

# Bear Preview

## The Defensive Secondary

When defensive secondary coach John Belmont watches his gang out on the field this year, one hopes he appreciates music. Because this group of safeties, halfbacks and cornerbacks just might crank out more hits than K-Tel.

Despite losing two excellent backs in Dana Donald and Daryl Rube, this secondary is brimming with talent. Heading the list is Sheldon Weinkauff, a hard hitting W.I.F.L. all star who will line up at Safety. Coach Belmont, by chance, has the type of backs he likes — hitters — and Weinkauff is the prototype. No speed merchants or

giants here, the green and gold secondary this year will be quite content to punish the opponents into submission. Joining Weinkauff in pursuit of opposition receivers are: Quinn Weninger, a third year halfback with potential to be an all-star, and Neil Ferguson at the other halfback spot. Belmont is looking forward to seeing the 6'1" sophomore as a regular following a year as a backup. "He does a lot well and we haven't seen his best yet," says Belmont. And it gets better.

At corner, Belmont has yet another sophomore, but an outstanding one at that. Last year Trent Brown took home silverware as the Bears' outstanding freshman. This year Belmont says, "(Brown) has the potential to be as good a player

as there is at his position." At the other corner is Andrew Ostashower, a former Edmonton Huskie, described as (you guessed it) "a good, tough, physical kid" by Belmont.

Rounding out this fine unit is a great deal of depth: sometimes kicker Derek Waterman, Terry Korte, Peter Wainwright, Todd Matheson, Darryl Szafranski, and Paul St. Pierre. The sleeper this season may be Daryl Grass, also a second year player, and rounding out the group is Andrej Obodzinski, who is trying a comeback after injuries to his knee.

All in all, this part of the club may be the best as a unit and have the greatest potential. They most certainly will be exciting in '86.

## Defensive Line

This year's defensive line is the product of some redoing over the past season. Not a single starter from the '85 opening day lineup remains at the same point this year.

"Thank God!" exclaims defensive coordinator Dan Syrotuik. Perhaps the most disappointing loss from last season was end Jim Clelland, who showed much promise in his rookie season. Gone too is the 300 plus lbs Tom Demeo, an experiment that just never panned out. Bruce Edwards and Bob Allen have both retired due to injuries.

One of the most promising young rookies on the DL is Rick Medcke. Line coach Mark Coffin spotted him at an Eskimo development camp and he will start at one defensive end position this Saturday. Starting Nosetackle Dan Aloisio brings the greatest amount of experience over from last year. He was switched over from offense early in the year last season, and went on to win team awards for Most Valuable Lineman and Most Dedicated Player. The coaching staff actually phone up Dale Mounzer to request his services during a bad injury streak last season, and the 6'4", 243 lbs end turned into a solid starter for the team. Injuries will keep him out for at least the Saskatchewan game.

Fighting it out for the third starting lineman spot in the 3-4 defense will be: Darwin Schweitzer, who played last year as a tight end on offense; Karston Kelm, who at 6'3", 270 lbs is the biggest Golden Bear; Brent Korte; Mark Gibbon; and Connor McCoy.

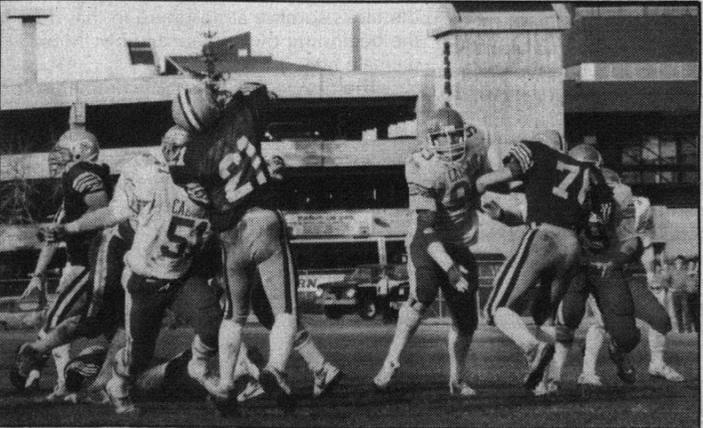


Photo Bill Doskocich

## Receivers

New Bears' receiver coach Brian Fryer has his work cut out for him this season, as he tries to teach many of the skills he honed here at the U of A on his way to becoming one of the best college players in the past 25 years. All the Bears' receivers are either in their first or second year of eligibility, with the exception of 2 sport man (hockey) John Lamb, a third year senior with much of the offensive focus on star runningback Jeff Funtasz. The job this year will be to use the receivers enough to take the pressure off the running game, and provide a balanced attack.

Gone from last year's club are Tim Hamblin, Dan Rousseau (graduated), Todd Wainwright, and Darwin Schweitzer, now a defensive lineman. Brian Cable is out for the year because of a knee injury incurred while playing lacrosse. But the biggest loss has to be Tom Richards, who would have been in his third year of eligibility. He has been an excellent addition to the Edmonton Eskimos.

The story with the inside re-

ceivers is size. Lamb weighs in at a robust 212 pounds and can do it all, pretty much typifying the look that the tightends, slotbacks will give this year. Robin Steward is an ex-Edmonton Huskies and is reunited with his old coach Brian Dickenson. Steward is big as well (6'3" 218 pounds). Along with Brian Forrest (5'11" and 204 pounds), Fryer calls the group "quick, good blockers, fairly good pass route men, with good hands." Steve Camp is the backup.

Outside, the Bears have already been forced to do some re-evaluation. Dave Bolstad, a steady threat from last season, sustained an injury in the season opener versus UBC. His status remains clouded. Tony Peirson lines up at the other side and is a deep threat. He will undoubtedly see much of the action this season. Steve Kasowski, the team's kicker, will also see duty as a wide out. Backups include Roger Jenve, a first year player from Eastglen, Dwayne Donald, a rookie from Strathcona, and Gary Kozackavich, yet another rookie who may see playing time as a slot or a wide receiver.

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