

Bears baffled, buffaloed and beaten by Bisons

Sudden death playoff game will be played here Saturday

By **BILL KANKEWITT**
Gateway Sports Editor

Bisons 25, Bears 8

WINNIPEG—It was do or die for the Manitoba Bisons in Winnipeg Saturday. They did, and the Bears died.

The "herd from Manitoba" ran roughshod over Clare Drake's Bears and came out on the long end of a 25-8 count.

Their victory deadlocked both teams for first place and forced a sudden death play-off for the conference championship here in Edmonton this coming Saturday. Both teams finished the WCIAA schedule with identical five and one records.

WCIAA FINAL

	W	L	F	Ag	P
Bears	5	1	190	61	10
Bisons	5	1	167	80	10
Dinnies	2	4	94	173	4
Huskies	0	6	75	199	0

Earlier this season, in the league opener, the Bears clawed the Bisons 42-6. Saturday, it was a different story at the Pan-Am Stadium on the University of Manitoba campus.

Scoreless after the first quarter, the Bisons held a 12-1 lead at the half and pulled further ahead to a commanding 25-1 margin at three quarter time.

Graham Kinley and Dennis Hyrcenko led the Bison attack with a pair of touchdowns each while John McManus counted the lone Bear major late in the fourth quarter.

Over 4,000 rabid Manitoba supporters saw the Bears take a short lived 1-0 lead early in the second quarter on a wide field goal attempt by Dave Benbow. The point was set up by a Dale Schula interception and a Terry Lampert to

McManus pass play which covered 35 yards.

The first Bison major came shortly after on a hotly disputed play.

Manitoba kicker Gary Corbett, an ex-Bear, punted the ball to Gil Mather on the Bear goal line. Mather, in an attempt to trap Manitoba for a no-yards penalty, lunged at the ball knocking it into the hands of a Bison defender at the one yard line.

Much to the dismay of the Bears, the referee didn't call the penalty so it was Bison ball and Kinley went in to score the unconverted touchdown on the next play.

Shoddy Bear tackling and the strong running of Manitoba backs Kinley and Hyrcenko also contributed to the defeat. Manitoba coach Henry Janzen looked like a wizard when he replaced starting quarterback Kirk Koppers at the end of the first quarter.

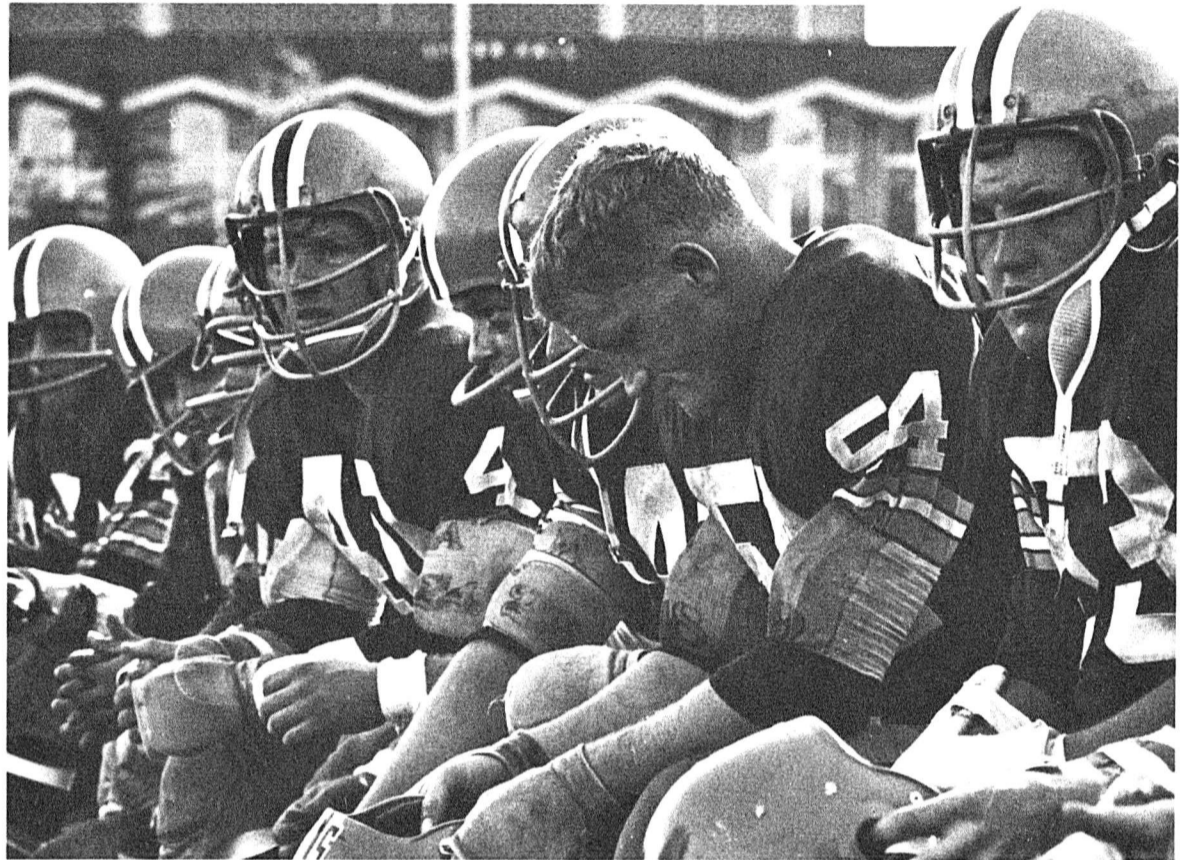
Bob Kraemer came in to handle the signal calling the rest of the route and did an excellent job.

McManus's pass catching was the lone highlight in the Bear attack. The six-foot three-inch, 19-year-old sensation continued his brilliant play by catching all six passes thrown his way for a total of 97 yards.

In other league action over the weekend the Calgary Dinosaurs and Saskatchewan Huskies closed out their schedule in Calgary. The Dinnies set the Huskies down to their sixth straight loss of the season by a 21-17 count.

YARDSTICK STORY

	Bears	Bisons
First Downs	13	16
Yards rushing	178	229
Yards passing	119	15
Passing	8/19	9/18
Fumbles/lost	2/2	1/1
Interceptions	2	2
Punting	10/40	11/30
Penalties	6/60	5/40



IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG RIDE HOME—dejected Bear players wait out the final agonizing few minutes of their 25-8 loss to the Manitoba Bisons in Winnipeg. It was the teams first loss in 16 games covering the last season and a half. The Manitoba victory forces a sudden death play-off for the conference championship here in Edmonton on Saturday. The winner of that game will advance to the Western College Bowl the following week.

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