

V-Ball Bears strong

by Mitch Panciuk

"This year we're going to perform," said Pierre Baudin about the University of Alberta Golden Bears volleyball team. Baudin — the head coach of the team — is convinced that they "have the potential to win the National Championship if we play up to our abilities."

"If we play up to our abilities," is a common phrase in the world of sport, most often associated with second-best teams, but the 1989-90 edition of the Bear volleyball team is different. This team is perhaps the tallest in the country, with no player under six feet tall. Coach Baudin is sure that the new height will help at the net by intimidating opposing players.

The Bears are very happy with their training camp which finished up last week. 35 players were at the camp and there was some intense competition, which saw some returning veterans lose their spots on the squad to the four rookies who made the cut. Baudin is happy with the recruiting that he has done over the last year, and expects the team to finish no lower than in the top five nationally.

Baudin was very enthusiastic when describing this year's team. He likened them to the powerhouse U.S. national men's volleyball team. "I've always dreamt about modeling our team like that, and finally this is sort of what I have. I've got a unique roster — I can play everyone at every position. I have never had a team like this before."

The volleyball program here at the University has had some serious difficulties in the past, mostly characterized by a lack of talent and consistency, but this year promises to be different. The Bears have a good mix of returning veterans and rookies, said Baudin. He feels that this team finally has "intense competition within the team," which forces the veterans to "put out in practice" in order to stay in the starting rotation.

In terms of consistency, Baudin is banking on both the depth and the experience of the team. "We only have one player in his last year of eligibility, but we have transfer students and guys who played on provincial teams over the summer. We need that playing experience



This Panda tries to block the spike.

to come out during the big games."

For Baudin, creating his ideal team has a lot of significance. "I've been here for four years now and the Athletic department has had a lot of patience in allowing me to build the type of program that I wanted. This is a performance year: we have to perform — I have to perform," Baudin said.

Look for the Bears to perform when they play their first home games October 27 against the University of Regina. Action starts at 6:30 p.m. in the main gym.

Mitch Panciuk is the CJSR correspondent for volleyball.

trying to introduce another major-league sport on the continent. When you consider that the cost of soccer compares to that of any major team sport, but it draws less well than tractor pulls or beach volleyball, you begin to see the economics of it. Certain markets may thrive, but those are the exception and not the rule.

Baseball, on the other hand, sells. It sells cards, it sells tickets, and it sells our city. I know people who won't live in a city without baseball for any period of time. Matter of fact, I am one such person. I am serious when I say that I will move from Edmonton after I get my degree, if we lose our ball team.

With the city elections upon us, it's time to make the Trappers an election issue. That means finding out which candidates are prepared to make a commitment to building a new ball park, and then voting for those people.

In a sports city like Edmonton, it is up to the fan to make their voice heard.

Bears prep for Dinos

by Todd Saelhof

Someone once said, "a good offense is a good defense." If this is true, then the University of Alberta Golden Bear football team must possess some unforeseen offensive talent considering the incredible success of its defensive squad.

After surrendering only 8 points to the ball control offense of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies Saturday afternoon, the Golden Bears boast the stingiest defense in the Canada West League with 26 points against.

This weekend, however, the ferocious Bear defense will be challenged by the League's number one offensive unit, the University of Calgary Dinos. Saturday's confrontation is the first half of the fourth annual U of C/U of A Shrine Bowl, taking place on the carpet of McMahon Stadium in Calgary.

In looking for a sixth Shrine Bowl victory, the Dinos will attack with quarterback Bob Torrance at the helm, who is 61 of 98 for 852 yards, including 8 touchdowns.

On the receiving end of Torrance tosses is 232 yard man Sean Furlong, along with Dave Brown, whose 4 touchdown receptions top Canada West.

Calgary's ground game is no weakness either with J.P. Izquierdo, last week's player of the week, leading all C.W.U.A.A. rushers with 4 touchdowns, while posting an impressive 451 yards on 52 carries.

All in all, the Dino offense will emerge Saturday having already put 12 pigskins across the goal line for majors, ringing up 110 points for, and possessing an envious 3-0 record.

"They're a good football team,

there's no question about it, but then so are we," claims U of A Head Coach Jim Donlevy.

Having had the past week off, the Dinos will be eager to return to the gridiron for the Shrine Bowl classic on hopes of renewing acquaintances with Donlevy's 1-2 Golden Bears.

On the green and gold side of the football, the Bears hope to rebound from last season's two Shrine Bowl losses, having been outscored 65-18. In attempting to bounce back, Donlevy predicts no major changes in the Bears' offensive thrust this weekend, but is looking for the necessary finish from his Bear offense.

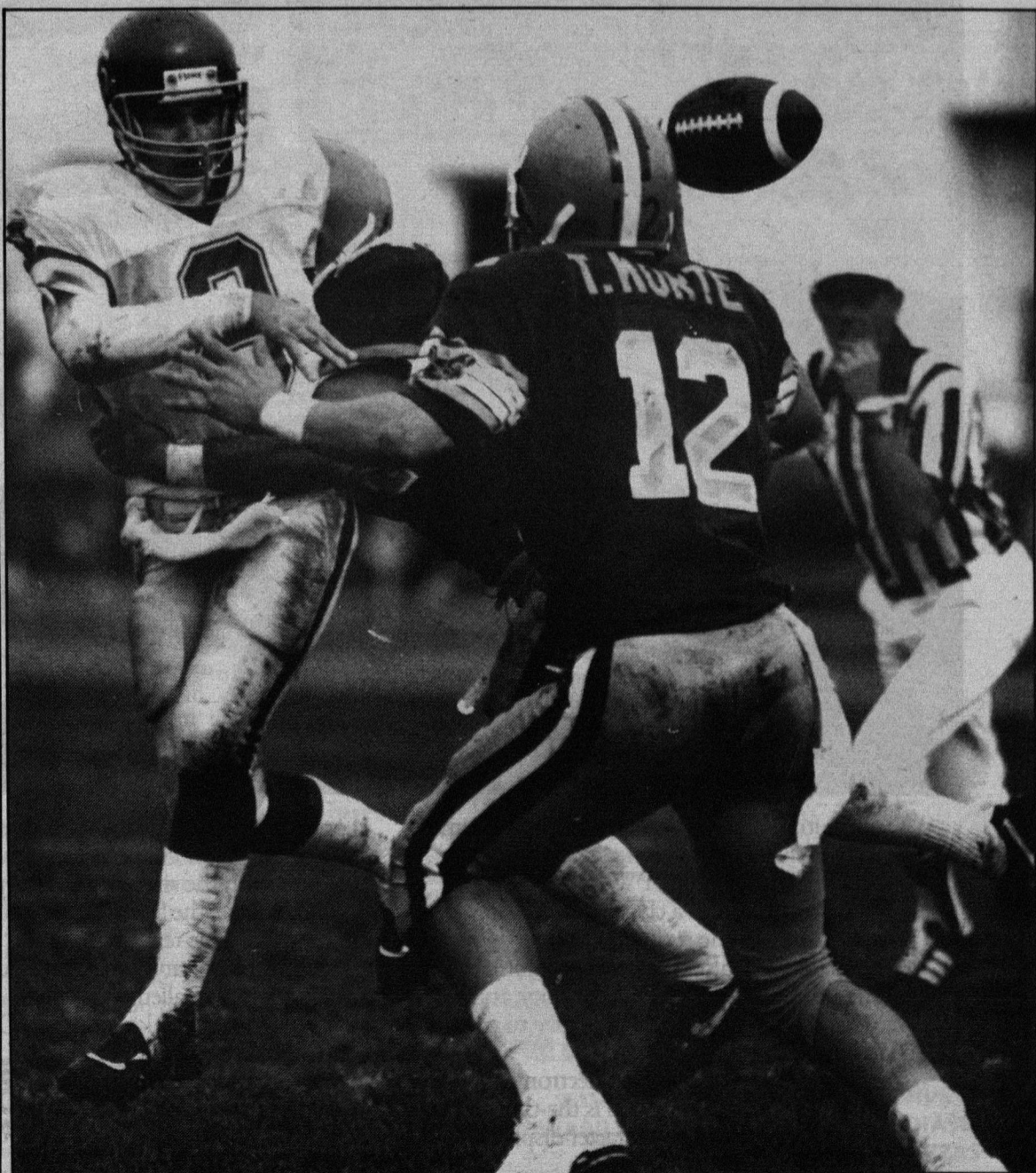
The poor 7-point offensive output against the Huskies should be initiative enough for the Jeff Steinberg-led Alberta offense to make the best of scoring opportunities on Saturday.

This initiative coupled with a healthy Bear lineup, could spell trouble for an unheralded Dino defense. Practicing on newly installed astroturf behind Lister Hall may also add to an improved offensive scheme.

"We'll get a feel of that. That's kind of nice to get a feel for the astroturf," said Donlevy, fully aware of Calgary's homefield carpet advantage.

In the end, though, the scoreboard figures will be of main concern, and if the Bears come away with more points than their southern rivals, it will only be because of hard work; hard work against the 1988 Vanier Cup champs.

"We know what we have to do. It doesn't matter who we are playing against this weekend," Donlevy said.



Saskatchewan quarterback David Earl feels the wrath of the Bear defence.



Randal Smathers

The Brick Men are dead! Long live the Trappers!

According to a story in today's *Edmonton Sun*, the Edmonton Brick Men will not be back next year, at least not under the ownership of Peter Pocklington.

Don't blame Peter Puck. I know he's not the most popular owner in Edmonton right now, but no one can fault him on his support for soccer and baseball in the city.

Personally, I don't think professional soccer will ever have much of a future in North America. We, the sports fans, just have too many ways to spend our entertainment dollars without