

Bears prey on Bisons

by Ajay Bhardwaj
Bears 11 Bisons 5

The U of A Golden Bears and the U of Manitoba Bisons hooked up Friday night in what might have been a preview of the first round of the Canada West playoffs. The Bears went into Friday's game trailing the first place Calgary Dinosaurs by just one point, while the Bisons were firmly entrenched in fourth spot. The result was an 11-5 Golden Bear victory.

The Bisons got off to a quick start as forward Brian Coughlin beat Bears' goalie Darren Turner with a low wrist shot from just inside the blueline at 4:36 of the first period. The Bears evened it at 12:45 when defenceman and first star Parie Profit pinched into the slot, received a pass from Jeff Helland, and beat Manitoba goalie Jason Hodson. The teams went to the dressing rooms tied at one.

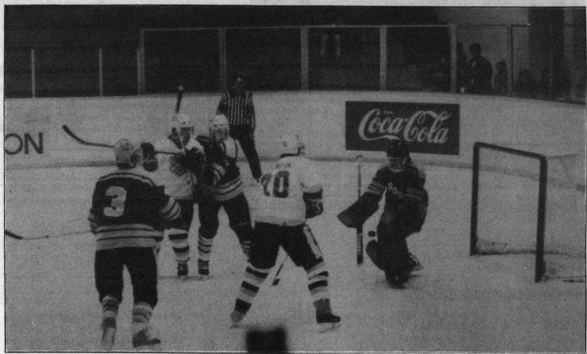
"We weren't skating with as much authority as we have been the last couple of games," Bear head coach Clare Drake said. "They (Manitoba) played a very solid first period, though."

Indeed, the Bisons did press the Bears in the first period, causing a

great deal of turnovers. "Our defencemen weren't reacting well to the pressure (Manitoba's forecheckers) were putting on us and," said Drake, "our forwards weren't getting open quickly." The slow start may also have occurred because the Bears were playing their second game in five nights. "Because we're playing with the bare minimum of players, nobody gets to rest," said Drake.

If the Bears were tired, they did not show it in the second period. They took the play to their eastern rivals, outshooting them 15-6. The Bears scored three times in 65 seconds to begin the period, twice in 51 seconds near the end of the period, and carried a 7-3 lead to the locker room.

Defenceman Profit had his most productive period, setting up three goals (he had five assists). "Our forwards did a good job creating turnovers in the neutral zone," said Profit, "that allows defencemen, like myself, to get in on the play," accounting for his production. Brent Severny, Profit's defence partner for much of the first period paid tribute to him, "Parie was great." Severny said, "he's always consistent



100-goal men Dennis Cranston (20) and Stacey Wakabayashi create a scoring chance.

Photo: Harold Swanson

(and he's the leader back on defence)," said the sophomore.

The Bears second period onslaught left Manitoba coach Barry Trotz shaking his head. "We didn't close our space on the (open) guy, and anytime you let guys stand by themselves they're going to score goals."

The Bisons did not quit, however, in the final period. They narrowed the Bears lead to 7-5 before the seven minute mark. But that was as close as they would get. Dave Otto scored at the 7:31 mark of the third period to make it 8-5. With 7:46 to play, Brad Scott of the Bisons was penalized for deliberately trying to

injure Stacey Wakabayashi with a slash. Sid Cranston, the second star, went on to score a natural hat trick (all on the powerplay) to put the finishing touches on the victory. His last goal came with just 30 seconds to play and was his fourth of the game. "I just kept going for the openings and I capitalized on my chances," said Cranston.

Barry Trotz was disgusted with the call made by referee George McCorry. "We fought back and then we got a five minute major which was questionable," he said. "The guy who was slashed (third star Stacey Wakabayashi) got up

and laughed at our bench," said the infuriated Bison coach. Regardless, the Bears came away with a win, and the Bisons returned to their dressing room empty-handed.

BEARTRACKS: Sid Cranston had four goals, Wakabayashi had two. Profit, Jeff Helland, Rob Glasgow, Curtis Brandolini, and Otto had singles... Adam Morrison (flu), Grant Couture (concussion) and Howie Draper (knee) sat out. Morrison was expected to play on Saturday, Couture should return next week, and Draper will return for the playoffs... The Bears outshot the Bisons 37-24...

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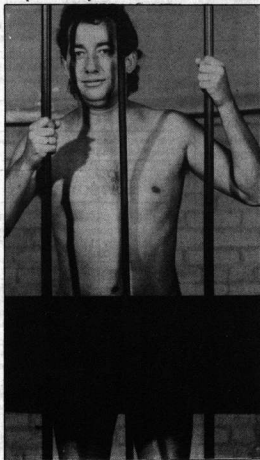


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DEFIANT STUDENT BEHIND BARS

College student Thomas T. Wilbur was arrested yesterday, the second time in a month for indecent exposure. Police spokesman Lori Naty released this terse statement to the press today. "We feel we must come down



hard on this type of behavior as college students are a volatile bunch and Wilbur could easily spark-off an epidemic of nakedness, the kind of which the city has not seen since '69. He's been warned once and will now suffer the full penalty of the law."

A defiant Wilbur said, "I tried playing it straight but the All Star American Bars 'Spirit of '69' night on Wednesdays offers such unbelievable value, I felt I must do something more to attract the attention of my fellow students. I call on students everywhere to rise up and streak down to the All Star American Bar this Wednesday for 'Spirit of '69' night."

All Star American Bar General Manager Mr. Bill McBain said the bar was standing by Wilbur all the way, even flying in renowned female lawyer Marg A. Rita from Long Island for Wilbur's defence. He also added that Wilbur's behavior had created such controversy that provincial government authorities had requested that the coupons which read "I Free Pitcher of Long Island or Marg" be censored.

"You can censor a coupon but you can't censor its value. So bring your censored coupon with you this Wednesday and we'll treat you right."

We also thanked the hundreds of students already attending 'Spirit of '69' nights on Wednesdays who have contributed to Wilbur's Bail Fund.

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