

Gateway

# Sports

## Ron Ternoway ...from my square corner

Edmonton, Alberta  
October 8

Dear Mom,

Well, here I am in Edmonton on my first road trip as a Brandon Bobcat. The bright lights are really quite exciting. Our dressing room at home is really quite dark.

We played the University of Alberta junior Bears this afternoon, Mom, and well...we lost 17-8. We're 0-3 now, but on Sunday we play someone called Camrose Lutheran Vikings and maybe we'll win.

I guess we'd better win, because the coach said if we lose we'll have to paddle our own canoes, and it's a long way to Brandon by river.

I'm glad we play the Bears again this weekend for our Homecoming, Mom, because I think that maybe we can beat them.

The Bears have really got quite a team, o Mother of mine. They've got this fullback called Tom Towns for one and he is something else. (Sorry about the hippy talk, Mom, but I kind of get excited, being so far away from home and all.) He's really a powerful runner. After a while, whenever he came my way I'd just fake a tackle and let him by.

And guess what, Mom? The coach let me go in on offence for the first time. What a treat, or so I thought until I ran into the Edmonton middle linebacker. I think his name was Ray Anaka, and was he mean. Our halfback Sheldon nearly lost his head a couple of times.

Something really weird happened during the game, Mom, and I've just got to tell you about it. Before I do, though, I swear on my stack of Rusty Clarke football cards that I haven't been smoking any of that LRD or taking aspirins with my coke again. Besides, the team has enough speed and the coach doesn't want us to meth around.

Anyway, as I was saying...

There I was at my defensive end position, waiting for the Alberta team to break their huddle. They did so and came out over the ball. My razor-sharp mind went to work. Yes, there's the centre, the guards, two running backs in an I-formation, the quarterback...Jesus Christ, where is everyone else? Suddenly out of the corner of my eye I saw a tackle, an end and a running back over by the right sideline. Out of the corner of my other eye I saw three more Bears over by the left sideline. Spreading my eyes so far apart made me dizzy, and besides I was confused, so I just sat on the ground and watched to see what happened next.

Nobody on the defence knew whether to laugh, scratch, or wind their watches, so we compromised and stood around with our mouths open while the Bears ran for a first down.

The Bear coach, Bob Wanzel, calls the thing a spread formation. Whatever it is, Mom, it's pretty strange. Jim Spavital, eat your heart out.

Anyway, soon the game was over and I asked one of the officials, just before he headed back to the CNIB, where a good night spot was. He recommended this place called the Coffee Cup, so me and some of the guys are going to go down there.

Kind of a funny name for a milkshake parlor, eh, Mom?

Your loving son,  
Brandon



About the only first half offence



...the Golden Bears possessed



...was Bob McGregor up the middle

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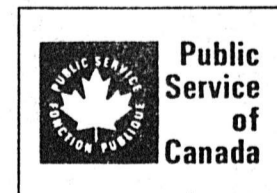
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