

SPORTS

Old plays win it for alumni crowd

by Peter Best

Golden Bears' 25-14 victory Saturday at Varsity Stadium over the Calgary Dinosaurs featured some of the oldest plays in football.

Bears and Dinnies dug deep into football history and came up with a real classic: the old sleeper play. Unfortunately they used it against the fans to produce a very dull game.

Both teams were emotionally flat because both had been eliminated from playoff contention. Both had been hurt by many injuries.

To make things worse, the field was a mudbowl between the hash marks and the 15-yard lines from a snowfall a few days prior to gametime. The result was a workmanlike effort by Alberta to come up with a win.

The game was characterized by brief flashes of excitement

rapidly turned off by a mental error by one of both teams.

Brian Fryer got Bears off to a pleasant start by taking a handoff from quarterback Gerald Kuyk and going 96 yards for a touchdown on their second play from scrimmage. The next time U of A had possession Fryer ran a screen pass almost 40 yards, then was hit and fumbled. Calgary recovered on their own 16-yard line.

In the second quarter Bears' back-up quarterback Ron Bryant hit Roy Beechey with a 30 yard pass for an apparent touchdown. The play was called back because Gary Weisbrot had jumped about 10 yards offside.

Bryant had changed the live colour indicating an audible but no-one had told Weisbrot. So when Bryant checked off at the line of scrimmage, thus changing the count when the ball was to

be snapped, Weisbrot didn't know it and left early.

In the third quarter from Calgary's 15-yard line Fryer took a pitch-out from Kuyk, swept the left side for 13 yards and fumbled into the endzone where Calgary recovered.

Dinnies immediately ran an old-time "Statue of Liberty" play with flanker Duncan Margach coming back to take a handoff from quarterback Don Siler who was faking a pass. Margach was dropped for a 10 yard loss.

Twice in the fourth quarter end Vance Curtis got behind all Calgary's defenders only to have Kuyk overthrow him.

Mistakes like that plagued the whole game. The lack of mental sharpness was indicated by the number of penalties. Bears were caught by the officials seven times and set back 82 yards while Dinnies lost 114 yards on 14 infractions.

In scoring, Fryer had his touchdown and single point, Tom Towns picked up two touchdowns on runs of two and six yards, and Jack Schwartzberg

kicked three converts and a 28-yard field goal for Alberta.

Towns is fast becoming a most unique specialist. His facility is scoring touchdowns. Everytime bears get near the opposition's goal line head coach Jim Donlevy sends Towns in and he freight-trains his way into the endzone. Saturday's majors gave him a total of seven for the season.

Dinnies got touchdowns from halfback John Petroff on a 10 yard pass reception from Siler and defensive back Doug Louch on an 87-yard kickoff return. Siler converted both majors.

Louch, a former Golden Bear, had a standout game against his old team. In addition to his touchdown he intercepted a pass and, along with John Young, averaged 12.1 yards on punt returns.

soccer

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monumental thing to overcome to ask a soccer team to score 17 goals in two games and hope for a demoralized U of Vic team to beat the cocksure group from UBC, let alone shut them out.

Calgary had set up a somewhat unusual defense with 9 men in the penalty zone to try and spoil things for the Bears.

Then, with 20 minutes left in the game, Geoff Salmon, John Devlin and Ike MacKay got the Bears going. In a story-book exhibition that really spotlighted the athletic prowess of this team, Sven Hage and Geoff Salmon both scored to give Bears a 3-0 lead.

Ike MacKay then drove in the fourth and fifth goals of the game.

The news came across that Victoria was leading UBC by a score of 1-0 and Bears redoubled their efforts to pot the sixth.

After a goalmouth scramble, Phil Craig rose and converted a cross from Duckett with four minutes remaining to wrap up the scoring and the Canada West championship for the second consecutive year for the Bears.

There was a little worry for a while that there had been some miscalculation and that the Bears actually needed seven goals to take the title but this turned out to be the result of an excess of nervous energy on the part of Bears' coach and mathematician Stu Robbins.

Their final test comes Nov. 9 when they travel to St. John's, Newfoundland to defend their National title.

The Athletic Department's head trainer, Ray Kelly travelled with the team last weekend and had this comment to offer about the team "Overall, the Bears had the most skilful players at that tournament. This can either hurt you or help you. They know that they must keep their game together to maintain their present position - Canadian National Soccer Champions."

Bears actually moved the ball very well in the mud. By driving straight behind their powerful offensive line they gained 388 yards rushing and 568 yards in total offense.

Fryer and fullback Dalton Smarsh picked up the lion's share of yardage. Fryer had 157 yards in 12 carries and Smarsh 102 on 19 cracks at the line.

However, Alberta's passing game left much to be desired. When Bears' quarterbacks weren't throwing wild, their receivers were dropping their passes.

Weisbrot out-duelled Beechey and Curtis to win the coveted "Board-Hands of the Week" award for missing the most.

Defensively U of A produced its second straight impressive performance. Calgary was limited to 200 yards in total offense, 62 yards rushing and 138 passing.

Bears' defense came up with three interceptions. Defensive backs Larry McDaniel and Doug Senuik each picked off a Siler pass, and defensive end Brian (Larry Highbaugh) Jones stepped in front of a screen pass for the third.

Neither of Dinnies' touchdowns could be blamed on Bears' defenders. Sloppy coverage by the kickoff team and the muddy field contributed to Louch's score while Petroff's followed a fumble on Alberta's 16-yard line.

The fumble occurred when Bryant was hammered by Peter Jennings while looking for an open pass receiver.

Bears final home game is November 10 against University of Manitoba. Everyone will be wide awake for that one, if Bisons' hard-hitting 28-23 win in Winnipeg earlier this month was any indicator.

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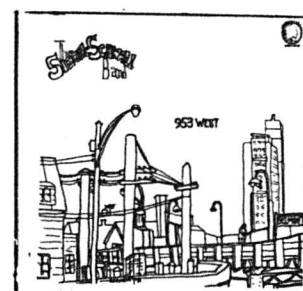


Photo by Sandy Campbell

Tom Towns, Bears' new middle linebacker, sticks a Calgary receiver a jarring blow to force an incompletion on a screen pass.

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