



PETE YEE

**THE STANLEY PUCK** Dylan Stanley scored on Friday against Regina, and the winning goal against Calgary on Sunday.

# Bears win games, lose captain

Alberta men's hockey team emerge from gruelling three-game weekend in first place with six more points, but without Canada West's top defenceman

ROBIN COLLUM  
Sports Editor

Though the Bears hockey team went undefeated this weekend, one important loss on Saturday night could end up much bigger than the wins. Alberta not only defeated the Regina Cougars on Friday and Saturday, and the Calgary Dinos (10-7-4) in a make-up game on Sunday night, but lost Harlan Anderson, the best defenceman in the country, to a knee injury on Saturday night.

Alberta (18-3-2) played two strong games against Regina (8-11-3), notching a 4-2 win on Friday night and much tighter 3-2 shootout victory on Saturday.

With barely a minute left to go in the third period on Saturday, fifth-year defenceman Anderson was injured in an seemingly-innocent scramble for the puck by the boards. The team captain had to be helped off the ice with a dislocated right kneecap.

Anderson, who leads Canada West defencemen in points and is fourth overall in Canada West in points and goals, will be out of the lineup indefinitely.

That night, the Bears were facing a 2-0 deficit at the end of the first, but a goal from Jesse Gimblett in the second period and another from Derek Ryan in the third evened out the score. The two teams battled it out through overtime, but Ryan, a first-year forward, scored the deciding point in the shootout.

"[Regina is] a tough team to play against," Bears head coach Eric Thurston said. "They play a very stingy, life-sucking hockey and capitalize on

your mistakes.

"When a team like that is able to score first, and even get a couple, they can really be stifling."

It was a marked change from the previous evening, when the Bears were consistently up by at least two goals and forced Alberta to concentrate on their offence.

**"There's a possibility that we could play these guys in the playoffs and in our rink, so we wanted to send a message that we don't lose in the Clare Drake, and I think we accomplished that."**

**DYLAN STANLEY**  
BEARS CENTRE

"After the first period, we just focused on winning each period," Ryan said. "We did that in the second period; we came back 2-1, and we had the same outlook going into the third."

However, the most significant issue coming out of the game wasn't Alberta proving they have the ability to come back for a win, but how the Bears will be able to manage without Anderson as a leader on the ice.

"Other guys will have to step up, but you just don't replace Harlan," Thurston said. "He's been probably one of the best players in the country, not just on our team, and you don't have a lot of

defencemen with that much offence. It's not going to be easy."

The Bears had their first chance to see how they played without their captain on Sunday night, when they took on the Dinos, a team that swept Alberta last weekend in Calgary. The Bears were able to reassert their dominance, however, by beating them 5-3 on Sunday.

"Redemption was probably the key for us," Bears centre Dylan Stanley said. "There's a possibility that we could play these guys in the playoffs and in our rink, so we wanted to send a message that we don't lose in the Clare Drake, and I think we accomplished that."

Key to the Bears' win was their penalty-killing abilities. Though Alberta players were given ten penalties throughout the game—double those incurred by the Dinos—they allowed only one power-play goal. They also managed to kill a pair of two-man advantages for Calgary.

"Our penalty-killing was great. It's something we've been trying to work on all year," Stanley said. "Usually our power-play's our strong play, but I think tonight the [penalty kill] really won us the game."

While playing without Anderson was hardly easy for Alberta, they're trying to fill that hole as well as they can on his behalf.

"He's the core of our team—he's the guy that everybody looks to, and he's had a career year. He's been an all-star for us. But at the same time, we want to win for him," Stanley said. "He's been there for us all year, and it's our turn to win for him."

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