SPORTS tuesday, 30 january, 2007



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS 2007

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN



{ EXECUTIVE POSITIONS }

President, VP Academic, VP External, VP Operations & Finance and VP Student Life Board of Governor Representative DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15TH, 17:00

{ COUNCIL POSITIONS }

Students' Council and General Faculties Councillors DEADLINE: MARCH 13TH, 17:00

NOMINATION PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE AT 2-900 SUB



Lady luck in the can for Bears

Charmed lavatory helps basketball squad avenge Friday night loss to Huskies

PAUL OWEN Sports Editor

Before they even tipped off in Friday's 90–71 loss to the Saskatchewan Huskies, the Golden Bears basketball team just wasn't in sync.

"My pre-game was a little out of whack, and it's these little things that put you in the right frame of mind to come out and play well," said Alberta centre Richard Bates, who was locked out of his lucky washroom before Friday's contest commenced.

The Bears (13–5) came out flat, falling 14 behind in the first half and failed to make the game any closer before losing, much to the dismay of head coach Don Horwood.

"[Saskatchewan] just beat us," he said. "They beat us every phase: they out-played us defensively, they beat us on the boards, they worked harder, they were hungrier, they played under control, they made good decisions. They worked us. They kicked us in every part of the game.'

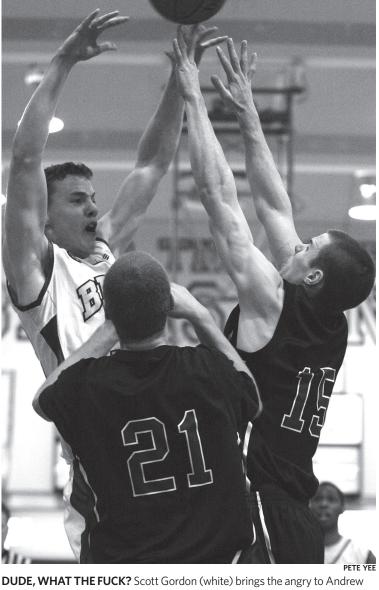
Fifth-year guard Tyson Jones echoed Horwood, pointing to a lack of focus and energy for Friday night's loss.

"We were coming off a four-game win streak, and guys were a little high on themselves, and sometimes you can get complacent. In this league, teams are so evenly matched that you can't go into a game half-heartedly," he said.

Alberta hit .587 from the floor but were out-rebounded 32-19 and 16-14 under their own basket and took 13 fewer shots than the Huskies (11-7). No Bear had more than three rebounds, while Saskatchewan forward Andrew Spagrud grabbed ten, to go with his 20 points on the night.

"As a team we didn't go to the boards, at all," Bates admitted. "I had one board, Scott [Gordon] had three, Justin [Van Loo] had one. We're big guys; we need to get more than that."

Saturday night told a different tale for the Golden Bears. Bates dropped a deuce in his lucky washroom before the game and then proceeded to drop 14 on the Huskies as one of four Bears who reached double digits. Gordon was equally effective inside, adding 17 of his own. Both posts grabbed seven boards en route to a 83-70 victory.



Spagrud (15) and Mark Lynch (21) of the Huskies in action this weekend.

"We had energy; we played hard we worked our asses off. It's crazy that you can be playing at this level and guys come not ready to play, but it happens," Horwood said. "[Friday] we were sleepwalking out there, nobody had an effort, but tonight we brought the whole ball of wax: we played tough defensively and got on the boards."

"In Canada West, when you play back-to-back and win the first night, the other teams—especially if they're the home team—is going to come out really hard [the next night]," Huskies

head coach Greg Jockims added.

The weekend split leaves the Bears with a two game lead on the Huskies for first place in the Central Division. Both teams have four games left. While a sweep would have clinched top spot and a first-round playoff bye for Alberta, Horwood is still pleased with where the team sits at this point.

"I like our position. I'd have liked to win [both] to have it clinched, but this is probably better for us; it'll keep us sharp—keep that carrot out in front of us," he said.

THE PEP RALLY

by Paul Owen

Pandas Volleyball

The ladies travelled to Vancouver this weekend for a pair of games against the Thunderbirds of UBC. Having spent six days in the Lower Mainland recently, I can tell you that despite a lot of rain, there is in fact very little thunder. That didn't make a difference for the Pandas on Friday night, however, as they fell to the T-Birds 3-1. Tiffany Dodds led the way for the Pandas with 13 kills, and while I wasn't in attendence, I'm sure all 13 were spectacular enough to deserve two or even three points, though that's not really how volleyball works.

The Pandas (12-4) rebounded the next day to take a hard-earned victory over UBC (12-6) in five sets, 3-2. Dodds once again killed the Thunderbirds, finishing 20 attacks and Jocelyn Blair added 17 of her own for the winning side.

Pandas Hockey

Unlike their male counterparts, the icebound Pandas (18-2-0) kept themselves from being upset by the Lethbridge

Pronghorns (6-13-1), winning a pair of games over the weekend. Friday's 7-0 thumping of the 'Horns marked the third time this season that Alberta had beaten Lethbridge by seven or more goals. A pair of Jens paced the Pandas as both Jenna Barber and Jennifer Newton potted two.

Saturday saw a closer contest, but only in comparison to Friday. Alberta won 5-1 powered by five different scorers. No Panda had more than two points on the night. Goaltenders Holly Tartleton and Danielle Bles had the easiest job on the ice this weekend, as the Pronghorns managed only a combined 20 shots in the two games.

Bears Volleyball

Joel Schmuland was named the Hudsons on Campus Athlete of the Week. The prestigious honour has earned Joel a \$50 gift certificate to the Pub That Killed Scholar's, which actually makes the award something worth winning-at least, it's good if you like chicken fingers.

Swimming

Kellen Westman became the sixth Golden Bear and 13th U of A swimmer to earn his trip to CIS Nationals at Dalhousie later this year, making the grade in the 50m butterfly at the Fast Eddie Invitational this weekend

Fantasy Hockey

Currently, My Orbs Have Power sits in fourth place in the Gateway's hockey pool. With the playoffs on the horizon, Ross Prusakowski holds a slim, onepoint lead on Jake Troughton for first, and Chloé Fedio's gaffers sit six back of Jake in third. Holding the last three playoff spots are me, Adam Gaumont and Keith Vandersluis, respectively, but Dan Kaszor sits only one point out in seventh. RATT manager Dave Young sits in last, and is already selling off his team, dealing Martin Havlat and Daniel Briere in the

Now, we all know the Bible is no laughing matter, but that's not going to stop my team from both sodomizing and gamorrahizing Mike Kendrick in our matchup this week. We're not talking a few measely fires either: Martin St Louis, Ilya Kovalchuk and company are going to rain down sulfur on his ass. They'll be replacing their sticks with metaphorical flaming swords. Fantasy sports are supposed to be good for you, but I can't think of any way that flaming swords and sulfur rain could be healthy. Maybe they were referring to winning at fantasy sports. Not that