

Sports

Bears settle for third in their tourney

by Alan Small

Alberta 80 Manitoba 60
Regina 88 Alberta 84 (OT)
Alberta 94 Laurentian 82

The Golden Bear basketball club was just a few free throws

from facing the Brandon Bobcats in the final of the Golden Bear Invitational. However, they are pleased with their third place finish.

"It was a great weekend for us.

I'm pleased," said Bear coach Don Horwood, who was a tad disappointed about not making the finals. "We would have sold out the place if we had made the finals."

When you are the home team, you stack the draw as much as possible so you can make the finals. There were seven teams who at some point of the year will be in the top ten. It was no coincidence that the Bears faced the only team that won't in the first round of tournament.

The Bears were never in trouble as they jumped out to a 19-5 lead seven minutes in. By halftime, their lead was a gaudy 26 points.

By the 12 minute mark of the second half, their lead was thirty points and the Bears coasted from there to secure a 20 point win. Everyone in the gym knew the Bisons were in a different league as the Bears that night, but when you host your own tournament, you take a win any way you can get it.

"They've played well against some good teams," said Horwood, "our quick start and the fans took them out of the game early. They're not as bad as they looked tonight."

Strong rebounding by Ed Joseph and Scott McIntyre, who had ten and eight boards respectively, led the U of A to the win. McIntyre scored 16 as well to lead the Bears. Guard Greg Filmon led the Bisons with 14.

It was a totally different game on Friday night, as the Bears went up against the number one ranked Regina Cougars. Leading

the Cougars is forward Chris Biegler, who could not be stopped on Regina's opening game against Western Ontario. Despite missing 11 minutes due to foul trouble, Biegler managed to score 35 points.

The Bears found out that Biegler not only can score from the paint, but can also shoot from

"They figure that since I'm a two-time All-Canadian that I'm the only one they must stop." — Biegler.

the line, as the Bears kept fouling him and Biegler just kept hitting free throws. Bill LaVergne fouled out trying to defend him, while Joseph and McIntyre both got four fouls against him. Biegler managed to sink 10 out of 12 free throws.

"They figure that since I'm a two-time all-Canadian that I'm the only one they must stop," said Biegler. The Bears found out the hard way that he isn't, as guards Brian Livingston and Richard Cohee scored 17 and 15 points respectively.

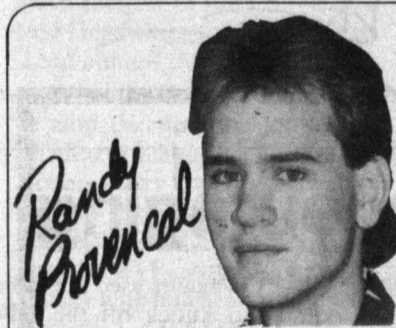
"He taught me a few lessons tonight," said Bear forward Michael Frisby, who had the task of covering Biegler for the overtime period. Frisby showed some of the flash he had in high school in the game as he scored 14 points

HOOP — p 16



Paul Menzies

Bison Greg Filmon (30) dribbles past Bears Mike Frisby (44) and Shane Asbell (14).



Did it matter when the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and the British Columbia Lions won their divisional semi-final Sunday? Will it make a difference if the Edmonton Eskimos and Toronto Argonauts battle again the Grey Cup final?

Does anybody care anymore? Canadian Football League fans are a rare breed these days. Practically extinct.

In fact, it seems as if the only true blue fans of the league are the players themselves. They're the ones who call the CFL the most exciting brand of football around, encouraging people to come out and cheer on their team.

But the league is in dire straits, thanks almost entirely to bonehead league officials. Not to mention the accessibility of Yankee ball every weekend, it shouldn't come as a shock that more and more Canadians are becoming interested in a league which gives a team a free down.

The more you're force fed, the more palatable the product becomes.

Doesn't it seem strange that football fans in Saskatchewan could pick up a half dozen NFL games on TV, yet the only broadcast of the Roughies-Lions (???) match was blacked

out across the entire province? It just doesn't make sense.

And fan support is dwindling...

In Winnipeg, where the Bombers and Ti-Cats played Sunday, a measly 12,000 came out to cheer on their squad. Some support. Granted, the weather wasn't exactly ready-made for an outdoor sport, but only 12,000? Bring a mickey of Seagram's and you'll stay warm.

But the fact remains, when it snows and blows, most people would much rather stay in the comfort of their own home and watch the game on TV.

Then one could blame the late starting schedule, which league officials devised this year to draw more fans. Brilliant. Just what the league needed. Let the -25°C weather keep fans away.

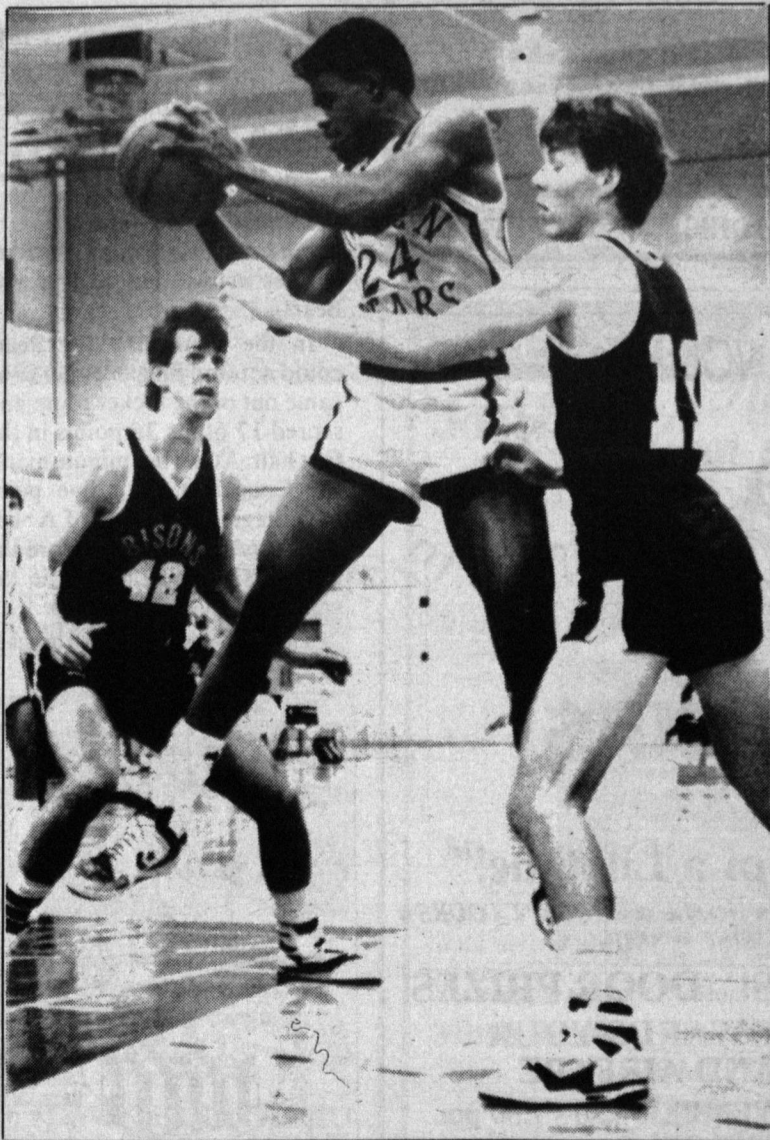
On the subject of weather, why on Earth is the Grey Cup being held in Ottawa? Does the league not realize that it's not comfortably warm in late November in Ottawa?

I would have to say it's a marketing ploy. After all, Ottawa has been the sad sack team in the CFL the last couple of years, so, in order to drum up some fan support, hold the big game there.

But is just holding the final there going to rekindle the flame underneath the behinds of Ottawa fans. Not likely. Any team that went 3-15 over the regular season will not draw hordes of fans any season.

What the league should have done was keep the B.C. Place tradition alive — at least until the Skydome is ready for use.

At least it's warm there.



Paul Menzies

Joseph an all-star

Bear forward Ed Joseph pulls down yet another rebound. Joseph was a rebounding terror this weekend and was named to the tournament all-star team for his efforts.

Bears upset in soccer semis

by Alan Small

The Golden Bears quest for the U of A's first national soccer championship since 1979 ended this weekend when they lost the semi-final game to the eventual CIAU champion University of Toronto 2-1.

John Noble was the lone Bear scorer against Toronto, who defeated the McGill Redmen in the final.

There was no match for third place.

Three Bears were named to All-Canadian teams. Goalie Duwayne Lang, who with Dave Hughes allowed only three goals in conference and playoff matches was named.

Also named to the first team was former Olympian Norm Odinga, and Salvi Cammarata, the team's captain and center midfielder was chosen for the second team.

It was the first time that Odinga and Lang were selected, but Cammarata was picked to the honor roll last season after leading the Bears with eight goals.