

ORAL HISTORY 01-83-05-06

Ric Shafer, John Estle, Bill Smith, Al Svenningson, and Fran Buckless

Fairbanks, Alaska

1983

Steve Lay

University Focus series

Ric Shafer talked about coming off a very successful hockey season last year with 19 wins and seven losses. All of the team is returning with the exception of one that graduated. There will be six new players joining the team. Their outlook is good. The players are more experienced after one year. They are a little bit stronger and faster after working out hard during the summer. They are an established team now and are no longer the underdogs. Their success will depend upon the same determination the players had last year. They have a stronger schedule this year. They have already played a few games against the University of Michigan team. They will be playing against the Mankato State team. They will also be playing against Anchorage, Concordia College, and ten games in the Midwest. The coach said they have a high quality team and are looking forward to the season. He talked about playing against the Anchorage team and their team's composition. He said they have made a few refinements to their power play. They will probably use the same game plans as last year. Doug Desorsia was a member of the All-American Team. J.P. Dedosichek, Shaun Jones, Steve Morry, and Eric Stokes are members of the offensive team. He talked about the defense members. He said their goal is to be the best college hockey team. He said they had record attendance at the ice arena recently.

John Estle talked about the men's and women's ski teams. He said their top male skier from last year is gone. They had a young team last year and he said this year they have a little more experience and training. Ian White is skiing well this year. Karen Evolvson and Donna Devoe are skiers on the ski team. He talked about the new skiers this year. Returning skiers on the men's team include Ian White, Marcus Watterus, Grant Meekins, Steve Kenponen, Andy White, Tim Hill, Tom Lane, Jim Loman, and Dan McGill. He talked about predictions for the year. He said qualifications are slanted towards the Rocky Mountain teams. He hopes to qualify several men and women for the NCAAs. He talked about their schedule for the upcoming season.

Bill Smith talked about the shooting team ranking. Members of the team include John Sarna, Jerry Mustard, Rex Clothier, and Brian Lew. He talked about going to nationals with the air rifle. He talked about the points needed to make it to the nationals. They have competed in San Francisco, Cincinnati, and in Kentucky this season. He said the top schools are on the east coast.

Al Svenningson talked about improvement in the basketball team. He said they have only three returning players and it takes a while to adjust to new members. They have strength in depth, height, their quickness at guard, and perimeter shooting. He said you prepare for competition against the quality teams. He thinks they have a good chance to do well. He talked about competing teams in the

conference including Anchorage. He discusses the members on the team including Stanley Miller, Dantie Miller, Bob Averill, Bruce Noonan, Todd Mazulo, Mike Bruce, Tom Vanderweedy, Brent Spielman, and Tom Welly. They will be going more to an inside game. He hopes their offense will be established early. He talked about the three point play and a shot clock. He talked about Robert Silvas in the guard spot. He is enthusiastic about his players this year. He talked about the upcoming alumni game.

Fran Buckless talked about the upcoming year for the women's basketball team. They had a good recruiting season. She talked about their strengths for the year. They have exceptional outside shooters this year. Their weakness is their defense and they have been stressing to their players that it is what helps to win games. Some of this year's players: Christy Flores, Penny Mallett, Kim Drews, Laney Wheeler, and Susan Harvey. She discussed the team situation. She said you can beat an individual but you can't beat a team. Her philosophy is you do what you have to do to win. She felt they had more flexibility than the previous year. They have one of the tougher game schedules. They will be playing some division one and two schools. She talked about the win-loss and her personal goals as a coach. She would like to get the community and student body more involved in the program.