



Sports



Finally, Bears face off vs. Moncton

by Mark Spector

If you've never seen either a "golden" bear, nor a "blue" eagle, don't be discouraged.

These same two animals have never laid eyes on each other either. Not this season anyway.

Of course, I'm speaking of the Alberta Golden Bears and the Moncton Aigles Bleus, the two teams that will meet at 7:30 Thurs-

day evening in one of two CIAU semi-final matchups. In the other, which goes at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, defending CIAU champions York will take on the Quebec entry, Trois Rivieres.

The two winners will square off in the final game Sunday at 12:00 noon. All games will be played at the Agricom on the exhibition grounds.

"I hate to admit it," states Moncton coach Jacques Noel in his tick french accent, "but we're just like a bunch of tourists. We don't have any idea of what to expect from Alberta."

And from an observer's point of view, it's hard to tell what to make of this matchup between a team that comes off of three straight weeks of practice and a team that is entering their fourth best-of-three series in as many weeks.

"We've played a lot of high pressure hockey games in the last three weeks," says Noel. His team made it through the semi-final and final series in the Atlantic conference, and then defeated Wilfrid Laurier in a regional best-of-three last week.

"It's just like the pros, really." So Noel's club is in game shape, ready once again for some playoff hockey. But what about the Golden Bears?

"Everyone is healed that was going to heal, and mentally we're in as good a shape as possible," said leftwinger Bill Ansell after what could be termed the Bears' second training camp of the season.

"And as far as being in game shape goes, I don't feel that it (the layoff) makes a difference at this point in the year. We've been going since the first week of classes."

Physically, there's no reason why the Bears won't be at the top of their game. Ansell will play after suffering a knee injury a week ago, and Eric Thurston and Curtis Brandolini both seem to have conquered back ailments that kept them off the ice until as late as Tuesday for Thurston.

But mentally it remains to be seen how much of an effect the three week layoff between games



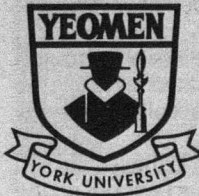
Alberta vs. Moncton

Tonite 7:30



FINAL

sunday 12:00 noon



York vs. Trois Rivieres

Saturday 2:00



Alberta vs. Moncton At A Glance

At Stake — The right to advance to the championship game of the CIAU Finals on Sunday, March 23rd, at 12:00 noon.

Site — The Northlands Agricom

Capacity — 3900

Time — Thursday, March 20th, 7:30 p.m.

Coverage — No television. The game can be heard on **CJSR 88.5 FM** with the pre-game beginning at 7:15 p.m.

Record versus each other — Moncton and Alberta have not met each other yet this season.

Tickets — Tickets are \$6 for each semi-final and \$8 for the final. The entire package is \$15. Tickets are available at all BASS outlets and at the Athletics office on the second floor of the Butterdome, as well as in HUB and SUB.

U. of Alberta

Nickname — The Golden Bears
Colours — Green and Gold
League — The Canada West University Athletic Association
Place of Finish — Alberta finished first in their division in regular season play, but lost in the first round of the playoffs to Saskatchewan.
National Ranking — Number 10 in Canada.
Coach — Clare Drake, 25 year veteran
CIAU Crowns — In the last 11 years Alberta has won 4 CIAU titles.

U. of Moncton

Nickname — Les Aigles Bleus
Colours — Blue and White
League — Atlantic Athletic University Association
Place of Finish — Moncton finished first in their league.
National Ranking — Number one in Canada.
Coach — Jacques Noel, two year veteran
CIAU Crowns — In the last 11 years Moncton has won 2 CIAU titles.

will have on Alberta.

"We played so much over Christmas," said injured Denis Leclair of the Golden Bears' Swiss tour over the holiday season, "that we really didn't get that rest that you're used to."

"This break is what we've needed all along."

But did they need it right before a potentially season-ending game against the number one ranked team in the country?

"We feel that there is not much separating us from Moncton," deadpans Ansell. And really there shouldn't be. Alberta held down the number one spot in the CIAU rankings until mid-February, and then shortly after, the Maritimers moved into the penthouse to stay.

But they are not a team laden with stars.

"We are just a simple team," softpedals Noel, "we have no real stars."

Sure Jacques, what about the Atlantic conference Rookie of the Year, Claude Lefebvre? You know, the freshman who scored 26 goals and 55 points in only 23 games for your club.

"We've only got one guy on the All-Star team. If we're going to win anything, it will take the effort of all 20 players."

No comment.

From the Bears' side of things, if you want to lay money on who's going to get the call in net, bet it on Darren Turner even though both he and John Krill have been hot in practice.

"Yes, both of our goalies are ready," said Ansell. "It's getting harder and harder to score in practice these days."

Speaking of practice, if any coach can take a lengthy layoff and work it to his team's advantage, it's Alberta coach Clare Drake. "He worked the team pretty hard in practice up until the last couple of days," said a sidelined Leclair. "But now they're getting shorter and shorter."

"It sort of leaves you hungry when you get off of the ice."

But Jacques Noel has planned on that, and is ready for it.

"With that good western beef out here, I'm sure that they'll all be healthy."

Let the games begin!

Swimmers do well at CIAU

by Carolyn Aney

At the CIAU Swimming and Diving Championships at Laval University in Quebec City, March 6-8, the U of A finished splendidly. The Pandas placed fourth overall with 276 points, well back of U of C who was third with 409 points. The Pandas went into the meet ranked eighth.

Meanwhile, the Bears placed 18th overall out of the 29 competing schools, which is quite remar-

kable when you consider that only one member of the men's team, Larry Schulhauser, competed.

Winning the women's side of the events was UBC, while on the men's it was the University of Toronto. Overall, U of T placed first with 1043 points, second was Calgary with 860, and third was UBC with 745 points.

Mary Jo Clark picked up two bronze medals on the weekend in the 400m and 200m free and placed

4th in the 800m free. Tiffany Watson placed 6th in the 100m free and 7th in both the 50m and 200m free. Colleen Delaney finished 6th in the 800m free, 7th in the 400m free, and 2nd in consolation finals in the 400m I.M. Elaine LeBuke finished 7th in the 200m I.M. and 6th in the 100m fly, setting a new school record. Stephanie Lake finished 2nd in consolation finals in the 100m back. Finally, Dina Skinder placed third in consolation finals in both the 400m and 200m free.

The women's relay teams did better than expected. The 4x100m medley relay, consisting of Lake, Clark, LeBuke, and Watson, finished 7th. The 4x200m free relay of Skinder, Delaney, LeBuke, and Clark grabbed a bronze medal. And the 4x100m free relay of Watson, Skinder, Delaney, and LeBuke finished 4th.

Larry Schulhauser was the only Golden Bear to qualify for CIAU's on the men's side. He placed 2nd in consolation finals in both the 100m and 200m butterfly.

The CIAU meet is run so that all swimmers swim heats during the day. The top eight placings will swim finals and ninth to sixteenth placings swim consolation finals, all later that evening. The U of A had 38 swimmers at CIAU's. Eighty-nine percent of them were seasonal bests and 55% were lifetime bests, which is remarkable.

Carolyn Cush, the only U of A diver, placed 8th in the 1m springboard and 2nd in consolation finals in the 3m springboard.

DINWOODIE CABARETS
 Phone 432-2048
 Tickets are available from SUB Box Office (432-5145) and various club members.
 Note: These cabarets are open to U of A students, staff and guests.
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