Football Preview

Defence is on the offence

by Jay O'Neill

Nobody can blame the University of Alberta Golden Bears football coaches for getting excited over this years defence.

Head Coach Jim Donlevy compares this year's defence to the one the Bears had in 1984, which happens to be the last year the Bears made it to the Vanier Cup.

Defensive Co-ordinator Dave Morris feels this years defence is strong because of the return of three all Canadians - linebacker Mark Singer, cornerback Trent Brown and outside linebacker Brent Korte

Korte, a second team all Canadian and Western Intercollegiate Football all-star, is returning to the Bears after a summer tryout with the Edmonton Eskimos. Korte felt the experience was a thrill competing against players like Stew Hill and Gregg Stumon. Korte felt the tryout would have gone better if he would have had linebacking experience.

This year the 6'2" 225 lb. Korte will play outside linebacker. Don-levy feels Korte has shown "great progress in his defensive skills" and

calls it a "natural progression."

This progression has seen Korte develop from a down lineman, to a rush end and now to a an outside linebacker. With Korte playing outside linebacker, he will have more responsibilities then he has had in the past. "He'll be in the quarterback's face, or he will drop back into pass coverage like any linebacker does" said Donlevy.

Morris feels Korte is "very important to the Bears team on and off the field. He (Korte) is a positive force (who) keeps everything loose and relaxed". Morris says Korte is a good team leader and teacher and when the "other guys can learn from him, they'll be even better".

The Bears will be using a defence that is similar to the Don Mathews' coached defence of the Edmonton Eskimos. The defence will have at least 9 different looks. They will be very aggressive and they will blitz a lot. Morris said that he will not be afraid to bring a lot of players to put pressure on the opposing quarterbacks.

The Bears have two experienced cornerbacks. Trent Brown and Todd

Matheson are both 4 year veterans and Brown is coming off a summer tryout with the Ottawa Rough Riders. This experience will allow the Bears to blitz a lot because Morris won't have to worry about leaving the corners in man to man coverage. Morris estimates that the Bears have blitzed more in the two games this year then they have in the last four years.

The Bears have also strong defensive line. Morris describes the defensive line as "big, experienced, hungry (and) really enthusiatic".

Overall, the 1989 Bears defence has a lot of experience and depth.

but it "must be consistent and disciplined" if they are to be successful this season according to Morris. He also feels that if each player plays his own position and doesn't worry about what his teammates are doing, then the defence will be successful.

The Bears defence has looked good in their two previous games, a 30-27 win over the Saskatchewan Huskies in their exhibition game and a 18-9 loss to the U.B.C Thunderbirds in their season opener. They will be put to the test this Sunday against the Manitoba Bisons in the home opener at Varsity Stadium at 1:30 p.m.



Defensive coordinator Dave Morris explains a search and destroy mission to his hungry troops. The Bears' defence is expected to be strong again this season.

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END	NOSE				END
BUHLER	CLELLAND			MEDCKE	
NOBBS	MEDCKE			NOBBS	
BACKER	BACKER		BACKER		BACKER
TOOMEY	SAWATZ	KY	SINGER		KORTE
BAKER	TOBERT		BAKER		TOOMEY
CORNER	HALF	SAFETY		HALF	CORNER
BROWN	FALCONER	KORTE	DRAL	JDSON	MATHESON
HURREL	KOSOLOFSKI	YUSYPCH	IUK	HURREL	HURREL
PUNTER	PAT/FG	PUNT	RETUR	N	K.O.RETURN
KASOWSKI	KASOWSKI		BROWN		BROWN
SINGER	SINGER	MA	THESON	4	MATHESON

TACKLE GUARD CENTRE GUARD TACKLE SOUTHWICK MAERTENS—POOLE MARTIN BRAUN MARTENS WYNYCHUK WYNYCHUK MAERTENS—POOLE WYNYCHUK WYNYCHUK

SZAFRANSKI KASOWSKI

FULLBACK

PERRON

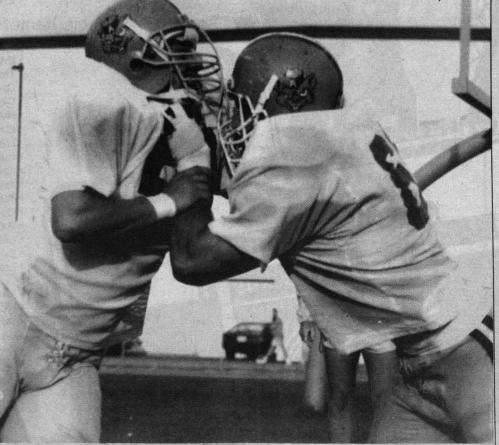
THORSTEINSON

SLOT BACK FELTHAM TOBERT QUARTERBACK STEINBERG TAYLOR

TIGHT END WHALEY FELTHAM

FLANKER TOBERT KASOWSKI

HALFBACK KERN MEAD



Bear linemen go head-to-head in practise this week as they prepare for the upcoming match with Manitoba Bisons.