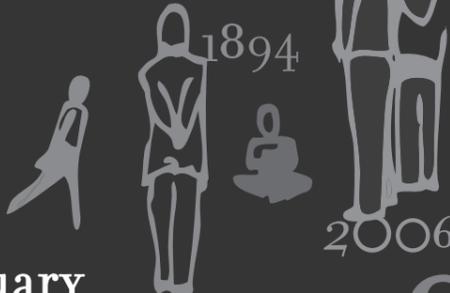




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SPORTS SHORTS

By Robin Collum

No-show Friday, big show Saturday

When I heard the final score for Friday's women's basketball game—that the UBC Thunderbirds (19-2) had walloped the Pandas (15-5) 86-49—I was completely flabbergasted. Sure, the T-Birds, who are in second place in the Pacific division after Simon Fraser, were favourites going into the game, but certainly not by that much, and the whole thing was highly unusual for the Pandas, who have otherwise been having a good season and are tied for first in Canada West's Central division.

The Pandas recovered from the setback the next night, however, and beat the University of Victoria 86-81 in overtime. Forward Trish Ariss led the game in scoring with 26 points—more than half of the entire team's score the night before—and point guard Ashley Wigg was right behind with 21.

B-ball Bears devour T-Birds

As their female counterparts were dropping the ball, the Bears (14-6) were putting it in the net this weekend. They tipped off against UBC (16-5) on Friday night, winning 75-70. UBC was ranked fifth nationally going into the weekend—Alberta wasn't even in the top ten—and have clinched the first-place spot in the Pacific division, so the win is especially impressive.

On Saturday night, the Bears took on the Vikes (13-8) and won 60-58; 27 of those came from fifth-year guard Alex Steele, who led the game in scoring once again—he had done so on Friday night as well, putting up a 29-point performance.



THE UBYSSEY

AT SIXES AND SEVENS Alberta guard Ashley Wigg tries to get by UBC's Erica McGuinness on Friday night. Wigg only put up two points that game, however.

More West Coast wins

The Canada West-leading Pandas hockey team (19-2-1) was on the coast this weekend too, enjoying Vancouver's cloudy skies and mind-numbing drizzle and beating the fifth-place UBC Thunderbirds (6-15-3) twice.

On Friday night, the two teams went all the way to a shootout, but Miranda Miller supplemented Alana Cabana and Katie Borbely's regulation goals and won the game 3-2 for the Pandas.

Saturday night wasn't such a nail-biter, as the Pandas were up 3-0 by the end of the second period—thanks to a natural hat trick from Lindsay Robinson—and held on to that for the rest of the game.

With these victories, the Pandas have all but secured the first-place spot in Canada West.

Saskatchewan shootout casualties

Last but not least, the Bears hockey team (20-3-2) was on the road this weekend as well. They swept a series against their long-time conference rivals, the Saskatchewan Huskies (16-4-6), and clinched first place in Canada West in the process.

On Friday night, the Bears won 5-4 in a shootout, while Saturday night's game was a more decisive 3-1 victory for Alberta. Ian MacDonald scored the shootout winner Friday.

Underpant buddies!

Motto and I have matching underwear today! Actually, he's got boxers on, and I'm wearing fancy boyshorts, but they're both grey, so it almost counts.



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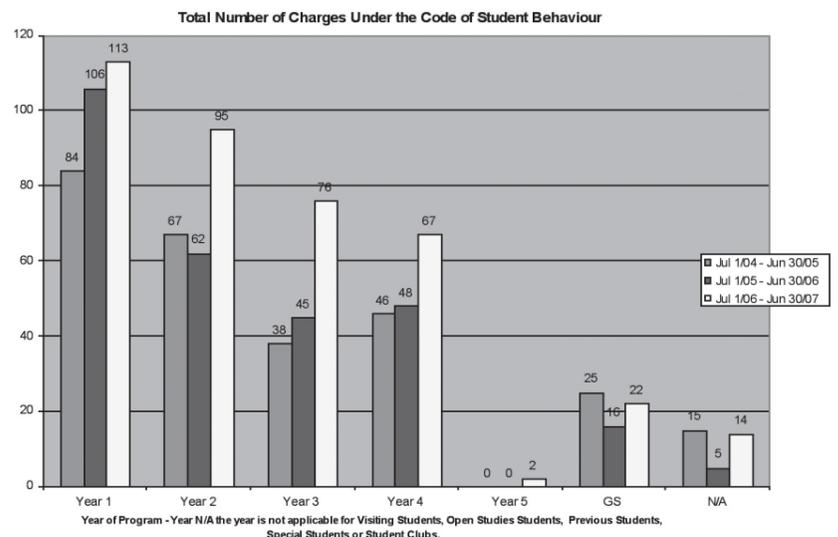
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