



The Bears beat this team from Finland at Christmas. They hope to do the same to Lethbridge this weekend.

Photo by Rob Galbraith

with them (early in the season.)" The Bears defeated the Pronghorns 11-3 and 7-3 in Lethbridge earlier in the season.

McDowall had plenty of praise for the Golden Bears.

"They skate and skate and never stop coming," McDowall said, "they work 100% all the time."

Although the Pronghorns are improving, the Bears still won't be playing a team that's as good as Calgary or Saskatchewan. Lethbridge is in the "second division" of Canada West.

"You have to work the players a little harder at practice for games like this," Drake said, "against the real tough teams, you have to save their energy for the game."

That is not saying that the Bears are taking Lethbridge lightly. Lethbridge just swept Regina in a two-game series last weekend and scored 16 goals in the process. Guy Gervais, one of the 'Horns top forwards, was named the Canada West hockey player of the week.

"They are a more solid club than it looks in the standings," Drake said.

"We're a hardworking, grinding hockey club," McDowall said. "Don't let the 16 goals fool you. We don't have the outstanding, flashy forwards. We have to work very hard for our goals."

"Teams respect us more."

SLASHOTS: The Bears have never had any trouble against the Pronghorns in history, as they are 22-1 against the team from Oldman country. The Bears have scored 10 goals in seven of those games... McDowall is in his third year of coaching the Pronghorns... He figures that the new Tier I junior club in Lethbridge will help his program. "It'll give us more potential to receive some help. We don't really compete for the same kind of players," McDowall said... The action starts at 7:00 Friday and Saturday nights in Varsity Arena.

Horns hopeful

by Alan Small

The University of Lethbridge Pronghorns hockey club used to trek into Varsity Arena with fear.

"There's not much doubt that we're a better club," Pronghorn coach Dave McDowall said.

The Pronghorns are close to a breakthrough, as they are now in

fifth place in the Canada West conference, after years of rotting in the basement.

"We've got more players in their third or fourth year now," McDowall said.

"They're a reasonably competitive team," Bear head coach Clark Drake said, "we had one close one



Randal Smathers

Wille de Wimp disgraceful

I hate to do this, but it's time to talk about business in sports. The money involved is making things weird. Case in point: nine players in baseball are making \$2 million. A year. Two more are trying to join this club: Andre Dawson and George Bell. At \$1 home dates a year, that's \$24,600 a game. Figure on eight bucks a head to get in the gate, average, and you need to get an extra 3,086 and a quarter fans per game to pay for the single big salary. Throw in Tom Henke and Tony Fernandez's annual paydays, what you are looking at is 5,814.64 fans a game to pay for three guys.

It doesn't take too much of those kinds of mathematics to see that one or two bad years for attendance equals bankruptcy. The Game is playing some very dangerous games itself.

If it weren't for beer advertising, there might be no pro sports at all, so do your duty as sports fans and "patronize the sponsors product" — or else.

Boxing is another problem area. The money for a big fight — in the tens of millions of dollars — has made packaging a fighter more important than putting on a

good show for the fans. The hype behind today's "big" fights is all out of proportion to the product. Hagler-Leonard was hailed as having two champions going head to head. Big deal, look at Graziano-Zale forty years ago. These two men fought three times in two years. As the great fights get scarcer, the money per "extravaganza" goes way up, so the fight fan loses two ways, by having fewer fights, and by having to pay more for them.

Look at this weekend's "fight." Holmes is old, slow and fat, and always had trouble with a big puncher with any speed at all. Tyson in two — three tops. That's not a fight, that's a beating.

Another example is the way Willie de Wimp has been handled. You can almost see his handlers' thoughts: "If we can put him in with every bum in North America, he should have a fair record in a couple years. Then we can get a money fight or two before he gets lobotomized by a real heavyweight." I see he's about to fight the top-ranked light-heavyweight this time, and that's a damned disgrace.

In this world of play-for-pay it's nice to see a game where the players are playing for the fun of it, for the competition and the sport, not for the \$2,229,822 a year that Jim Rice "tools" for. The University teams may not have the skill level of the pros you see on the tube, but they have all the desire. At two bucks a game for the major sports (five for the minor ones) it's the best deal in town.

The hockey team will be playing for more than fun in a couple weeks. The bragging rights for the City of Edmonton are on the line in the annual Face-Off game against the NAIT Toothpicks. Good tie go fast for this one, and are available at Athletics, BASS and that school on the north side, so hurry down. Proceeds go to the Ronald McDonald House, so you'll be helping a good cause. Tickets for one section — but only one, are available at the SU Info Booths.

by Alan Small

The U of A and NAIT will be facing off on February 2nd.

Face Off '88 is the fourth annual inter-city rivalry between the Golden Bears and the Ooks. The Ooks hope to tie up the series, as the Bears have won two of the three previous games. They won last year's 7-2.

"It's just like Arizona against Arizona State. It's like Auburn versus Alabama. These games tend to be tremendous cross-town rivalries," said NAIT coach Perry Pearn.

"We'll get the boards bangin'"
— Clare Drake

The games between the two clubs tend to be very physical. In fact, they've been downright rough at times.

"Both teams are capable of playing the checking game well," Bear coach Clark Drake said. "We'll get the boards bangin'."

"I can't see it being a whole lot different. The style of Golden Bear teams are always the same," Pearn said.

The game started on good footing in 1985 when the Cranston brothers, Sid and Dennis played on the different sides. Sid, at that time, was the star on the Ooks.

"That was a lot of fun," Dennis



It's Howie Draper about to take the face off of a NAIT Oookpick last year.

said, "we kept giving each other little jabs out there on the ice."

It still is a lot of fun for Cranston as he still knows a lot of players for NAIT.

"There's a couple from Fort Saskatchewan," said Cranston, who grew up in the suburb of Edmonton.

"I like to beat them and beat them well," Cranston said.

The proceeds from the game go

to the Ronald McDonald House, as it has been since the game's inception.

"The game generates a lot of excitement," Drake said, "it's an electric evening and it's a tremendous cause."

Tickets can be picked up at BASS, the Athletics office or from the SU information booths in CAB, SUB, or HUB. Red seats are \$7 while the blues are \$5.