

sports

Joe's "arrival" sparks Bear victory

by Darrell Semenuk

Joe Poplawski wasn't asking for much. It was a simple request, actually. "I have to get the ball in the first quarter," explained the second year flanker for the Golden Bears.

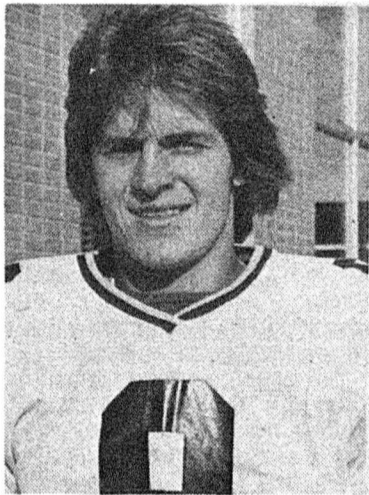
"In our first two games I wasn't getting a pass thrown my way until the second quarter and I was so cold that I'd drop it."

Well, quarterback Brian Larsen acceded to Poplawski's wishes, he did throw to him early in the first quarter, and he continued throwing to him.

It turned out that Poplawski was so popular he ended up catching 9 passes for a total of 186 yards, and two touchdowns. In all, Poplawski accounted for 18 of Alberta's 24 points as they overwhelmed the University of Manitoba Bisons 24-3, Friday afternoon in Winnipeg.

Poplawski added that the players got together earlier in the week for a heart-to-heart talk to iron out some problems before their crucial game against the Bisons.

"We had a little get together and talked about some things and got our beefs out. It really helped."



Joe Poplawski

Bears went into the game with a total of nine changes in their starting lineup from the team that lost to Saskatchewan a week earlier in Edmonton. Those changes were necessitated by injuries and shuffling of personnel due to the limited travelling roster of 30 bodies.

The key change was Dave Zacharko moving into Dennis Blond's middle linebacker spot. Blond missed Friday's game with a knee injury. Zacharko, who is in his first year with the Bears, after playing two seasons with the

Junior Wildcats, filled in admirably for Blond. So well, in fact, that the coaching staff and players alike had nothing but praise for the 20-year-old rookie.

Two particular areas of the game pleased head coach Jim Donlevy. "There were two things I was really impressed with," smiled Donlevy. "One was Dave Zacharko, who played a hell of a game. He controlled their ground game. The other thing that I was pleased with is that Larsen had a bad first half but at half time he got his head together again. The defence kept us together until our offence got together."

Manitoba actually got on the scoreboard first with a 28 yard field goal by Dave Pearson. That effort was set up by a gutsy third down call by quarterback Bud Harden. With less than a yard to go on the Alta. 51, Harden faked an inside handoff and threw a quick look-in that went for 31 yards to the Alta. 20. That lone field goal proved to be the only points the stubborn Alberta defence would give up all afternoon.

The ironic thing is that for a time it looked like the Bear offence wasn't going to generate any points itself.

Alberta started its most dangerous drive on the Manitoba 31 yard line, after a 13 yard punt by Pearson. Three running plays later the Bears had a first down on the Man. three. Larsen then threw what he described as "a bad pass" intended for Dalton Smarsh, which was picked off by Bison safety Brian Tomchuk. It was just one week earlier at home against the Sask. Huskies that Larsen had been intercepted 4 times, with the Bears committing 8 turnovers in all.

The interception did shake Larsen considerably. "It did bother me quite a bit," admitted Larsen. "When we move all the way down the field and don't score, it hurts."

The Bear defence held the Bisons and forced them to give the ball up deep in their own end, Alberta taking over on the Bison 33.

Then Alberta turnovers con-

tinued, with Larsen fumbling after being dropped for a loss. It began to look as though costly turnovers would again spell doom for the Bears.

Backup quarterback Bruce Elzinga relieved Larsen for one series, with the first half ending up with Manitoba still holding its slim 3 point margin.

Larsen regained his composure and passing in the second ½, and went strictly to Poplawski the Bears opening score. Larsen ran four plays, all passes to Poplawski, completing 3 of them, culminating in a spectacular 8 yard leaping catch at the goal line by the Alta. flanker. The convert by Poplawski was good and Bears were ahead to stay.

But the Larsen-Poplawski spectacle wasn't over yet. In fact the best was yet to come. After Poplawski added a 27 yard field goal, and a convert on Smarsh's yard TD run to make it 17-3, the devastating duo closed with a fitting finale to their aerial extravaganza.

Larsen hit Poplawski with a perfect strike, with the flanker going in for the 64 yard major, dramatically spiking the ball at final curtain call to the audience. Poplawski added the convert to his 18th point, and a fitting climax to what had to be his best day in Golden Bear uniform.

Brian Fryer is gone, but Donlevy announced after the game, "Joe has arrived."

The Yardsticks

	Alberta	Manitoba
First downs	22	12
Yards rushing	93	115
Yards passing	322	170
Net offence	415	285
Passes made-trying	21-34	11-21
Interceptions	3	1
Punts-average	9-38.5	11-31.8
Fumbles-lost	3-3	5-3
Penalties-yards	5-60	5-50

Individual rushing: Alberta: Smarsh 15-81, Gullekson 5-3
Manitoba: Hysop 7-36, Mackay 7-36

Individual receiving: Alberta: Poplawski 9-186, Cyncar 4-50.
Manitoba: Ledyard 5-119, Bone 2-20

Fateful game upcoming

If the U of A Golden Bears football team ever had one game that would decide their fate, their upcoming encounter against the U of Calgary Dinosaurs is it. Jim Donlevy, coach of the Bears, states quite simply that "We need that game badly. We must win in Calgary."

Bears will be without the services of defensive lineman Lorne DeGroot for at least the

Wednesday night game. It is expected that DeGroot will be recovered from his ankle injury to see action when the two teams meet at Varsity stadium on Saturday.

The good news out of the Golden Bear office was that middle linebacker Dennis Blond will not have to have an operation on his knee, and may see action on Sat. against the Dinosaurs.

Rookies to join Vets

by Keith Steinbach

Last week the U of A Bears Basketball team held their 'newcomers' camp. The players were not the only new faces, though. First year coach Gary Smith was also at his first training camp of this kind. He and his new assistant coach, Brent Foster went through the ritual of hectic practices and cutting down the roster.

Coach Smith had to make his first tough decision on Friday when he selected eight newcomers from the forty who came out. These eight will then attend the Bear's main camp on Oct. 8. His picks were Scott Lawrie, a

member of the team two years ago; Jerry Shockey, who has played with the Jr. Bears, Pat Rooney from Oregon, Red Deer College's leading scorer, Murray McLean, Calgarians Monty Leavitt and Bill Sefcik, Jim Bonin from Medicine Hat, and native Edmontonian Dave Duncan.

From last year's team there should be about eight returnees including Doug Baker, the team's leading scorer in 1975-76. Bain McMillan and Dave Holland will not be back as they have used up their eligibility. Len Daviduk has quit university and Colin Fennell and Doug Lucas might not come out in an effort to improve on

their marks. Mark Jorgensen, however, is expected to try out. He is a 6'6" transfer student who worked out with the Bears during the last half of last season. He comes with a good rating from former coach Barry Mitchell.

If cutting down the roster was tough then, arriving at the final roster will be even tougher. Smith did say that, "I do not keep any player who is weak on defence." For those who do make the Varsity team, there is still uncertainty as to the existence of a Jr. Bears team. "We have to find some money for it because it's not in the budget," stated Smith.

Coach Smith also indicated that there will be a change in style of play this year. "There will be more of the fast break pressure defence this year," he also indicated that conditioning will be a key part of his team's success this year and was pleased with the shape of all the players who came to camp.

The height problem in the center will only be slightly improved. It is hoped that the problem will be countered by speed and team play.

Sports Quiz

Answers page 16

- Bryan Trottier broke the NHL record for most assists in one year, which was 52. Who held that record of 52? (hint: he played for Minnesota in his rookie yr.) (5pts)
- Lou Brock holds the major league record for most stolen bases in 1 year, the year was 1974. How many bases did he swipe? a) 104 b) 112 c) 115 d) 118 (2pts)
- In what city did Ali capture the heavyweight championship when he defeated Sonny Liston? a) Lewiston, Maine b) New York c) Las Vegas d) Miami (3pts)
- Name the two NBA teams that Oscar Robertson played for. (2pts)
- Which one of these NFL running backs did not rush for at least 1,000 yards in 1975? a) Lydell Mitchell b) Dave Hampton c) Jim Otis d) Terry Metcalf (3pts)
- Who holds the NHL record for most career hat tricks? (2pts)
- Which NHL player holds the record for most goals by a rookie? (3pts)
- What Boston Red Sox pitcher won the Cy Young award in 1967? (3pts)
- Match the city to their respective ball park. (5pts)

1. Municipal Stadium	a) Cincinnati
2. Fenway Park	b) St. Louis
3. Candlestick Park	c) Cleveland
4. Busch Stadium	d) Boston
5. Riverfront Stadium	e) San Francisco
- What is the CFL record for most points scored by one team in a single quarter? a) 21 b) 27 c) 35 d) 41 (2pts)

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