

Sports

Bears tame the Manitoban herd

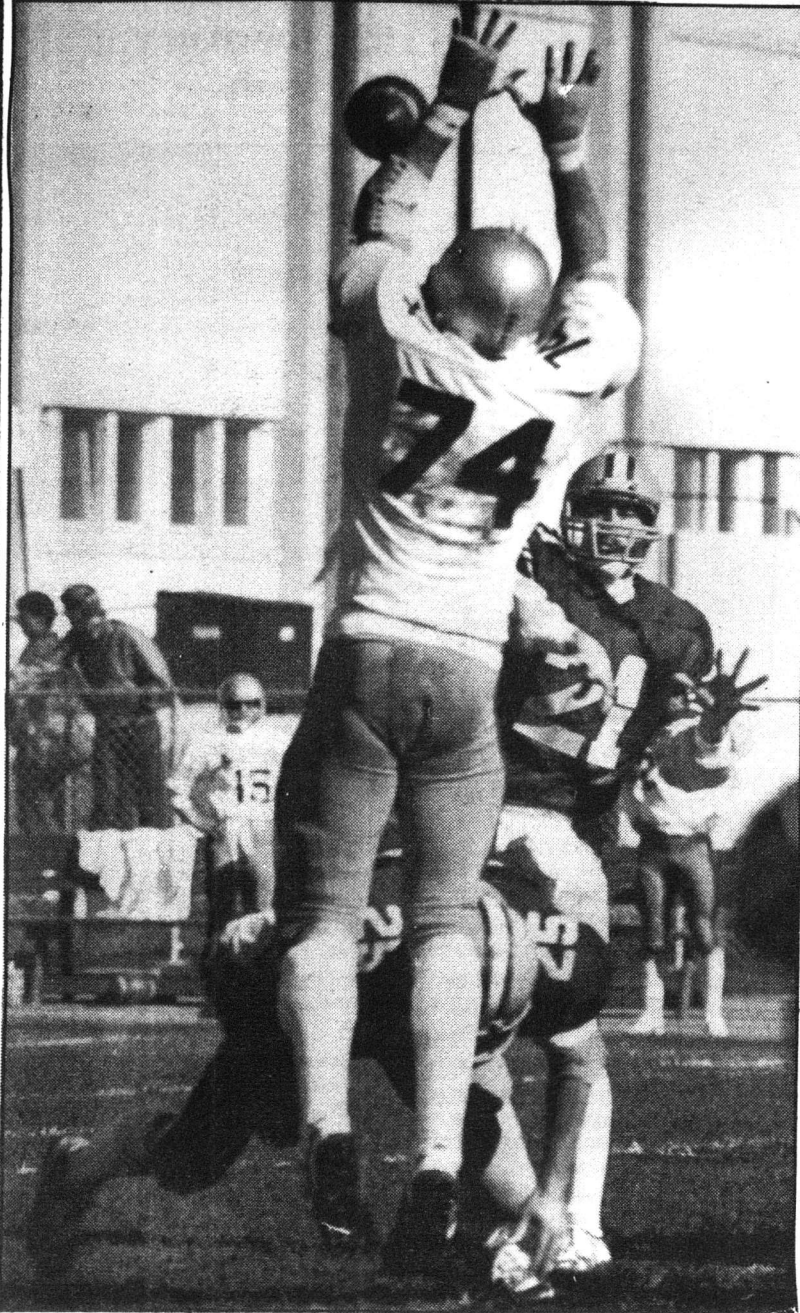


Photo Pernell Tarowski

by Blaine Ostapovich

The University of Alberta Golden Bears football team rallied from an early 10-0 deficit to defeat the University of Manitoba Bisons 22-11 on a muddy Varsity field this past Saturday.

The story in the contest was the play of the Bears defense and the solid quarterbacking of Mark Denesiuk. Perhaps the best example of how the defense played is the fact that only 8 Bison offensive plays (passing or rushing) covered more than 10 yards. The biggest play from scrimmage was a 16 yard pass.

The Bisons quarterback spent much of the day bewildered by the Bears' varied pass coverages. Starter Kevin Eikeman completed only 9 of 23 passes while giving up 3 interceptions. Jeff Steinberg replaced Eikeman in the fourth quarter and turned in a performance only a mother could be proud of. He went 0 for 4.

Meanwhile Denesiuk was using all his receivers turning in his best effort thus far this year. But he was quick to praise the help he got. "The Coaches really did a good job of preparing us for the game and our offensive line just did a super job."

Indeed Manitoba has traditionally been a team that will blitz often and try to physically outmuscle the opposing team, but on Saturday the Bears took the Bisons by the horns and showed them what execution can do.

The Bisons opened the scoring on their second possession with a 33 yard field goal from kicker Darrell Batt at 8:06. Following a Denesiuk fumble on the Bears own 35, running back Ron Talakowski scored the only Bison major on a 3 yard run. The touchdown came with 90

seconds left in the first quarter, with the convert it was Bisons 10 Bears 0 after 15 minutes.

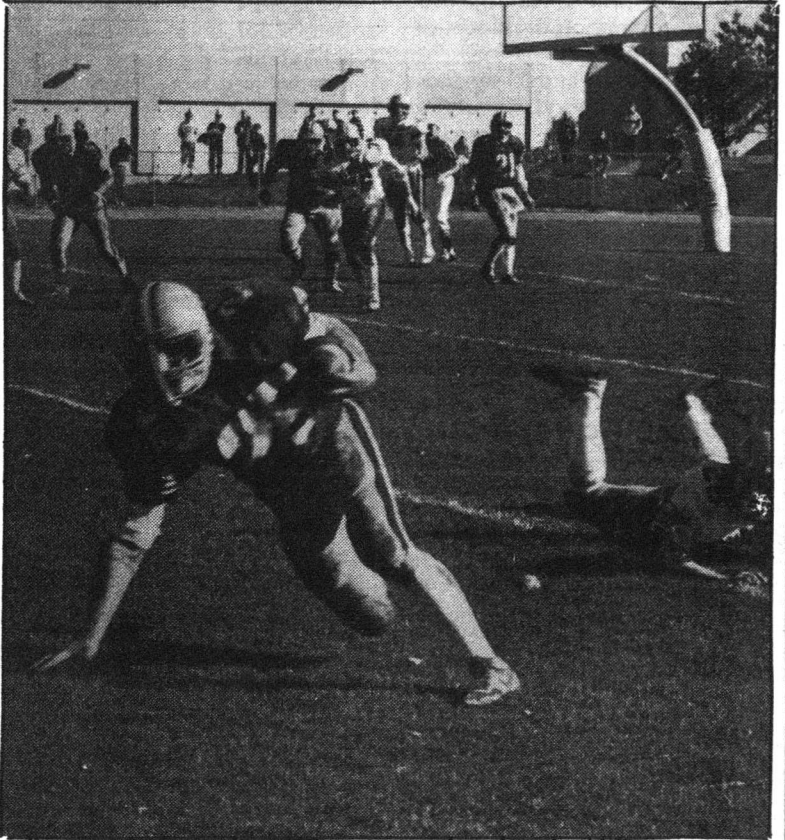
The Bears first scoring drive began at their own 12 yard line. After moving the team to their own 49, Denesiuk hit Tony Pierson on a 61 yard pass-and-run touchdown. It was to be Pierson's only reception of the game, and for the second week in a row a major score (last week a 74 yard T.D. was his only catch in a win over the Huskies). On the next possession, Denesiuk moved the Bears 66 yards on 8 plays, including a bruising 18 yard pass-and-run to slotback Tom Richards. The touchdown play was

a nifty 13 yard pass from Denesiuk to rookie receiver Brian Cable. With the extra points from kicker Derek Waterman the Bears lead at the half 14-10.

The second half opened with the Bears taking control of the game. Manitoba's first possession was halted by an interception. The Bears, in turn put the ball in the endzone.

Beginning at mid field Alberta scored their third major as Dave Bolstad recovered a Jeff Funtasz fumble in the endzone for the score.

The rest of the scoring came on singles from Batt and Bears punter James Richards. Photo Pernell Tarowski



Jeff Funtasz sheds a tackler to pick up some yardage along the sidelines.

YARDSTICKS

	Alta	Man
First downs	21	16
Yards rushing	112	159
Yards passing	290	112
Team losses	32	7
Net offence	370	264
Passes made/tried	18/30	9/27
Interceptions by	3	0
Fumbles/lost	8/3	0/0
Punts/avg.	10/38.0	12/36.2
Penalties/yards	10/95	12/115

INDIVIDUAL

Rushing — **Alta.** — Funtasz 11-41, Fillice 5-21, Houg 5-20; **Man.** — Talakowski 3-68, Santin 10-58.
Receiving — **Alta.** — Bolstad 4-36, Calbe 3-73, Richards 3-56, Pierson 1-61; **Man.** — Santin 3-27, Galant 2-31, Derraugh 2-32.
Passing — **Alta.** — Denesiuk 18-30 for 290 yards; **Man.** — Eikeman 9-23 for 112 yards, Steinberg 0-4 for 0 yards.

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