

Hockey Bears start schedule on right foot

by J.C. Demco

Bears 6 Calgary 3
Bears 3 Calgary 1

The Golden Bear hockey team skated to two wins in its opening league games last weekend in Varsity Arena against the University of Calgary Dinosaurs. Both were hard fought, close checking contests.

Bears began the series without three starters. Dale Fischer is still out with a shoulder injury, Bruce Crawford is sidelined for two weeks with leg tendon problems, and John Horcoff's eligibility status has yet to be decided.

As well, the team lost the services of Randy Gregg who suffered a sprained ankle in the third period of Friday's game.

Friday's opener started with sloppy play all over the ice. As so often happens, a missed opportunity at one end is immediately followed by a goal at the other: the Bears got their first goal at 17:32 that way when Calgary missed an open net. Jim Ofrim grabbed the puck, carried it up the ice and fed a perfect pass to Oliver Steward, whose wrist shot beat goaltender Bob Galloway cleanly. Calgary evened the score at 18:54 with a goal by Paul Ciemny in a scramble in front of Bears' netminder Craig Gunther.

An indication of the play is given by the fact that the nine forwards used by coach Leon Abbott managed only three shots on the net during the period.

The teams traded goals again in the second period, Ofrim at 6:17 for Alberta, and Rick Alexander at 11:43 for the



Fortunately for Craig Gunther, it was not ever thus.

Dinnies.

The Bears then broke the game open, scoring four goals in less than six minutes. Steward got his second of the night at 17:50 on a picture passing play from Jantzie and Ofrim. Dale Hutchinson notched the winner just 54 seconds later on a breakaway. Clark Jantzie scored on the power play 25 seconds into the third period, and Brian Sosnowski rounded out the Alberta scoring at 3:37, converting a pass from the corner by rushing defenceman Ken Yaremkevich.

Calgary's last gasp came at 8:45 when Ron Gerlitz scored after beating Bears' defenceman Frank Clarke to his right side.

Bears narrowly outshot the Dinosaurs 31 to 26 in the contest, an won only 54% of the faceoffs, a statistic where they usually dominate. Obviously the absence of centers Horcoff and Crawford was felt.

In the first period Saturday

the Dinosaurs came out checking fiercely, hemming the Bears in and controlling the corners. Bears failed to capitalize on a 3-minute power play around mid-period, but Jim Ofrim did score from the slot on the power play at 17:16 after his first shot hit sprawling teammate Clarke.

Calgary carried the play to the Bears during the first half of the second period, directing 13 shots at starting goaltender Dale Henwood. Bob Laycock notched Dinosaurs' only goal at 7:02 on a scramble after Henwood had made a brilliant save while on his back.

The teams held each other at bay during the second half of the period, as Calgary couldn't

manage even a single shot on the net. Only four of the Bears' shots were on the Calgary net during the entire frame.

The scoring during the third period was all Bears'. Jim Ofrim at 5:49 from Oliver Steward, and Bryan Sosnowski on a good play beating defenceman Doug Colville and scoring on a backhand. Goalie Dale Henwood picked up the assist on Sosnowski's tally.

The Golden Bears were outshot in the contest 31 to 17, winning only 52% of their faceoffs, and reaching the net with only 27% of their shots. Coach Leon Abbott attributed this to a lack of concentration and to the success of the Calgary defence at blocking shots.

Abbott was pleased with the work of his rookie defence, especially Ken Yaremkevich who had a regular shift following the injury to Randy Gregg. Dale Hutchinson displayed

good playmaking ability and Zaperniuk won a large majority of his faceoffs. Also, the line of Hutchinson, Peterson, and Carr shone defensively Friday night, being on the ice for only two Calgary shots on goal.

Bears' scoring continued to be dominated by the line of Ofrim, Steward and Jantzie. They accounted for 12 of the team's 19 points in the series, and 6 of the 9 goals: 3 by Ofrim, 2 by Steward, and 1 by Jantzie. Other Bears' scorers were Bryan Sosnowski with 2 and Dale Hutchinson.

Calgary coach George Kingston, who is returning from a year's sabbatical, didn't appear to be very upset with losses. "Every year I've coached, we seem to lose the first five or six games, or most of them," he shrugged. "But we'll start winning later on."

Bears' next home action is November 21 and 22 against the University of Saskatchewan.

Photo by Brian Gavriloff

Judo team wins at J.P.

The U of A Judo team, as expected, was impressive in the Jasper Place tournament last weekend.

With teams entered from the University of Lethbridge, UBC, Cold Lake, and several teams from Edmonton, the UA team managed three thirds, two seconds, and a first, and took home the team laurels as well.

In the senior competition, third place honors went to Gil Hachey (featherweight), Neil Leslie (lightweight), and Al Schaefer (light heavyweight).

Collette Brelech, in girls competition, placed second in her weight class, and Art Gagan managed seconds in both the youth and senior divisions in the heavyweight class.

The team's only first was taken by Bob Tanaka, a middleweight.

The U of A squad, under coach Ron Senda, had to wait for the results of the final match before claiming the team competition, as they came from behind to defeat the Lethbridge contingent.

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