



V'ballers humbled by UBC coach

Both the Bears and Pandas volleyball teams were beaten 3 to 0 in their best of five matches. The Bears, who have only one returnee from last year's team, looked shakey at times and an obvious lack of confidence seemed to hurt them all night.

The Thunderbirds exploded out of the blocks and grabbed a quick 5-0 lead en route to their first game 15-9 win. The Birds substituted freely in the second game, with their awesome bench strength, and jumped to an 8-0 lead right off the bat. The game turned into a complete mismatch as the Birds used the quick set to surprise the Bears time and time again. The final score in the second game was Birds 15, Bears 3.

The third game seemed to be almost a formality for the happy and confident Thunderbirds and again they won easily 15-9. The Bears' timing and technique wasn't nearly as sharp as UBC's and as a result they never really had a chance to get rolling.

The Pandas lost 3 to 0, but put up a good fight. Women's volleyball is great. What an incredibly exciting sport. If a sporting event could be judged by the enthusiasm of the players, the women's teams would get "A" plus. When a point is won you don't know which side has won it, as both sides seem overjoyed with the outcome. Enthusiastic!

In the first game the Pandas setting wasn't nearly as sharp as the Thunderettes, which resulted in UBC having an edge in good spikes. (UBC has two setters from the national squad). Pandas lost it 15-9, after rallying from 14 to 5 at one time.

The second game had the same trend as the first and Pandas couldn't come up big in the clutch resulting in a 15-9 loss again.

In the third game Pandas led 6-2 at one point and seemed to take a positive attitude. They couldn't quite follow through, as the stubborn, digging, spiking Thunderettes ended up with all the Thunder in a come from behind 15-10 win.

Bear Bits - UBC is now 4-0 in conference play, while Bears are 2-2. Pandas are 5-1 and Thunderettes sport a perfect 6-0 record.

Both the Bears and Pandas resume league play agains the U of Calgary in the main gym on Sunday, Feb. 1st at 2:30 p.m.

Wrestlers "dance" to 2nd place

A blizzard and below zero weather greeted the U of A wrestling team in Regina Friday morning. By the time the storm had cleared Saturday evening the Golden Bears had secured three first and three seconds in individual weight classes enroute to an overall second place team finish in the University of Regina's Annual Cougar Invitational Wrestling Tournament. If not for a strong showing by Bismarch Junior College, 4th ranked nationally among U.S. community colleges, the U of A would have completely dominated the two day competition. The Golden Bears won 25 individual matches.

As expected, Russ Pawlyk swept all of his matches without a loss, taking the first place trophy in the 134 lb. class. Demonstrating strength in the middle weight classes, the Golden Bears also swept the 150 and 158 lb. classes as Steve Tisberger and Pierre Pomerleau each were undefeated during the tourney. Pomerleau, known as "le Foot" to his teammates, lived up to his name in his final bout when he won a hard fought decision while wrestling on a severely sprained ankle. Glen Purych, Andy Macri, and Mark Robertson each won all but one of their matches to take second place in the 118 lb, 142, lb, and Heavyweight classes, respectively.

Purych and Macri, both attempting new take down combinations, were each narrowly decisioned in their final matches. Coach John Barry, obviously pleased with the showing of his wrestlers, nonetheless indicated that the next two weeks of practice would be devoted to ironing out some of the little errors that prevented more first place finishes. As Tisberger observed: "If you wanna dance with the boys, you gotta learn the steps."

Due to the stormy weather conditions, many of the team that were to arrive on Fleams afternoon were unable to do so. Tournament director Dick Goesinya decided to postpone the start of the tourney until Saturday morning, scheduling instead a dual meet between the Golden Bears and the U of Regina Cougars. The Bears won the competition easily with pins by Purych, Pawlyk, Marci, Tisberger, Robertson, Bob Lemmon, and Tom Mayson. Paul Gibeault, Fred Mertz, and Pomerleau each lost one point decisions.

The 134 lb match was especially interesting in that Golden Bear Russ Pawlyk won the bout with a take down-fall combination that had never before been attempted in Canada. Modifying the move which he learned during a recent European wrestling tour from the West German national champion Torez Rechtum, Pawlyk initiated the deep crotch, high throat, single-arm bar flying move with a double quarter nelson souple combination. Assistant coaches Dennis Hrycaiko and Rick Frey were surprised that he would attempt the move so early in the year Said Hrycaiko: "I knew Russ was twisted, but this confirms it." Frey's only remark was "Pawlyk can dance

The Bears return to competition in Saskatoon February 6th and 7th. It will be interesting to see what new creations Barry's grapplers develop in the next two weeks. by Mike Hunt





The 1976 Alberta Rugby season is due to commence in late April and it is proposed that the U of A will enter a team into the league competition during the summer months.

The team will be open to any student whether their experience is negligible or considerable, as the emphasis will be placed on the basic skills and factics of the game.

The team will be entered into a second grade competition which will compete in the league from May through Western Intercollegiate Championships in October. At present there is no Golden Bear Rugby team and to maintain a team during the summer months we will require as many players as possible. There will be a meeting of interested players on Feb. 2nd in Room W-124 of the Physical Education building at 4:30 p.m. For further information contact Coach Tony Bauer, Room E-469, Physical Education building, Ph. 432-5505.

September, including the

