

Canadian Football League season nears end

With the Canadian Football League regular season almost over, the race for the yearly championships in both the Eastern and Western Conferences are very close. In the East, Ottawa Rough Riders, led by their two quarterbacks, Rick Cassata and Jerry Keeling, have moved into a first-place tie with Toronto Argonauts. Montreal Alouettes with their "ordinary superstar", Johnny Rodgers, who last year, while he was at the University of Nebraska, won the Heisman Trophy as the United States college football's outstanding back, are only one point behind the leaders. Last year's Grey Cup champions, the Hamilton Tiger-Cats are in last place, but are only 2 points behind Ottawa and Toronto, so all the playoff spots in the East are still undecided.

In the West, Edmonton Eskimos and Saskatchewan Roughriders are locked in a real battle for the league lead. At press time (October 19), Edmonton, with a well-balanced passing and running attack, was one point ahead of the Roughriders. B.C. Lions seem to be out of the running for a play-off berth, as Winnipeg Blue Bombers, who have recovered from an early slump are fighting it out with the injury-riddled Calgary Stampeders for the last play-off spot.

Individuals have dominated the CFL season; halfbacks like Hamilton's Andy Hopkins and Edmonton's Roy Bell and quarterbacks like Toronto's Joe Theismann, and Winnipeg's Don Jonas have given sparkling performances. However, in a season in which many games have been decided by only

one or two points, place-kickers have often provided the margin of victory. In one recent game, Ian Sunter of Hamilton scored almost all of Ti-Cats' points as they beat Toronto 16-11; in another, a field goal in the last quarter by Walt McKee, his third of the game, gave Winnipeg a one-point win over Saskatchewan. In addition, the leading scorers in both conferences are place-kickers: Gerry Organ of Ottawa in the East and Dave Cutler of Edmonton in the West.

Results

- Saturday, September 22
Ottawa 32, Edmonton 20
- Sunday, September 23
Montreal 19, Toronto 10
Calgary 13, Edmonton 12
- Monday, September 24
Edmonton 22, Hamilton 17
- Tuesday, September 25
Winnipeg 25, Saskatchewan 23
- Saturday, September 29
Toronto 22, British Columbia 22
- Sunday, September 30
Montreal 28, Ottawa 15
Edmonton 17, Saskatchewan 13
Hamilton 31, Calgary 29
- Wednesday, October 3
Hamilton 20, Winnipeg 17
- Saturday, October 6
Toronto 37, Calgary 10
- Sunday, October 7
Saskatchewan 24, British Columbia 9
- Monday, October 8
Ottawa 16, Hamilton 13
Montreal 45, Calgary 0
Edmonton 14, Winnipeg 14
- Saturday, October 13
Edmonton 27, British Columbia 13
- Sunday, October 14
Hamilton 16, Toronto 1
Ottawa 32, Calgary 8
Winnipeg 18, Saskatchewan 17

Standings (at October 19)

Eastern Conference							
	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Ottawa	12	7	5	0	239	215	14
Toronto	12	6	4	2	228	208	14
Montreal	11	6	4	1	226	190	13
Hamilton	12	6	6	0	254	216	12

Western Conference							
	G	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Edmonton	13	8	4	1	277	240	17
Saskatchewan	13	8	5	0	276	237	16
Calgary	13	5	8	0	186	309	10
Winnipeg	13	4	8	1	230	241	9
B.C.	13	3	9	1	210	290	7

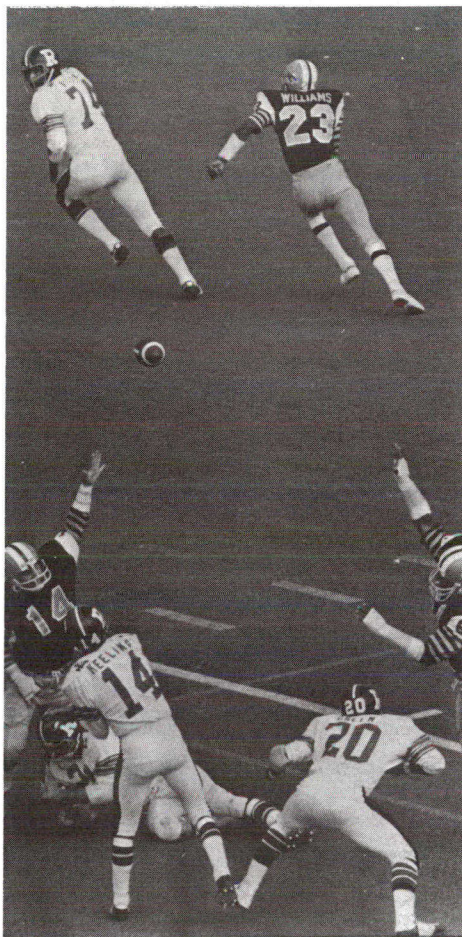


Photo: Mike Hanley, Spectator, Hamilton

Touchdown!

Ottawa quarterback Jerry Keeling (14) completes touchdown pass to Rhone Nixon (74), who has broken away from

Hamilton's John Williams (23), in the game played at Hamilton on October 8. Final score, Ottawa 16, Hamilton 13.