

Gateway Sports



Bill Kankewitt ... on football

Edmonton, Alberta
November 13, 1968

Coach Henry Janzen
Manitoba Bisons
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dear Coach Janzen,

Curse you Henry Janzen and your Manitoba Bisons. You burst our bubble.

How could you do a thing like that to us? We were the defending national champions and had the best team in the country.

We were supposed to host the Western College Bowl and because of your self-centred greediness our own team won't even be playing in it. I don't think this is very nice.

Your team should have been seen this year but not herd. Hell, you only had six veterans returning. Are you feeding your players bennies?

What lies did you tell your players? They knew that the Bears were unbeatable. What kind of guff and false courage did you fill them with? Have you no coaching ethics?

People laughed all year at that fat 400 pound blob of nothing that you persisted in playing on the defensive line. You weren't so dumb Henry. I bet I'm the only outsider who realized that you actually had two 200 pound halfbacks strapped together. I'd make a lot of tackles too if I had four arms.

And that puny kid with the black horn rimmed glasses that you use as a quarterback. I'll bet you discovered him in a free reading class at St. Boniface High. Does his mother know that you've got him associating with a bunch of ruffians?

Don't your players read the national ratings? Didn't they realize that the Bears were the number one team in the nation? Couldn't they be content with being number two and trying harder?

Henry Janzen you are a low down good for nothing party pooper.

Didn't you realize that we had a swell victory party all set up? Hec, I even had a hot chick lined up and everything. Have you ever tried to promote a broad at a wake?

And all that beer that we had for the victory party. I'll bet you it will all go flat by the time we have a chance to drink it. What a waste Henry.

Didn't it enter your mind that your beating the Bears would have severe emotional consequences on our young players? Why poor Terry Lampert was so shook up after the game that he forgot to shake hands with your players.

You are a rat fink Henry Janzen.

Regretfully yours,
Joe Q. Fan

P.S. Good luck Sunday against Queens. Beat the hell out of them and show'em you're the best in the land.

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Defeat is tough to stomach

It's much easier
being a winner

By RICH VIVONE

Since mid-summer, people who claim to know about college football have been mentioning the potential greatness of the Golden Bears' football team. Not a great western team—but a great Canadian team.

If anyone asked about this, names like Speer, Bird, Wray, Daubner, Finch, Lampert, Schneider were heard. The breeze went on endlessly.

For most part, the team believed these words and played like they owned every football in the country. The Bears won two exhibition games handily and five league games in a row.

Then two Saturdays ago, some of the Bears began to have faint suspicions of their alleged greatness. Last Saturday, they discovered they definitely weren't the greatest team in the country; they weren't even the greatest in the west.

The Manitoba Bisons are. They are because they beat Alberta on consecutive Saturdays and they beat where it hurts the most—right at home in front of a jammed stadium.

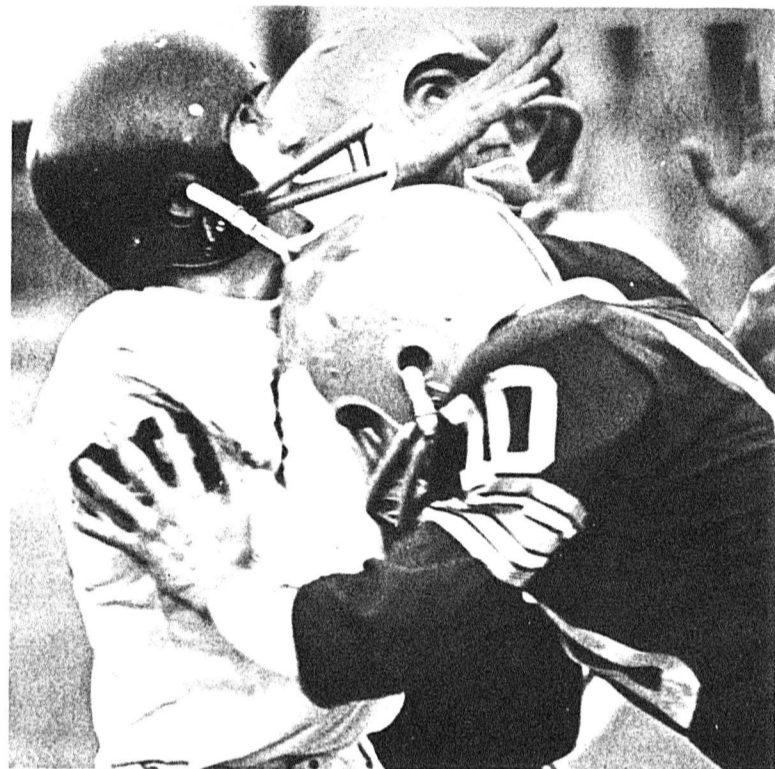
WHO IS TO BLAME?

When a team is beaten by a superior opposition, the losers tend to sit around the dressing room and criticize their mates. But when a team is beaten by a club they believe to be inferior, the losers sit around and blame themselves individually.

It would be easy to see Terry Lampert blaming himself for throwing about a half dozen passes into the dirt when their destined receivers were open. Or Bob Schmidt dropping a desperation Manitoba pass. Or Val Schneider cursing himself for being an inch short of a first down on a fake punt play. All of these contributed to the loss.

But the guy who blamed himself more than any of the others was Gene Lobay, the stocky defensive tackle.

Lobay stands less than six feet and last year was voted Bears' best lineman. In case you think this is a small feat, Ed Molstad was on that team and he was a conference all-star for at least three years and this year is a member



PASS INTERFERENCE ON McCAFFERY

... panalties really hurt

of the Eskimos.

In the trainers' room, Lobay sat very quietly and watched another player tear some adhesive tape and drop it on the floor. The scissors were passed to Lobay.

"What's the green substance?" he was asked.

"Lubricant—so it's easier to take the tape off your leg," he said. Lobay had his leg taped from mid thigh to shin. As it came off, the loose skin was apparent. It was soft and mushy and almost slid sideways when touched.

"If you're looking for a goat, he's right here," Lobay said pointing a finger at himself.

Why?

"I blew the big play," he said simply.

How?

"It was on their touchdown," he said. Then he talked of a defensive alignment few people would comprehend.

"Hyrziako (Bisons' halfback) came right through my spot and I was blocked out," he said. "I had a chance to get him but I blew it."

Lobay was still pulling the tape from his leg.

"You can't miss big plays like that and expect to win," he said. And Ray Kelly, a trainer, nodded. So did the player on the table.

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