were held February 12, with four Dal wrestlers in attendance. Mike Leblanc won the 90kg division and Bret Leblanc the heavyweight. Benji Parks took silver in the 72kg weight class and Paul Rhyno in the 82 kg class. Dal's Scott Aldridge was voted AUAA coach of the year.

CIAU were held at Western University from February 24-26. Dal's top finisher was by Bret

Leblanc, who finished fifth in the heavyweight division, picking up two wins and losing twice.

He put two wrestlers out of the tournament.

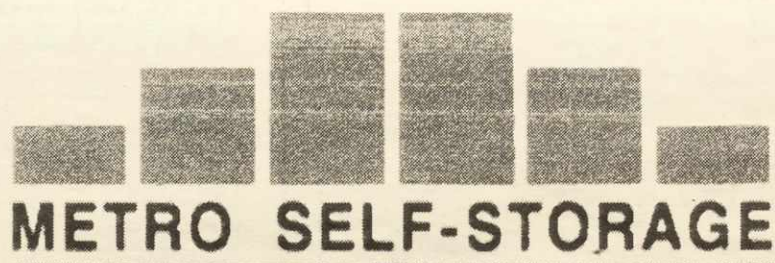
He beat Concordia's representative and lost a controversial match to an opponent from Guelph. This was followed by a loss to an Alberta wrestler. Bret easily defeated the OUAA champion from Western for fifth in the tournament. Benji Parks and Mike Leblanc placed seventh in their respective weight classes.

Benji Parks and Tracy Morine

will depart on March 15 for the National Junior Championships from March 16-19 in Scarborough, Ontario.

Also, with the help of Dalpex's Shawn Fraser, the Canadian Amateur Wrestling Association, Wrestling Nova Scotia and the National Sport Centre Atlantic Canada, have awarded Scott Aldridge a grant of \$5000 a year for the next three years which will make Dalhousie the provincial wrestling training centre. Anyone who is a member of Wrestling NS can now practice at Dal.

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