

Barry Rust

Reviews Sports

One finds it difficult to view the WCIAU without thinking of what it might have been and what it could be.

Had this column been mine a year ago undoubtedly I would have proudly proclaimed that the time of the WCIAU had arrived and the spiralling to a zenith was about to commence. Yes, absurd as it may sound now, after the leagues long and undeserved wait I thought the obstacle clearing was starting to show a definite pattern.

And, there was some good evidence to support such a belief:

1. 1963 was to see the first National College Draft, worthy of the name, by the nine pro clubs.
2. The public was finally being exposed to the calibre of college football through the televising of eastern games.
3. East-west finals in all three major sports were in the offing.
4. Despite its disadvantage, UBC Thunderbirds would form Canada's 1964 Olympic Hockey Team, adding if nothing else that vital element termed recognition.
5. Introduction of UAC would insure an even better balanced western league.
6. College basketball was providing the most consistent, if not the only brand of basketball in the majority of Canadian centers.

Probably I would have found great difficulty in locating people to share my enthusiasm but then that would have been nothing new.

"We've seen it all before," Clare Drake might have cautioned, with authority of many years in working for the advancement of the WCIAU.

"This sort of thing can take funny twists," could well have been a statement from Ed Zemrau.

SIGNS THERE

However, few could deny that the signs were there, so I doubt my persistence would have ceased.

But, last year is exactly that and I speak no more concerning the time of the WCIAU. For years UBC and Alberta have provided the strength of the WCIAU, the lone reply to Eastern queries, "why should we play the west." Now half of that strength is gone because UBC is no longer part of the league.

Last spring with sudden insight, stirring enough to defy intelligence of common mean, UBC students council voted to withdraw their entry on grounds most traditional and most weak, lack of finances. It is interesting to note that the move becomes effective immediately following UBC's participation in the Winter Olympics. After quietly standing by while many top players were "drafted" and allowing competitive balance to be utterly destroyed for two years, the WCIAU is politely informed they are no longer needed.

LEAGUE WILL BLEED

The league will bleed as a result of this action but undoubtedly will do so without even so much as affording itself the luxury of lying down. Ironically, the WCIAU can get along better minus UBC than the latter can without them. Expenses encountered by UBC were in fact no greater than those faced by many other universities, especially Manitoba. Many a budget maker this side of the Rockies shall be jumping and rubbing his hands with glee by not having to consider frequent jaunts to the west cost city.

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Viewed in light of the future, British Columbia's withdrawal becomes even more absurd. Though it must take place at a slower pace than hitherto expected, the western conference is going to continue expanding and east-west finals will take place, achieving higher degrees of stature with every passing year. You may well bet a years tuition that sooner or later (and I think it will be sooner) UBC will "request" re-entry if for nothing else, honor and glory.

As it now stands, UBC hopes to gain berth in the United States Evergreen Conference, a league that has expressed anything but a desire to facilitate the Vancouverites. But, this only covers football, basketball and a few others. Although withdrawing, UBC will probably ask the WCIAU to allow competition in womens' athletics. Father David Bauer's olympics, for whom a brand new ice arena was built, could well be without a league next year and be forced to look west for games, if they are to remain intact. The UBC course can only be regarded as lacking respect and, above all, foresight.

UAC TAKES UP SLACK

The slack, numerically at least, will be taken up by UAC. Instead of being a well balanced league, the WCIAU will merely continue as a balanced one. Calibre of play is something else again but in no way can Calgary be sold short. The best basketball team in the conference came out of the south city last year and their first place finish in the Provincial Cross Country Championships two weeks ago indicates anything but a liability.

The only fit description, however, is the over used and now nauseating one, "these things take time." Unfortunately, it is the only valid one.

What it could have been and what it might be?

Golden Ones Prove Superiority, Bomb Bisons 49-1 At Winnepeg

By D'arcy Bancroft
Sports Editor, The Manitoban
WINNIPEG (Sports Special)—

The University of Alberta Golden Bears left no doubts Saturday that they were the best university football team in the west, and probably in Canada. They bombed the University of Manitoba Bisons 49-1 before about 1,900 stunned fans at Bison Stadium.

The Bears mustered a passing attack that completely bewildered the Bisons. Quarterback Smith, exploiting gaping holes in the Herd territory, struck for 297 yards through the air. His main receivers were flashy halfbacks Kachman and Neilsen. In the second half he was able to work the screen to Rosiewicz for good mileage.

Along the ground Carron was the work-horse. He accounted for much of the visitors' 157 yards rushing, and bulled his way for touchdowns in the first and last quarters.

NEILSEN GETS TWO TD'S

Ken Neilsen accounted for another two of the victors' seven majors. One was on a nifty 27 yard pass-and-run from Smith. Kachman, Finch, and Hale scored one apiece. Kachman and Finch got their off passes, and Hale's came off a 40 yard run-back of a fumble by Manitoba quarterback Paul Vyrostko.

Marteniuk converted six of seven and the remaining Bear point came off Van Vliet's 35 yard punt to the coffin corner.

Gary White accounted for the Bison's only point on a punt in the second quarter.

The ease with which Alberta ran away with the game from the second quarter on surprised everyone. Edmonton coach Gino Fracas, remembering the physical beating that the Bisons inflicted on the Bears in

Edmonton, was reported to be very concerned before the game, and expected a rough fight. Coach George Depress and the Bisons felt that the game in Edmonton was much closer than 28-8, and that they could beat the Bears.

However, the Bisons' pass defence and offence both failed to live up to advance billing. Defensively, the Herd line-backers failed to float with the plays, and Edmonton's nifty halves, Kachman and Neilsen, were continually breaking into the clear.

DEFENSE STIFLES HOPES

Offensively, the Bisons soon found themselves in need of the home-run ball. However, the Alberta defense stifled any and all hopes of a passing barrage. Mounting an eight man rush, led by Messier and Watson, the Bears had Herd pivotmen Laping and Vyrostko fleeing for their lives. Because of Manitoba's failure to discourage the blitz by full-back draws and screens, the Bisons were repeatedly dumped for ten and fifteen yard losses.

Scoring Summary

First Quarter—1. Alberta: Touchdown (Carron) 11:07. Convert (Marteniuk).
Second Quarter—2. Manitoba: Single (White) 2:32; 3. Alberta: Touchdown (Neilsen) 5:45; 4. Alberta: Single (Van Vliet) 8:01; 5. Alberta: Touchdown (Kachman) 14:00. Convert (Marteniuk).
Third Quarter—6. Alberta: Touchdown (Neilsen) 1:33. Convert (Marteniuk); 7. Alberta: Touchdown (Finch) 1:45. Convert (Marteniuk).
Fourth Quarter—8. Alberta: Touchdown (Hale) 5:08. Convert (Marteniuk); 9. Alberta: Touchdown (Carron) 12:15. Convert (Marteniuk).

Statistics

	Manitoba	Alberta
First Downs	12	24
Rushing	8	10
Passing	3	12
Penalties	1	2
Yards	113	454
Rushing	39	157
Passing	74	297
Yards Penalized	95	78
Fumbles Made	4	2
Lost	2	0
Pass Attempts	11	23
Completions	7	14
Intercepted By	0	2

Name Change Poses Problem

OTTAWA—Secretaries in the CUS office hesitate a moment or two when answering the phone, and then with reservation, say: cuss and cup, bonjour."

Officially the organization is still the "National Federation of Canadian University Students" and will remain so until the letters of patent on its new name, CUS, are applied for and issued by the Minister of State.

No indication has been given by President Jenkins on how long this will take. Canadian Union of Students intends on prefixing its old name (NFCUS) on all correspondence for the next two years.

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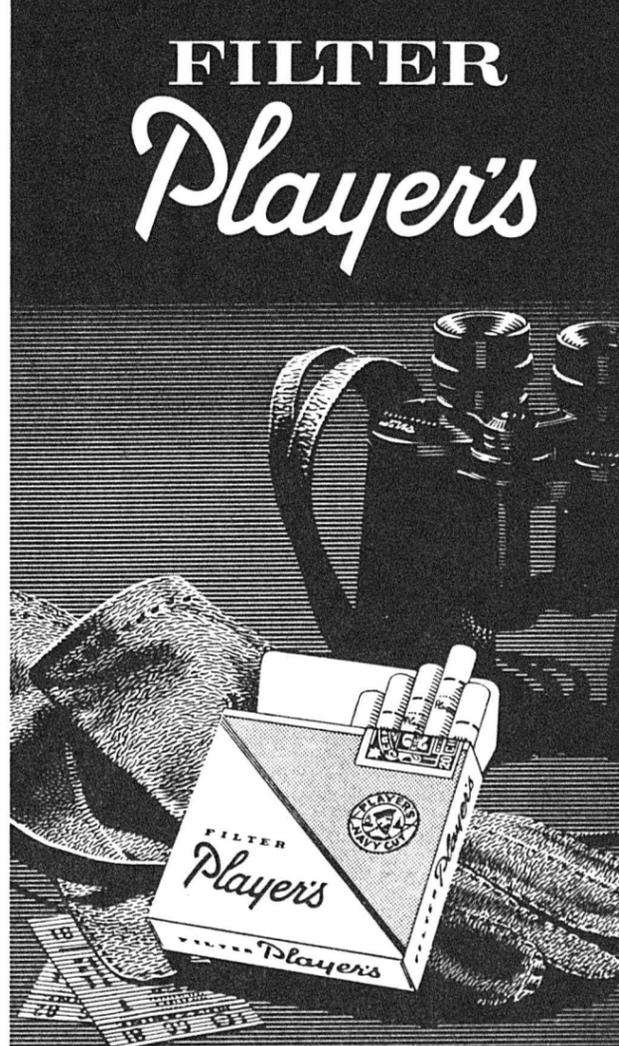
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