



## FOOTBALL

Most sports fans will remember 1974 at the U of A as the year of the Kates affair. The football Bears under Jim Donlevy started the season with four victories, at an average score of 53-10, and were so obviously the class of the league that each game it was simply a question of how badly the Bears would beat whoever the opposition happened to be.

But it was discovered that place-kicker (and sometimes running back) Don Kates hadn't bothered to register in any courses, placing Bears' 4-0 record in jeopardy.

Bears yanked Kates from the lineup for their fifth game, and still manhandled Calgary, 38-15.

Then came word from the league that Bears would have to forfeit two of the four games Kates played in, leaving them 3-0 rather than 5-0, but with still a chance to finish first.

The ruling took away more than one player and two wins, however. It deprived Bears of the spirit or drive or whatever it was that had carried the team to such dizzy heights early in the schedule.

Alberta became a very ordinary team in the remaining games; they failed to advance beyond league play, and for players in their last year of eligibility, there was little consolation in the knowledge that the Golden Bears had had the horses to go all the way.

# SPORTS

## 74-75: Year in Review

by Cam Cole

### SWIMMING

The swim teams left very few worlds to conquer in the pool this year.

The Pandas, under coach Sandy Smith, won virtually everything in sight - climaxed by the overall Canadian championship, held in Thunder Bay in early March.

Led by Diane King (Pandas' only event winner at the Lakehead competition), the

team held a 32-point margin over second-place Lakehead U. for their 2nd national championship in as many years.

Murry Smith's Golden Bears were nearly as successful - they finished a close second to the perennial champions, the Toronto Blues. Bears received year-long strength from Ross Nelson, Barry Kennedy, and John Starratt, and their performance at Thunder Bay, combined with Pandas winning effort, brought the overall Canadian title to the U of A.

### TRACK AND FIELD CROSS COUNTRY

"It wasn't exactly a building year," says Track and Field (and Cross Country) coach Gary Ness, "but a few of our stars, or a least big point-getters (Ron Jackson, Barry Boyd, Doreen Jones) graduated and some younger people had to fill the gaps."

"Younger people" like Damien Gynane and Debbie Ryan moved into the spotlight, heading the cast of a much younger team than past years' editions.

The team will lose few (if any) athletes for next year. This season marked the first time UA has fielded a women's cross-country team, and they finished 2nd in the CWUAA.

Ness feels Alberta lacks field event people, and that an emphasis on the field events is needed for the year ahead. "It was a year of improvement for most of the athletes...I'd have to be pleased with our showing," says the coach.



### HOCKEY

"From humble beginnings, great things oft come." - just ask Clare Drake (if you can find him). He would be the first to admit that his club didn't look like world-beaters last September, but under his guidance the Golden Bears improved with experience - improved enough, in fact to meet and beat the terrible Toronto Blues in the National College Championship.

The Green and Gold (and white) made a joke of the Canada West pennant race, finishing 16 points ahead of second-place UBC Thunderbirds, who gave Drake and the Bears fits before succumbing in the CW final.

UA went on to defeat the Great Plains champion Brandon Bobcats with ease (two straight

games, 10-0 and 8-4). Quebec Conference winners, the Loyola Warriors were not so easy, but Bears edged them out as well in two straight, to advance to the final vs. the Varsity Blues from Toronto.

While the Blues took three games before bowing to the Bears, the excellence of the hockey was almost secondary to the atmosphere in Varsity Arena.

Organist Rick Leblanc's "Bennie and the Jets" was adapted to "Barros and the Bears", in honor of defenceman Ross Barros, and the 3000-plus fans took up the chant early in the second game and carried it on through the end of the final.

Dale Henwood's amazing 1.67 goals-against average in the post-season earned him the MVP award for the championships, and Barros was the team's choice for overall Most Valuable Player.

### VOLLEYBALL

While it was undoubtedly a successful season for Hugh Hoyles' volleyball Bears, it fell a little bit short of complete.

The team would have liked to have put a few more wins together at strategic times.

In February, Golden Bears scrambled to an impressive CWUAA championship and breezed through the round-robin part of the National Championships undefeated, only to lose in the playoff final to Sherbrooke, whom they had beaten earlier.

Two weeks ago, Bears walked away with the Alberta Open championship, thereby gaining a second crack at Sherbrooke, this time in an Open competi-

tion again in Quebec City.

They wrapped up their season on a downswing there this weekend, winning only once in four matches.

The Pandas squad, coached by Sue Neill, can also be proud of their showing this year. True, they failed to win Canada West, (they were 2nd) but they played entertaining ball, and through their sound performance in the Calgary International Invitational tournament, and, in particular, the CWUAA tournaments, Pandas drew much attention to the excitement and quality of women's volleyball.

Both major Athlete of the Year awards went to Volleyball players - Al McKee of the Bears and Susie Seaborn of the Pandas.

### WRESTLING

It was a very good year for UA wrestlers.

They easily took top honors at the U of Calgary Invitational near the end of November; they won a dual meet against Northern Montana the night

before the Golden Bear Invitational, where they placed second behind Saskatchewan; they were respectable in two extremely tough competitions at Regina and Thunder Bay; and three Bears - coach John Barry, Russ Pawlyk and Dave Judge - were on the Alberta team at the Canada Winter Games.

### BASKETBALL

What can you say about a basketball team that would have had first place all to themselves if they had won their last game of the season, but lost it and missed the playoffs?

Well, you can say "Such a young club had no business being that close, anyway" - and you might be right.

Barry Mitchelson didn't have many familiar faces around to start the 74-75 campaign, and had to rely heavily on some relatively untested talent to carry his Bears through the term.

People like Colin Fennell and Dave Holland performed well with not much experience to guide them, while veteran Doug Baker and the late season return of Wallace Tollestrup were nearly enough to take the club to the top of the heap.

Their most damaging lapse? The February 8th loss to Saskatchewan, a game that should have meant an automatic 2 points in the win column. Those points might

have come in handy towards the end.

For the Pandas, it was another disappointing year. Debbie Shogan's gals had hoped for third place at the outset, and later modified their goal to that of winning as many as they lost, but couldn't manage either one. They finish-

ed the season in fourth spot in the CWUAA.

The highlight of the season was their sojourn to the Canada Winter Games in February, where they placed a very respectable fifth (third in their own division) as Alberta's representatives, despite losing their first two games.

