

1996 - 1997 Golden Bears Volleyball



1996-97 ROSTER

Number	First Name	Last Name	Position
1	Doug	Bruce	Setter
2	Clint	Millard	Middle
3	Murray	Grapentine	Middle
4	Adrian	Fairey	Setter
5	Derek	Nicoll	Power
6	Nathan	Bennett	Middle
7	Dan	Harding	Power
8	Blair	Miller	Right Side
9	Trevor	Jones	Middle
10	Scott	Emslie	Power
11	Mike	Sieben	Right Side
12	Scott	Findlay	Middle
13	Richard	Schick	Power
14	Mark	Fleeton	Right Side
15	Chad	Hatala	Power

Head Coach	Terry	Danyluk	
Assistants	Gord	Bocock	
	Dale	Johns	

1996-97 Canada West Standings

<i>Men</i>	MP	MW	ML	SW	SL	Pts
Alberta	14	14	0	42	4	28
Saskatchewan	14	10	4	33	16	20
Calgary	14	7	7	22	25	14
UBC	14	6	8	22	28	12
Victoria	14	1	13	9	40	2

Season Recap:

Coming off their second-straight Canada West title, the 1996-97 Golden Bears volleyball team was poised to finally breakthrough, and win their first CIAU title since 1981. Alberta lost the national final to the defending champion Manitoba Bisons in four sets in 1995/96, but quickly erased all memory of the tough defeat by storming out to an 8-0 conference record before the 1996 Winter semester break.

The Golden Bears continued to roll through the second-half of the Canada West season, finishing with a perfect 14-0 record, while dropping only four sets all season. With the overall No. 1 seed locked up, the Golden Bears earned the right to host the Saskatchewan Huskies in the conference final, a team they beat twice in the regular season.

Despite entering the final as the heavy underdog, the Huskies were able to win the first match in the best-of-three series 3-2 (15-10, 15-5, 12-15, 13-15, 15-12). Alberta was able to respond, however, winning the next two matches in four sets, clinching their third-straight Canada West Title, and fifth title overall.

The Bears would carry their momentum into the CIAU National Tournament, cruising through Wilfred Laurier and Winnipeg in straight-sets to advance to the national final. With the first title in 15 years at stake, Alberta didn't disappoint, getting past Dalhousie with ease (3-0), earning the program's second-ever national title. The win would also signal the beginning of the Bears dominance in the CIS, which saw them win six more championships in 20 years.

1996-97 Canada West Awards

MVP: Doug Bruce, Alberta

Rookie of the Year: mark Zachiaras, Sask.

Coach of the Year: Terry Danyluk, Alberta

TSN Award: Mike Sieben, Alberta