

SPORTS

Bears falter 22-18 in League opener

by Terry Valeriote

Recipe for success:

Season half a cup of talent and experience with one half cup of good coaching; dredge with a generous amount of physical and mental toughness; blend in gradually but continuously, hard work and effort; stir constantly until mixture becomes smooth and uniform.

It was a well-known fact prior to the Saturday's football clash between Bears and University of Saskatchewan Huskies that the U of A team had many of the necessary ingredients for success--talent, experience, and competent coaching.

What remained in doubt was whether the team had the extras needed to form a unit which would once again make them a dominating force in Canadian collegiate football.

Saturday's game, played before 7,000 fans, showed Bears that they hadn't the extras--at least not yet. It wasn't that they played poor football. They just never played consistent football. Save for a couple of physical and mental errors, they could have won the game. The question remains though--why the errors?

Some new members to the team offered possible reasons. They agreed that the pre-season Bear camp was physically the easiest that they had ever attended.

Whereas they had been accustomed to two practices per day over a period of seven to ten days, they experienced this for only two days at the U of A. They were also disillusioned by the attitude of some of the veterans who did not always give 100 per cent effort.

In contrast, U of S coach, Val Schneider, said he had been preparing for this game since last May 14. When pre-season training began, he ran a tough camp of two practices per day for ten days straight. Also, several veterans were cut from the squad because of lazy attitudes during work-outs.

All in all, Huskies were better prepared for this game than Bears. From the opening kick-off, they caught Alberta off guard. On a kick-off reverse play early in the first quarter, Robin Adair returned the ball 60 yards to give Huskies good field position at Bear's 38-yard line.

Husky quarterback Dave Pickett took advantage of the situation and after a successful third down gamble, threw a fly pattern pass to Gary Harris, who



Bears running game was effective as Brian Fryer utilizes stiff blocking to gather part of his 72 yards.

romped 27 yards for the touchdown. Tony Pugliese blocked the convert.

Bears were cold on their initial play series, but Gerald Kunyk later established a strong running game, alternating runs with Dalton Smarsh and Brian Adam.

When Huskies were offside on a successful field goal attempt by Jack Schwartzberg, Bears accepted the penalty, wiping out the field goal. Brian Adam then ran seven yards around Huskies' weak left side for Bear's first score. Schwartzberg converted and the score stood 7-6 Bears at the end of the first quarter.

Pickett's throwing game was amazing. Having completed eight

for eight in the first quarter, he continued to pick away at the Bear defense, keeping it off-balance and concentrating the attack on the linebackers and defensive secondary.

He threw quick down-and-out passes to John Konihowski, angle-in passes to Giles, quick look-in passes to Harris, mixing these up with fine running plays to Bob Guedo.

Pickett initiated a drive which started at the Huskies 18-yard line and ended in a touchdown pass to Konihowski who beat Roger Comartin. The convert was good.

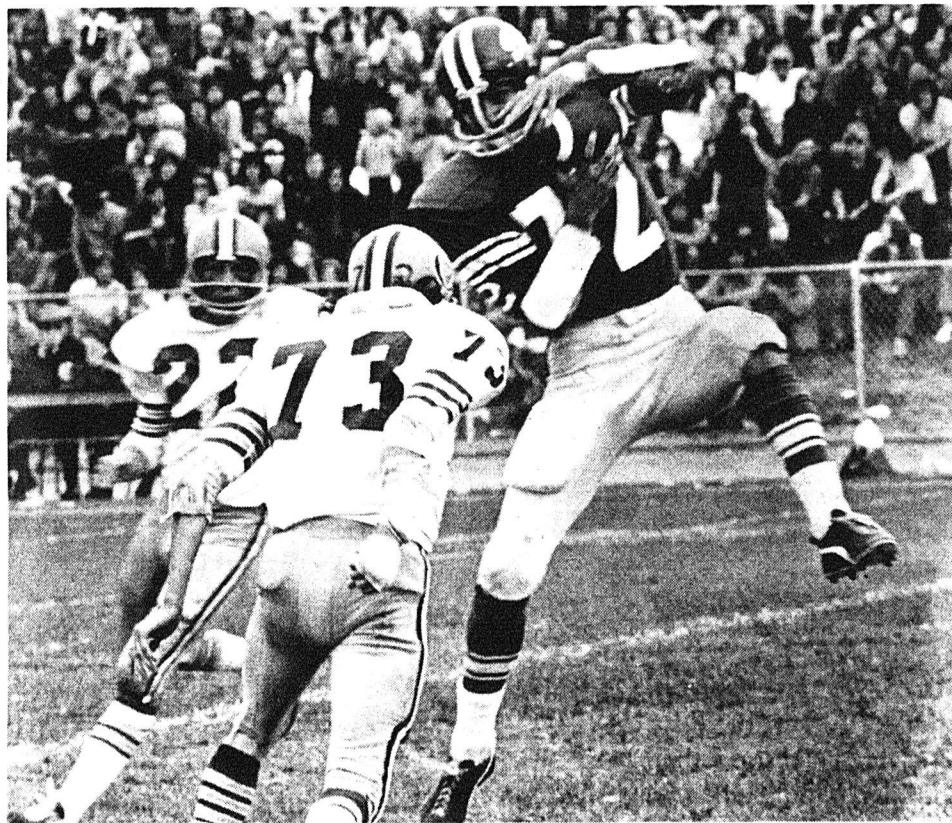
Midway into the second quarter Jamie Steer intercepted one of Pickett's passes. Kunyk again relied on a running game

using Smarsh and Adams and later ran in himself from the one yard line for a touchdown. Schwartzberg converted and Bears led 14-13 with 5:19 remaining in the second quarter. a 15 yard field goal and the Huskies picking up a single point off a third down punt. Pickett completed an outstanding 15 for 19 passes.

Second half strategy for both teams changed. Huskies adjusted to the successful running Adam, who was demolishing the left side of their defense, by moving the ends out and bringing in the corner linebackers.

Consequently Adam's running game was stopped cold

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Leading Receiver, John Konihowski, grabs one of many Pickett passes for long yardage.

- Photos by Sandy Campbell

STATISTICS

	U of S	U of A
Yds. Rushing	93	252
Yds. Passing	258	47
Total Net Offence	351	294

Individual Stats

Leading Rushers	carries	yards
Adam U of A	8	83
Fryer U of A	12	72
Smarsh U of A	14	68
Guedo U of S	14	58

Leading Receivers	catches	yards
Konihowski U of A	6	85
Beechey U of A	4	32

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