

Gateway Sports



Czajkowski on Sport

Have you ever gone to a movie knowing full well that the lead characters aren't going to be playing one of their better roles?

Nevertheless, out of curiosity you drive down to the theatre to see just how badly the movie comes off??

This was the way I felt as I walked into Varsity Stadium Saturday afternoon.

There was this sensation of doom hanging over the playing field that nobody else seemed to feel.

You see, I thought the Bears were going to lose.

Right here you probably think this guy must either be stupid or a hypocrite. How is it that he can pick the Bears to whitewash Saskatchewan one day and then have the gall to say he expected them to lose the next, especially after he saw what happened at the game?

Well, I saw what I expected to see Saturday. I saw Terry Lampert fail miserably in his attempts to generate an offence. I saw Ludwig Daubner miss four of five convert attempts. I saw . . .

The Bears won 33-0. Maybe I should leave well enough alone but I've always scratched when I've itched. And right now I itch.

Friday night one of Edmonton's prominent night spots received a little boost in business, namely in the form of a half a dozen or so of the foremost Bears.

Granted even football players are allowed to enjoy a good time but if my memory serves me right on road trips when the coaches can more easily keep tabs on their players there are bed checks at 11 p.m. Of course this is impossible when the team is at home and more responsibility is placed on the team members themselves.

Sense of doom began to lift in third quarter

At the game I discovered that like at the theatre there's that unknown ingredient which makes up for the mediocre performance of the established stars. The movie isn't always necessarily a flop.

Sometimes this is just the opportunity that makes a bright new star.

Don Tallas wasn't one to pass up such an opportunity.

He provided the spark that Lampert was unable to generate and the offence suddenly jelled. It was a pleasure to watch blocks being made that were missed under similar situations in the first half of the game. The sense of doom began to lift from the field. Thirty-three points followed.

Returnee Mel Smith had a lot to do with providing them. The guy dropped what was a sure touchdown pass in the opening sequence of the fourth quarter but he more than made up for it with three other majors, one of them a punt return which he lugged back 110 yards.

But what set the stage for the heroics these rookies provided had to be the Bear defensive corp. Assistant coach Roy Stevenson has again done wonders in this department.

Anytime a team scores thirty-three points there's a natural tendency to overlook the defence but this is probably where the game was really won.

It was the defence that held the Bears in the game in the first half while the offence hummed and hawed but mostly sputtered and died.

The other end of the score read '0'. Had Saskatchewan got on the scoreboard in the first half the outcome of the contest might have been quite different. Give full credit to the defence for a great game.

Four interceptions speak for the defence. So do 21 first downs for the Bears compared with Saskatchewan's nine. And so do 404 yards offensively for the Bears compared to 109 for Saskatchewan. That's pretty slim pickings for the Huskies.

Head coach Harvey Scott has modestly chosen the Manitoba Bisons as the team to beat in the West.

My choice is the Alberta Golden Bears.

Rookie pivot man kills Huskies

By BOB ANDERSON

BEARS 33, SASKATCHEWAN 0

Prior to last Saturday, the world of fashion may have thought itself one up on the Golden Bear football club.

It was—it had a Twiggly and she was its number one feature.

But now the Bears have their Twiggly also and he's liable to become number one, too, all things being equal.

The Bruins' Twiggly is none other than rookie quarterback Don Tallas, who came off the bench in the second half to light a fire under the Bear offence and guide the club to a convincing 33-0 rout of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies Saturday at Varsity Stadium. The game was a non-conference match.

RESEMBLANCE NOT THERE

Tallas, who at six feet and 165 pounds hardly resembles a football player let alone a quarterback, was making his first appearance at the pivot spot. And he served notice to Terry Lampert and Dan McCaffery, other quarterback prospects, that he is serious about winning the starting job.

Although one half of a game of football does not a quarterback make, Tallas nevertheless looked impressive breaking open a scoreless ball game with some exciting plays.

Lampert started the contest and was totally ineffective, both with the running game and his passing. The deepest penetration the Bears made was to the Huskies 30, but a missed field goal by rookie Trevor Leacock let the visitors off the hook.

HUSKIES DULL TOO

The Sled-dogs themselves weren't exactly brilliant, as field boss Larry Haylor couldn't mount a sustained attack. A Don Hickey interception, his first of two, snuffed out their only serious threat.

But Tallas brought the noisy crowd of 6,500 to its feet on the second play of the third quarter as he scampered 64 yards to paydirt. The play started out as a rollout option, but Tallas, seeing his receivers covered, took off and left the Huskies sprawled in his wake. The convert made it 7-0 and the Bears were on their way.

A short punt by Saskatchewan's Gerry Harris nine minutes later left the Bears in good field position at the Huskie 35. Tallas rolled left and hit halfback Hart Cantelon at the 10. A roughing call put the ball back at the 25, but two plays later, Tallas fired 8 yards to flanker Mel Smith to make it 13-0. The convert attempt was wide.

The Golden Ones added to their margin at 3:37 of the final canto, with Smith latching onto a 40 yard Tallas bomb, following a previous Smith catch for 33.

But the hosts weren't through yet. Following a conceded safety touch by punter Harris, Tallas went to the air lanes, finding end Bill Manchuk in the clear for a 14 yard major at 11:25. The play culminated a march covering 74 yards in six plays.

The final points came when Smith raced 110 yards after gathering in a Husky punt on his goal line. Again, the convert was wide.

Bear coach Harvey Scott was naturally pleased with the result.

"They took away our inside running game in the first half," he observed, "so we had to go outside. Tallas ran the sprint-out play really well and was able to loosen things up."

However, the rookie mentor still was noncommittal about who his number one quarterback would be.

"(Terry) Lampert looked bad out there because often his protection just broke down. Tallas was a pleasant surprise considering his lack of college experience. It's going to be a tough choice to make."



Bryson Archibald (52) intercepts



Husky pass and is tackled



by intended receiver (71)