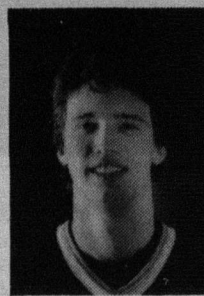


Fluky goal does in Bears



Todd Saelhof

He may not have the best arm in the league. He may not even possess the strongest or the most accurate. But Tracy Ham does have what it takes to win. Ham's 16-2 1989 record with the Eskimos is proof of that.

To any, Ham's touch on the pass is far less than that of King Midas's. Ham is definitely no Moon-man from Houston nor can he be classed in the same ranks as the green and white number 23 that Rider Pride grew to worship. Ham is, however, a talented, young football player with the heart and desire to play in Edmonton. This is uncharacteristic of recent green and gold pivots.

Still, the many Eskimo skeptics are convinced Tracy Ham lacks the ability to guide Edmonton to the 1989 Grey Cup. This is especially arguable considering Ham's most glaring weakness of inconsistency. Thankfully, however, the consistency Ham lacks is only nonexistent from quarter to quarter rather than game to game. Over sixty minutes Ham gets the job done and usually it's not by the skin of his teeth. Indication of this is shown as the Eskimos outscored opponents, on average, by 19 points per game.

With an average of 36 points per game, it's obvious the '89 Eskimos have a talent-laden offence. Definite praise must be given to an outstanding defence (arguably the best in CFL history) as they continually provided Ham with excellent field position. But even the most talented team needs a capable quarterback in order to register 644 points in a single season. The Eks have that capable quarterback in Ham. And more.

Ham's own figures boast healthy totals by themselves. He has aired the ball out 517 for 4366 yards on 268 completions. These statistics, combined with Ham's 1005 running yards on 125 carries, makes him easily the most versatile quarterback of the CFL '89 campaign.

On a powerhouse team chock full of outstanding players, Tracy Ham has emerged as the leader. The underlying result of helmeted Ham's actions was a successful 16-2 record and a very impressive record at that. To be sure, Ham should be awarded twice for his efforts this season. Ham has been nominated as the Western representative for the CFL's Most Outstanding Player award, and by rights, should win in a walkover.

Watch Ham take the Eskimos to the Grey Cup to earn the award. It's the least the leader of a 16-2 club deserves and Ham probably won't let up until he achieves it.

Earlier this year, a Stamped fan (where are they now?) told me that Tracy Ham didn't have what it takes to lead the Eskimos to a Grey Cup celebration. I promptly watched the Ham-led Eskimos crush the Stamps 54-3. It's easier when you have the talent and the heart. Tracy Ham definitely has both.

Dinosaurs 4 Bears 3 by Randal Smathers

CALGARY—Follow the bouncing puck. . .see Dino Doug Quinn dump it into the Alberta zone. . .see it hit defenceman Ian Herbers in the helmet. . .see it pop up into the air near the rafters. . .see it come down over John Krill's shoulder and into the Bears net.

That was the scene in Father David Bauer arena in Calgary on Sunday, as the Dinos fluky goal—which may have been offside—with 42 seconds left gave the home team the win. It spoiled the end of what had become a good hockey game, after overcoming some uneven play and shoddy refereeing in the first two periods.

Freshman forward Todd Goodwin had a great start in the evergreen and gold, getting his first goal in his third regular season game. He played in Dan Weibe's spot—the

big forward is out with a sprained shoulder, suffered on Friday.

Head coach Bill Moores likely would have worked Goodwin into the lineup somewhere. "We like his skating ability, especially on the big ice. He's played well all season." The Olympic-sized rink in Calgary was to his liking. At 18 years of age and with only 150 pounds on his 5'10" frame, he is physically over-matched by behemoths like Dino defenceman Trevor Dickie (23 years, 210 lbs., 6'1"). "It's not too bad. I thought it would be worse," Goodwin said. "But there are some big boys out there."

The matchup hurt the Bears in the first period, as Dickie jerked Goodwin off of his feet with a hook from behind on a clear breakaway. The referee, Dale Bennett, didn't call a penalty on the play—the most grotesque call in a travesty of officiating. "Howie (Draper) asked the

ref about it," Goodwin said, "He said I took another step (after the hook), so I was taking a dive. . .it didn't feel like I was."

Moores talked with the ref after the first period, "His responsibility is to protect the players and to communicate with our captains. If he doesn't do that, I have to talk to him," Moores said.

In the second, the Dinos took six of eight minors, and the Bears converted two of their chances into powerplay goals, including a Doug McCarthy pass which bounced off a Dino skate and into the net; a portent of things to come. Tied after two, the teams exchanged goals in the third. The Bears goal came from Herbers, on a great cross-ice pass from McCarthy, who also benefited from the extra open space of Father Bauer rink.

Another Bear who stood out was Al Tarasuk, whose physical play

countered an aggressive Dino team in the first and third periods. "It's the Golden Bear philosophy," said Tarasuk, "You take pride at home and on the road. . .you take the body. That's part of my game, I can hit. In the first period we were at the point where we had to give it back, and when we did they backed right off."

Tarasuk got a lot of the extra shifts in the third period, as the Bears were down a forward. "He's earned the ice time," said Moores. "He's making more of an impact this year. . .making better passes. Shorthanded or whatever, we are confident throwing Al out there."

Tarasuk laughed off a suggestion that he was playing more disciplined hockey this year, but Moores was one of many who commented on Tarasuk's clean, effective hitting game this weekend.

The Dinos were led by Steven Wheatcroft, Doug Quinn, and Wayne Hynes. Going into the game, fifth year forward Barry Bracko was put onto the fourth line as a reprimand for his poor play on Friday in Edmonton, and he responded with a goal and a lot of effective work.

The win gave Calgary a one point lead in the Canada West standings, and the home and home split in the weekend series left each team win-

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Pandas grab CIAU title

Pandas 3 Redmen 1 by Ajay Bhardwaj

The University of Alberta Panda soccer squad defeated the McGill Redmen 3-1 to capture the CIAU women's soccer championship.

The Pandas, who reached the finals last year only to lose to the University of Acadia, made up for last year's loss.

"We learned our lesson from last year," defender Sheryl Ferry said.

"We weren't going to watch the final this year," midfielder Janine Wood said, alluding to last year's loss. "We were more relaxed."

The Pandas opened the CIAU championships by beating Wilfrid Laurier 3-0. Wood, Ferry, and Yvonne Abriotti scored for Alberta.

"We knew Wilfrid Laurier had a poor keeper," coach Tracy David said. "We also knew that their two central defenders were strong. But we just concentrated on our strengths."

"We had to get into the final, because if we didn't, all the work wouldn't have been worth it."

The final was to begin at 1:30 in the afternoon. The team was awake by 8:30 am and to relax, they went for a walk. "We felt like a team on the walk," David said.

"I knew that if we played well as a team, we'd win. We knew McGill had five quality players. We knew McGill would have a tough time. If you can get seven of your eleven players playing well you'll win. McGill just didn't have the horses,"

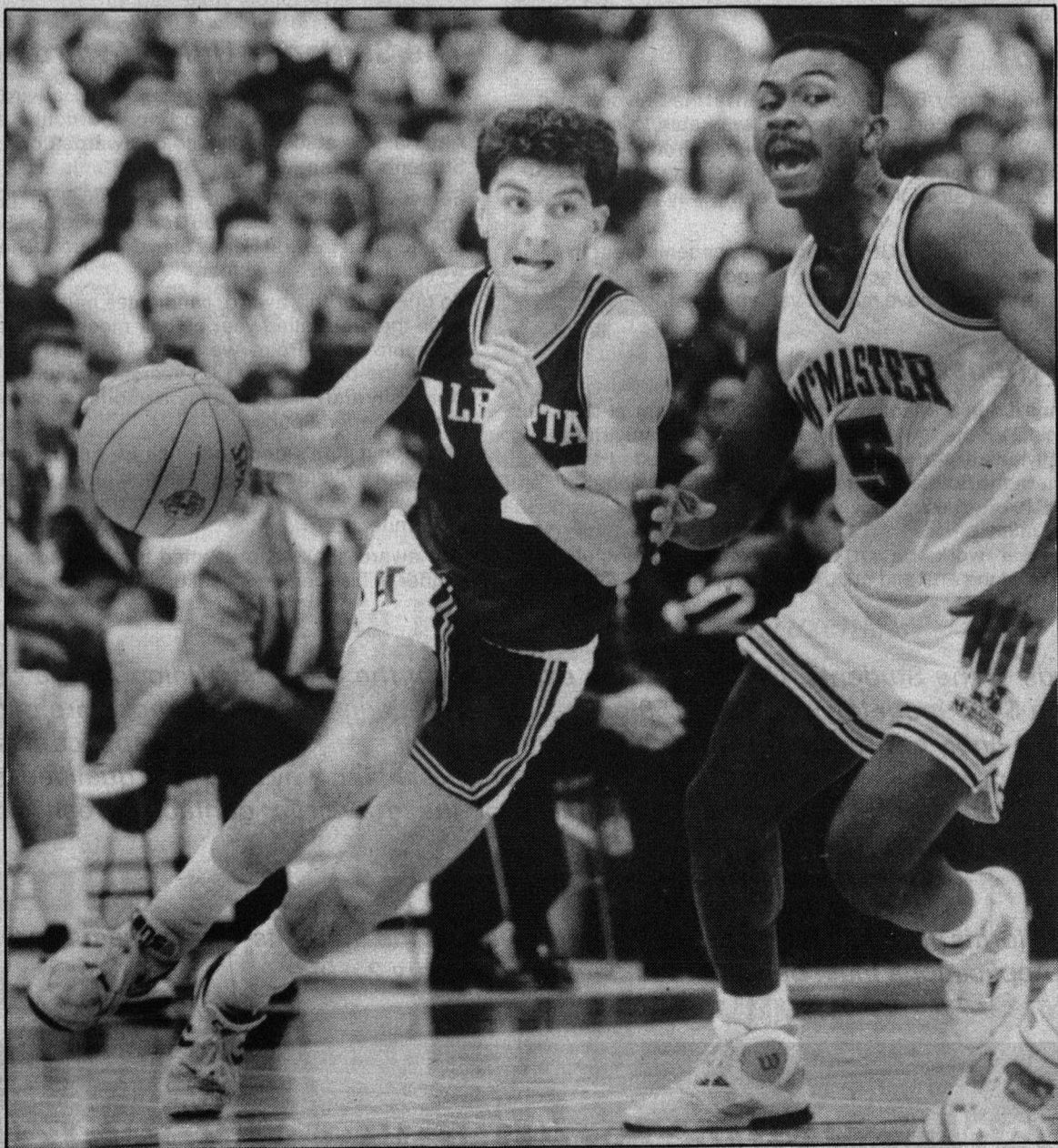
David said.

However, the Pandas were the only ones who really believed in themselves. After McGill had defeated Acadia, many people believed that they'd defeat the U of A easily.

"I'm glad we played McGill," David said. "Acadia plays an aggressive style, similar to Lethbridge. You can't play when you get run over."

However, Dawn Poulin scored at 7:23 of the first half and the Pandas never looked back. Kelly Vandergrift scored the winner and Sheryl Ferry scored her second goal of the championships and the Pandas were crowned National Champions.

"It was very convincing," David said. "We deserved to win."



Jeff Cowley

Bear guard Dave Youngs goes to the hoop against the University of McMaster Marauders. The Bears will need another good effort from the guard this weekend.

Hi-way to hell

by Mitch Panciuk

Both the Panda and Golden Bear basketball teams travel down the 'highway to hell' to play the University of Calgary Dinosaurs this weekend.

The games which will be played Friday and Saturday nights, will mark the first time that the Pandas play last year's National Champions, and the Bears easily defeated the Dinos in the final of the Golden Bear Invitational tournament.

In last weekend's final, the Bears outlasted the Dinos and beat them 81-69. This weekend's series promises to be a tougher test, as the Dinos will have had a week to make the necessary changes to their game plan. Both fifth year guard David Youngs and head coach Don Horwood feel that the Dinos will play much different in front of their home town crowd, and expect a more physical game from them.

U of A players such as Brian Halsey and Rick Stanley are expected to play better in Friday's and Saturday's games than they did in the final of the GBI. While Stanley did get 21 points, he did miss a lot of scoring opportunities by dropping passes and turning the ball over. Halsey was almost invisible in the tournament final, picking up just four points.

The Pandas on the other hand, do not know what to expect from last year's National Champions. This week's national ranking pegs the Calgary Women's team once again as the number one University women's team in the country. This means that the Pandas will have to perform a major miracle in order to upset the team which is expected to repeat as National Champions.

"We're really optimistic about how we can go in there and surprise them," Coach Dianne Hilko said about the Pandas' chances. She went on to say that the Dinosaurs lost some very good players, and that while they "will be weaker, they will by no means k."

Game times are 6:00 for the women and 8:15 for the men. Mitch Panciuk is the co-writer for FM-88 Panda and Golden Bear basketball.