

Bears take come-from-behind win for Danyluk

Down 2-0 to Thunderbirds on Sunday, volleyball team rallies behind assistant coach to complete weekend sweep, stay undefeated on the season

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

While acting as head coach this weekend, Bears volleyball assistant coach Dale Johns was given quite a scare, but Alberta (14-0) recovered from two sets behind Sunday afternoon to down the visiting UBC Thunderbirds 3-2, an identical final score to Saturday afternoon's opening game.

After UBC (11-5) won the first two sets Sunday, it looked like the Bears would suffer their first conference loss of the season, but Alberta stormed back to win the next two sets to tie the match 2-2. The fifth and deciding set required extra points, but Alberta eventually won 18-16, sending players and coaches flooding onto the court in relief over a victory stolen right from under the wings of the 'Birds.

"My heart is still racing a little bit, especially after the third and fourth sets [when we came back to tie it]," Johns said after the game. "We knew that we could come back, it was just whether we could keep it going. I give all the credit to the guys—to give UBC a two-set lead is a hard thing to come back from, but we did it. I'm extremely proud of those guys."

UBC head coach Richard Schick, a former Golden Bear player, was quite frustrated that his squad had Alberta by the neck with a 2-0 lead, but then

blew the last three sets.

"It was a battle this weekend and we played well, but we didn't play well enough to get the result we wanted," Schick noted after Sunday's heartbreaker. "We were in total control of the match, but they battled and we didn't battle back. We played well at times, but we didn't perform well when it counted."

"We definitely wanted to do this for Terry. We wanted to show him that the work he's put in this year and all the years he's been here is paying off."

DALE JOHNS
BEARS ASSISTANT COACH

UBC has played David to Alberta's Goliath in recent years and is the only team to beat the Green and Gold in each of the last two regular seasons. Because his team has had success against strong Alberta clubs in past years and came close to a win this weekend, Schick voiced optimism about UBC's performance and alluded to a possible playoff match later in the season.

"We've beat [Alberta] before, so we know they're beatable," he said. "Given that they're the number one team in the country and we're the number six team in the country, I'm pretty confident in what we can do if we play them again."

Johns was acting as head coach for Terry Danyluk, who was attending to family matters. He noted that the Bears wanted to win the games this weekend for their coach and to prove the impact he's had on his current squad.

"We definitely wanted to do this for Terry. We wanted to show him that the work he's put in this year and all the years he's been here is paying off. You want to come out and show that the training and coaching that we've done is paying off," Johns said. "The players know that Golden Bears volleyball means a lot to Terry and they wanted to show it to everyone else who came out."

Bears' right side Joel Schmuland led the team in kills both Saturday and Sunday with 19 and 26 respectively, and continues to lead the conference in that category. Schick noted that it was Schmuland's performance that really gave the Bears the edge on Sunday.

"Alberta had one guy that played amazing today and that was their right-side," he said. "We couldn't stop one guy and that cost us the match today."



ANDREW RURAK

FOUR ARMS ARE BETTER THAN TWO Ben Saxton (16) and Tim Gourlay (14) team up to return a serve against UBC during Sunday's comeback victory.



PETE YEE

LIKE A THIEF IN THE NIGHT The Huskies kept Ashley Wigg (white) out of the paint, but couldn't keep the Artful Dodger out of their locker room on Saturday.

Huskies locker room burglarized during win over Pandas Saturday

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

While Saskatchewan Huskies forward Sarah Crooks was racking up a pair of steals against the Pandas basketball squad Saturday night, a different kind of thief was in the Huskies locker room, making off with some of Crooks and her teammates' belongings.

Saskatchewan was set up in P-153 in the Van Vliet Centre during their weekend series against Alberta, and during Saturday's contest—a game the Huskies won 73-67—the room was entered and cash and valuables were taken.

"I had a digital camera stolen and about 50 bucks in cash, but it seemed selective—one row of people didn't have anything taken, some people had their whole wallets taken, some people had just the cash taken," Crooks said.

When the Huskies returned to their room after the game, they found the door still locked, but after maintenance had unlocked it for them, they discovered some of their belongings were missing and others, such as clothes, were shuffled about. Since P-153 is quite a trek from the Main Gym, the Huskies didn't go back to their locker room during halftime, so

it's unsure when during the game the theft took place.

"It seemed to still be locked, but we noticed that everything—cameras, iPods, cash—was gone," Saskatchewan guard Ashley Dutchak said. "If you know the doors are locked, then you definitely don't expect that."

"These are expensive possessions, and it's just so disappointing when you trust that your things are fine, and you don't expect something like that to happen."

SARAH CROOKS
HUSKIES FORWARD

"Hopefully everyone can get things settled, because it's just a pain when people are losing their social insurance cards and Visa cards and having to phone and cancel everything."

"These are expensive possessions, and it's just so disappointing when you trust that your things are fine, and

you don't expect something like that to happen," Crooks added.

Campus Security is still investigating, but operations manager Al Belanger explained that they have very little to go on.

"There's always a chance, but [as of now] there are no suspects—nobody seen going in, nobody seen coming out. It's just one of those mysteries," he said, also noting that the area of the facility being used as a locker room isn't a high risk area and that there hasn't been an incident of this kind in recent memory.

The unfortunate pilfering overshadowed an important weekend for both teams. Saturday's Saskatchewan win coupled with Friday's 77-49 Alberta victory left both teams tied atop the Central Division with four games left to play. However, Alberta holds the head-to-head tiebreaker based on scoring six more points than the Huskies in the four matchups between the two teams this season.

"It's huge [to take the tiebreaker] considering we've lost a bunch of games this term. We've had a chance since the end of last term to put them away, and we haven't, so to get that is great for us," Pandas head coach Scott Edwards said.