

STRATEGY

WORKS

Buddy lulls 'em to sleep

cole's notes

J.D. plays musical kickers

Despite Bears' narrow win over Manitoba Saturday, Jim Donlevy has to be concerned about at least one aspect of his team's play which doesn't seem to be improving.

Place-kicking, which could have won them their first game and made their second one a lot less tense was, if anything, worse this time than last. Against Saskatchewan last week, Pat Barry was just 50%, making one of two convert attempts and two of four field goal tries.

Saturday in Winnipeg, Barry tried two, from 38 and 21 yards and missed both, although the second went for a single. In the third quarter, Donlevy gave Joe Poplawski a crack at it from 25 yards out - that, too netted only a single.

Bears have a field goal specialist at hand, a former Edmonton Huskies kicker named Dale Cocks, but apparently the coaches don't feel it's wise to take along a specialist when their road-game roster is limited to 28 players.

Donlevy insists Barry "has the leg", but he hasn't shown it in two games to date, and it's only a matter of time before Bears lose a tight game by just the margin of a missed field goal in a clutch situation.

To be fair to both Barry and Poplawski, they play other positions (Barry is starting wingback and Poplawski a split end), and don't have the time to devote to place-kicking in practice that a specialist would.

So along comes the proverbial gift horse in the form of an absolutely RELIABLE hooper and Bears are not only looking him in the mouth, but are positively gaping at his tonsils.

They might have seen the writing on the wall after the Saskatchewan game and, in fact, Cocks has been at practice since last Tuesday, but in four days of practice he's only kicked the ball around a dozen times, which about matches the number of kicks Barry and Poplawski have tried. Cocks ought to be discouraged, if he's not.

Word has it that Poplawski will get the call in Calgary this Friday. He does get the ball up over the line of scrimmage, anyway, and if he gets a chance to work at it in practice, who knows?

Redmond making selections

More than 40 students played in the first tryout match for Golden Bear soccer aspirants on Saturday, and Coaches Gerry Redmond and Geoff Salmon will have their hands full trying to reduce the squad to 16 players for inter-collegiate games, and the CWUAA Tournament to be held here October 31-November 1.

Redmond will have to replace the likes of long-time veterans John Devlin and Terry Whitney, who are no longer eligible. Dave Cleyton, and goaltender John Baretta, who has gone south on a scholarship.

10 players return from last year's lineup, including Geoff Bird, Glen Murphy, Bob Hrsak, Ed Staszuk, Tom Schmidt, Frank Tassone, Rick Korol, George Lovell, Matteo Piscopo, and Terry Kindrat.

Eight of these played on the team that gave UBC their only defeat (2-1) in last year's CWUAA Tournament at Vancouver, and the Thunderbirds went on to win the national soccer title.

James Fiorello and Doug Pitiuk, both stars with the Itál-Canadians of the Alberta Major Soccer League last year, have been impressive this past week,

as has Ian Franks, an experienced player from England. Trying hard for midfield sports are Malcolm Allen from Ontario, Peter Owen of Victoria, and local players Barry Joines and Rob Macaulay.

The most impressive find so far has been Peter Dickie from Ontario, a goalkeeper who's attracting a lot of attention from local soccer clubs, and who may cause many people to forget John Baretta.

Bill McConkey from Calgary may be the answer to Bears' lack of punch and size in the forward line.

Redmond expects tough

by Cam Cole
Buddy L'Hirondelle was obviously the hero of the Golden Bears' 11-10 victory in Winnipeg on Saturday.

You say the name rings a bell, but you can't quite place him? Well, not to worry - it's an honest mistake. The Bears veteran was getting his first shot at running back, and for the first three quarters even the Alberta coaching staff might have forgotten who was sharing the backfield with Dalton Smarsh.

For forty-five minutes, L'Hirondelle's total offence consisted of an incomplete screen pass and a two-yard sweep around right end. Bears' offensive (in more ways than one) total to that point was not much better. Then rookie Brian Larsen, who replaced Ron Bryant at quarterback in the second half, hit Brian Fryer with a 44-yard pass at the Manitoba 29, and two plays later L'Hirondelle scored on a 7-yard run up the middle.

While the Manitoba coaches were still shouting "Where'd he come from?", L'Hirondelle made a superb catch in the end-zone on the two-point conversion attempt, and the game was tied 10-10. That done, L'Hirondelle spent the remainder of the game on the bench with a possible shoulder separation.

Smarsh's game was nearly as strange. He carried six times in the first half for a total of 16 yards, then cut loose for better than a hundred in the second half.

Manitoba QB Rick Koswin was the leading rusher in the first half, carrying 7 times for 71 yards, and was primarily responsible for Bisons' 9-1 halftime lead. Neither team's passing sparkled - Koswin threw (and completed) only one pass in the first half, and Bryant

was 4 for 10 when he was relieved by Larsen.

Fryer was the leading receiver at the half with 2 catches for 57 yards, despite having a 55-yard reception and a 22-yard touchdown catch called back, both times for holding penalties. He caught two more for 49 yards in the second half.

the second quarter.

The teams exchanged missed field goals before the half ended, with Bisons ahead 9-1.

Two more unsuccessful field goal tries went for singles in the third quarter, and the only scoring following L'Hirondelle's touchdown and two-point conversion was the game-winning single on a 41-yard punt by Fryer midway through the final period.

The Bison running game, which had been so successful in the opening thirty minutes, was effectively contained by the Alberta defence in the second half, while Bears' offence, with Larsen at the helm, did a good job of moving the ball when the pressure was on late in the game.


The win, unimpressive though it was, was a big one for the Bears, as it gives them a share of first place. Calgary Dinosaurs did their bit towards creating a four-way tie for top spot by handing the Saskatchewan Huskies a surprising 21-17 defeat, right in Saskatoon. Manitoba remains the only winless team. Calgary and UBC have 1-0 records, while Alberta and Saskatchewan each have a win and a loss.



Manitoba opened scoring early in the first quarter with a single on a 65-yard punt by Bisons' Dave Pearson, which was misjudged by Gary Widynowski in the endzone.

A three-yard plunge by Bisons' Wayne Wagner, and the convert by Pearson made it 8-0 for Manitoba a few seconds into

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