

Basketball Pandas come up one point short

by Mark Spector

Aah, the joy of exhibition games. Lisa Janz had just missed a 12 foot jumper from straight away that would have capped a lovely comeback for Alberta.

It was an unfriendly rim with but two seconds left on the clock, and the U of A Pandas lost to Laurentian University by a 58-57 score.

But there was no real cause for alarm. The rebuilding Pandas had played well against a club that was number two in Canada last year, and the win had been only one shot away.

"I will have to learn to be more consistent on those close-in shots," said the 6'0" center who constitutes the only height on a very small Pandas squad. The average height on this team is a lowly (pun) 5'8½".

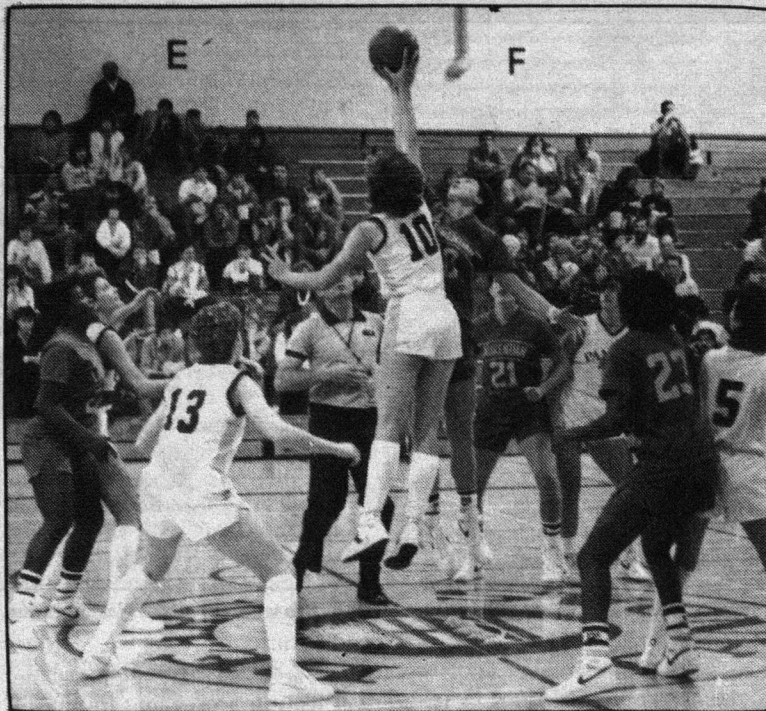
On a twelve member women's basketball team you don't have to have all six-footers. But three or four wouldn't hurt.

Gone from last year's club are 6'2" Toni Kordic (knee injury) and 6'1" Yolanda Kruyer (Grant MacEwan College).

"It's definitely going to be a tougher year for me. For one, I can't foul out of ballgames," noted the Spruce Grove high school graduate. Another thing that she can't do is continue to shoot 40% from the floor like she did on Saturday.

But any slack that Janz may have left in the backcourt, Annette Sanregret and Dawn Schooler more than picked up on their way to the hoop, scoring 17 and 18 points respectively.

Sanregret returns to the Pandas after some time away from the club. In the 1981-82 season, she was a Canada West all-star at the guard position. This year she will see time at both guard and forward. Where she starts will probably depend mainly on the progress of third year



Lisa Janz wins the tip-off as Dawn Schooler (13) and Shelaine Kozakavich (5) look on

guard Debbie O'Byrne.

As for Schooler, she put in her time on the bench last season as the fifth forward, and thus far this year has been impressive.

She sunk seven out of eight fieldgoal attempts, but was only four for eight from the freethrow line.

And one of those misses proved extremely costly as Schooler muffed the first of two foul shots with just 25 seconds left on the clock.

Laurentian held a halftime lead of 28-20, the eight point spread resulting from a rash of turnovers committed by Alberta in the last five minutes of the half.

In the third quarter Laurentian maintained a ten point lead throughout. Then with 6:00 left the Pandas knocked it down to eight; with 3:50 left it was six; then the Pandas stalled.

Finally with 35 seconds remaining, Alberta trailed by four. Schooler hit a freethrow, Sanregret sunk a 20 foot jumper, and the Pandas had

the midcourt thrown-in and a chance for the upset with eight seconds to play.

And Janz had the 12 foot shot to win, but it wasn't to be. Laurentian's Carol Hamilton (MVP in the CIAU last year) came down with the rebound and the Fat Lady was singing.

"We knew that they were a short team and just tried to keep up to them," said Hamilton after the game. But Laurentian wasn't quite fast enough to keep up legally. Near the end of the second half they had seven fouls to Alberta's one.

Panda Points — Panda coach **Sherry Melney** was ill and missed the game. Assistant coach **Elaine Harvey** acted in her place. . . Alberta is in tough this year, as the league has improved over last season. The playoffs are in Lethbridge, where very few teams manage to beat the **U of I Pronghorns**, and Canadian champions **UVic** should take Canada West again this year.

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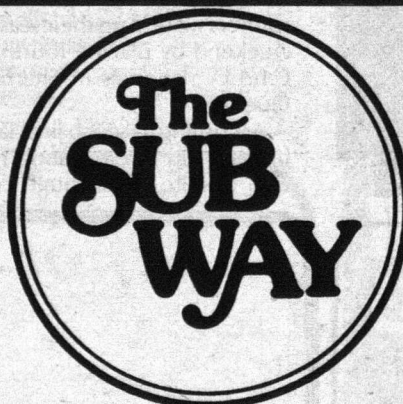
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