

## Defence puts hoop Bears in third

Randal Smathers



Hang around any sports section and a controversy will eventually, to use the sports-writers' cliché, erupt. Normally the fight will be the result of somebody barging into the bikini-postered sports office and demanding to know why their team or event didn't get coverage. To avoid future disputes, I thought I'd provide a primer on sports press.

Sports have to be covered. They are what enquiring fans' minds want to know about. Games, as opposed to sports events, are optional, the kind of thing you cover when "real" sports are shut down. Hobbies are just things people do for fun, and anyone wishing to promote a hobby should be referred to the "Lifestyles" section.

So what are the differences between sports, games, and hobbies?

The first rule is that hobbies don't need a score kept. They include such non-competitive activities as LEGO, arts and crafts, and reading. No one wants to read about these things. If you're playing hockey in such a non-competitive league that you don't keep accurate track of the score (and no, asking the goalies every three or four goals what the score is does not count as accurate scorekeeping), then that counts as a hobby.

Okay, you say, we keep score in our curling league, so it's a sport that needs to be covered. **WRONG.** If you can't play defence, then it's a game, not a sport. That also lets out all forms of racing (except for the mythical Chinese Downhill ski racing, usually perpetrated by lifties, after hours, where the last one to the bottom buys, and tackling is allowed). It also lets out field events, at least until they line up javelin throwers at opposite ends of the field, and let them throw back what they catch.

If you disagree with this, just check out what the most important gathering of footraces, field events, and rhythmic gymnastics is called: the Olympic GAMES.

Right now you're probably asking if basketball is a sport. It is, but not NBA. No game with scores over 100 points has defence, nor can it be called a sport.

Sports must also be played by athletes. Chess, no matter how defensive, doesn't count.

The last thing you should check before you show up at the office, demanding coverage of your particular avocation: if you draw less fans than participants, we're not interested.

I just thought you might like to know.

by Alan Small  
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Varsity Gym is the only place in Alberta where you don't need a license to bag pronghorns.

Matter of fact, the Lethbridge Pronghorns basketball team now have been poached in their last six visits to the U of A.

The Bears hacked their way through the Pronghorns and into third place in the Canada West conference last weekend.

The Bear defence tagged the Horns in the second half of both games and bagged a pair of wins for their efforts.

In the opener, their defence shut the 'Horns down to 20 points in the second half, en route to a

"We knew we had to win both games. In the second half, we settled down and played our game."  
— McIntyre

14 point victory. The great second half made up for a below par first, which left the Golden Bears down by ten points, 52-42 and reeling. They were about as successful on the court as Elmer Fudd is in the forest.

"Everyone complained how bad our defence was. We just weren't working in the first half," said Bear forward Scott McIntyre, who had his best game of the year, as he scored 18 points and hauled down 14 rebounds in the scrappy opener. "I personally felt like cement feet out there."

Ever since Christmas, defence has done it for us in the games we've played well," Bear coach Don Horwood said. "We just forgot to play defence in the first half. We were terrible."

The Bears started playing the

tough defence and it paid off. They held Lethbridge to a point-a-minute in the second half. Runs of 17-6, 10-4, and 10-2 had the 'Horns looking like Bambis. The Bears won by 14 points, their biggest lead of the game.

"It was their defence and we stopped boxing out," said Lethbridge forward Harbir Bains, who scored 11 points in the opener. "In the second half, we didn't get many offensive boards and we didn't box out defensively."

The stats prove it. Alberta scooped 36 rebounds to 21 for their southern rivals.

Guard Dave Youngs was the top Bear scorer, with 23 points. Darren Boras and Ryan Heggie led the 'Horns with 12 points each.

Heggie was the star in the second game, but even his 29 points wasn't enough to prevent a Golden Bear sweep. His two three point shots near the end only made the seven point game look close. Another superb second half effort by Alberta gave them their sixth conference victory of the season.

The game was tied at 36 at halftime, but the decisive point of the game started with seven minutes gone. In three minutes the Bears rattled off a 10-1 run to go ahead by eight points and never gave up the lead from then.

"I think we outplayed them in the first half," said Pronghorn coach Cal O'Brien, "but we turned the ball over and allowed them to stay in the game."

The Bears, especially forward Ed Joseph, couldn't find the range from the field early in the first half. Joseph went 0-for-eight in the first half from the field before hitting for four field goals in the second half.

"Last night and tonight, in the first half, we were really tight," said McIntyre, who scored six points in the finale. "We knew we had to win both games. In the second half, we settled down and played our game."

## Bears hammer UBC

by Alan Small

The Golden Bear hockey team prepped for Tuesday's Face Off encounter by hammering the UBC Thunderbirds in Vancouver twice — 9-2 and 6-4.

The sweep of the T-Birds, who stole a 10-9 overtime win over the Bears earlier this season in Edmonton, kept the Bears within two points of the conference leading Calgary Dinosaurs, who swept the lowly Lethbridge Pronghorns 12-1 and 8-6.

The Bears were led in game one by third year forward Wes Craig, who scored twice and added two helpers in the rout. Adam Morrison also scored a pair, while singles went to Darwin Bozek, Stacey Wakabayashi, Al Tarasuk, Doug McCarthy, and Marty Yewchuk.

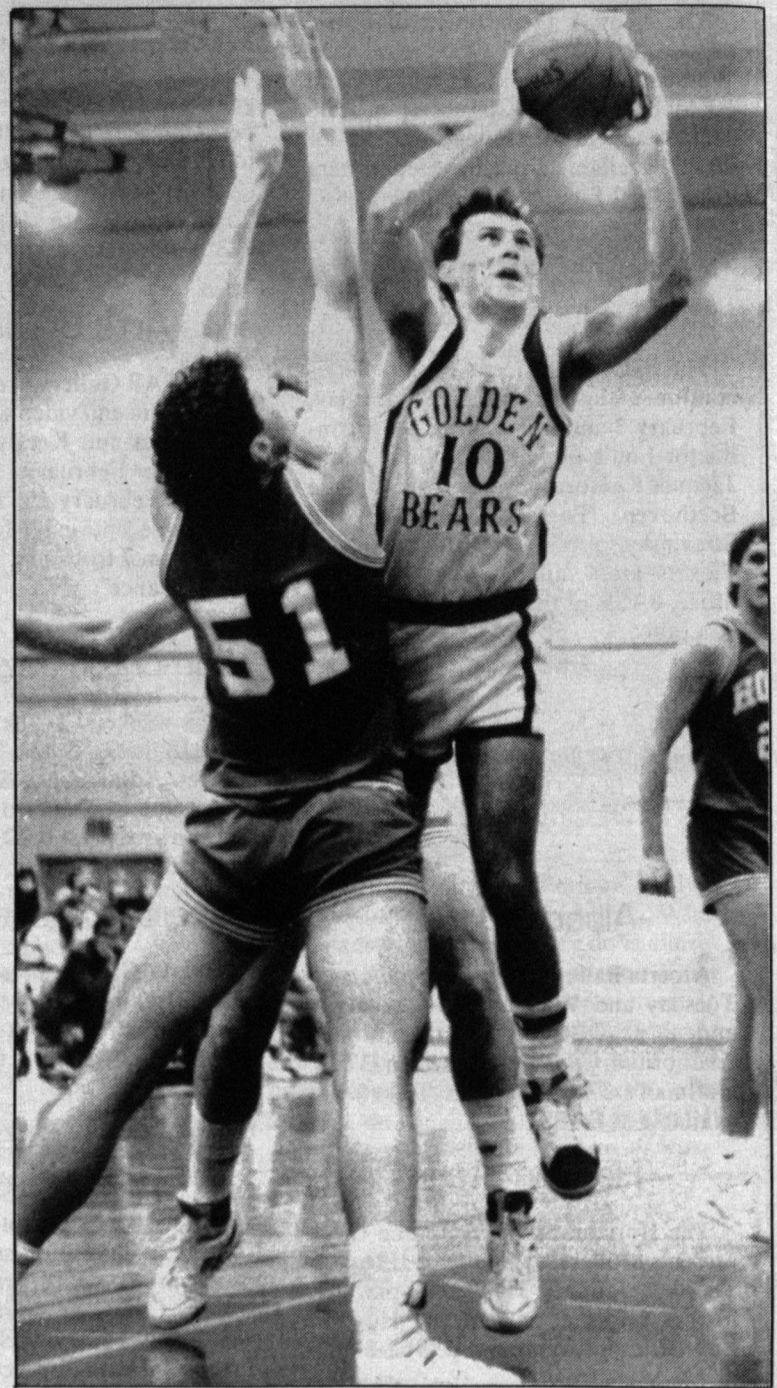
Game two was a little closer, but the Bears still got the needed revenge on the now fifth place

T-Birds. McCarthy scored a pair of goals and assists to pace the Bears to their sixteenth conference victory of the season. Rob Craig, Wakabayashi, Rob Glasgow, and Sid Cranston also scored in Saturday's finale.

Cranston returned to the Bear lineup after nursing a sore knee, which he picked up two weeks ago in their game with the Brandon Bobcats.

In other Canada West action, Saskatchewan forward Ken Morrison scored five times and chipped in three assists as the Huskies swept the Regina Cougars by scores of 7-5 and 5-2. In the opening game, Morrison, the Canada West player of the week, scored four goals. It was the fourth time this season that the third year forward has collected a hattrick.

He now has 31 goals, only three off the Canada West record



Bear guard Sean Chursinoff (10) hits a jumper in front of helpless 'Horn Paul Blaskovits.

"I wasn't unhappy with the way we played," O'Brien said. "We didn't make our shots when they were there and they did. It's about that simple."

Guard Sean Chursinoff, who had a great weekend, led the Bears Saturday night with a 21 point performance. Youngs also scored 18 to pace the Bears.

**POST UPS:** Over 1,000 people were packed vocal cord to vocal cord for the finale. Over 800 were there Friday night... The Pronghorns were awarded a free point on Friday night, but it had no effect on the final score... Bear forward Mike Frisby did not dress for either game due to an "internal problem".

of 34 that he now shares with Bear captain Cranston. Morrison will try to eclipse that mark this weekend when the 13-7 Huskies travel through the blizzard and play the Bears on Friday and

Saturday nights at Varsity Arena.

The other game had the Manitoba Bisons take over fourth place in the conference with 15-victory over the Brandon Bobcats.

## Bears vs. Ooks Face Off Tuesday

by Alan Small

The hockey Bears are hoping to extend their two game Face Off streak tonight when they tussle with the NAIT Ookpiks in their annual battle for the Ronald McDonald House Cup.

Game time is at 7 pm, at Northlands Coliseum. Tickets can be had at the U of A Athletics office in the Butterdome. FM88 CJSR will broadcast the game live with the pre-game show starting at 6:45 pm.

The Bears have won three of the four previous Cups, the first

coming in a 5-4 victory over the CCAA champs. NAIT's only win came a year later, as they defeated the Bears 7-5, despite a late three goal charge by the Evergreen and Gold.

The U of A has nuked the Ooks the last two games, with 7-2 and 8-2 victories. Adam Morrison was the MVP in last year's game, as he cranked a goal and three assists that night.

50 cents from every ticket sold from tonight's encounter will go to the Ronald McDonald House.