

Bisons provide . . .

. . . opposition

Bears Hurting For League Opener

By Barry Rust

Is it possible for a football team to lose four all-stars, six regulars in all, start the season minus two more all-conference men and expect to regain the league championship?

University of Alberta Golden Bears will attempt to answer this question in the positive when they join forces with University of Manitoba Bisons to pry off the lid of a new year tomorrow at Varsity Grid.

Despite evidence presented by such cases as Edmonton Eskimos and Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Gino Fracas believes it can be done and he presents an impressive array of arguments in the personage of new football players to support his stand.

Gone from the team that tied with University of British Columbia Thunderbirds for the league title last year are stalwarts Bill Zuk, Bill Duncan, Rod Esper, Jim Christoff, Tom Leslie, and Harry Fedun.

Added to this, Bert Carron, the league's leading rusher and all-star fullback is out indefinitely with a badly bruised back along with end Denny O'Donnel, who has a leg injury. Gary Smith, who threw and completed more passes for more yardage and a better passing percentage than any other quarterback last year, still rates as a doubtful starter.

BOLSTER LINE-UP

In an attempt to plug the gaps, Fracas has added four ballplayers from the defending Canadian Junior Champion Edmonton Huskies: guards Bruce Switzer and Paul Bradley, fullback Clarence Koshman and safety Gord Willans who join three

other experienced rookies: end Ron Finch, late of Drake University, Jim Watson, a linebacker from Mount Royal Junior College, and ex-Calgary Wrangler guard Mike Stanford. The latter two have particularly impressed the Bear mentor.

Also two players from Edmonton high school ranks, tackle Bob Bennet of Ross Sheppard and end Al Shaw have made their appearance felt. Both boys are in line for starting jobs tomorrow, Bennet on the defensive wall and Shaw as the offensive right end.

ALL-STARS RETURN

Returnees include center-linebacker Gary Naylor, fullback Irvin Strif-

job," Fracas praised, "and I don't think we will have too many problems should Smith be unable to play."

BISONS IMPROVED

Meanwhile the Bisons, reputed to be greatly improved over the third place team a year ago, enter Varsity Grid fresh from a 31-10 drubbing of Kingston Royal Military College and armed with a football coach well accustomed to producing winners. The head buffalo is George Duprees, who coached Winnipeg Rods to five Canadian junior finals, and he has bolstered his club with former Manitoba-Saskatchewan junior gridders.

"It should be a better balanced league this year," coach Fracas commented, "one in which I don't feel there will be an easy ball game for us. "I think we have a strong and exciting club this year and I just hope the fans think so too, for we need their whole-hearted support."

*September 28	U of M at U of A
October 5	U of A at U of S
*October 12	U of S at U of A
October 19	U of A at UBC
October 26	U of A at U of M
*November 2	UBC at U of A

* Home Games.

Hockey Bears Set Practices

All hockey players, great and small (Frosh included), will be battling for cherished positions on the senior and junior university hockey teams on Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 4:30 p.m. in room 124 of the Physical Education Building.

The bears are sharpening their claws and gritting their teeth in eager anticipation of the conflict against old enemies.

UBC Feb. 14 and 15
U of M Feb. 28 and 29

In the past, the bears have thrilled the spectators with their skating skill and puck manipulation. This year's team will continue the high standard.

Registering players will be given additional information regarding practises which are expected to begin Oct. 8. Players unable to attend the Oct. 2 meeting may fill in a registration form in advance at the physical education general office.

All hungry frosh go to the Civic Reception and Steak'n'Stomp

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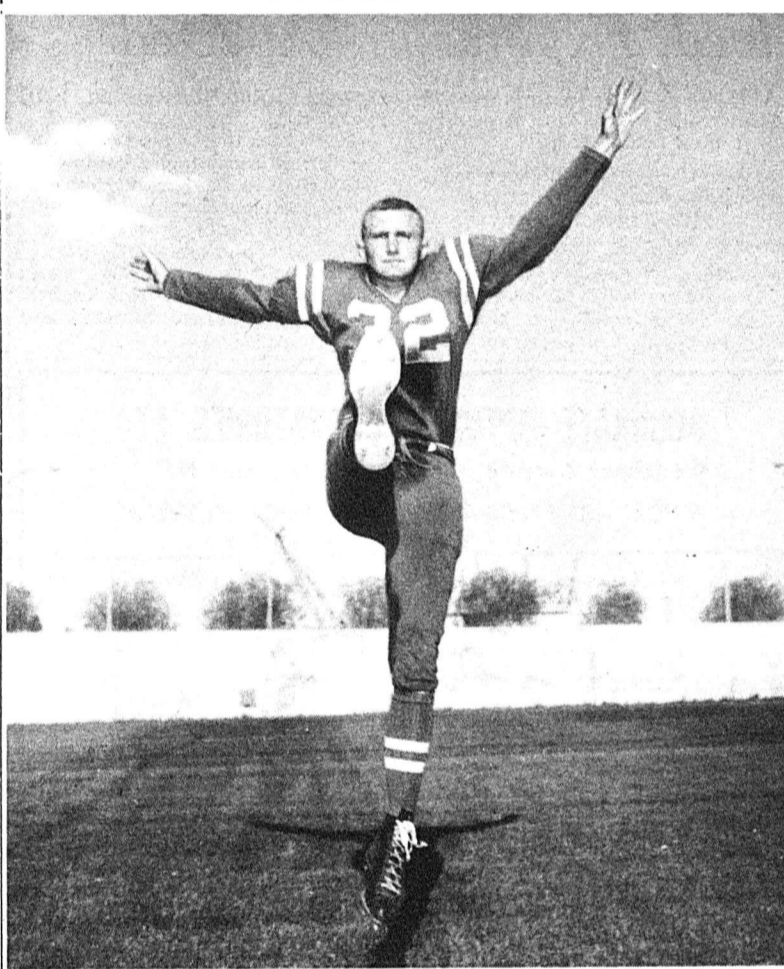


VIC MESSIER

ler and all-stars Ken Nielsen, WCI AU's leading receiver last season and placement kicking Ron Marteniuk who will switch from his guard slot to a tackle on the offensive line.

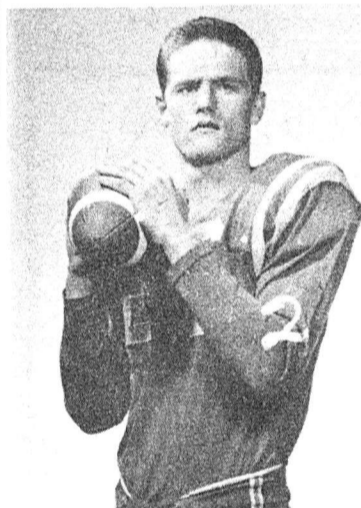
Status of Smith probably won't be decided until just prior to game time. Back-up man Willie Algajer and safety Willans have been conducting the Bear attack in his absence and both appear to have the essentials.

"They're doing a real excellent



GARRY SMITH

. . . injured all-star quarterback



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