Fumbles hurt Bears

Thunderbirds rout Bears for 17-0 triumph



-Steve Rybak photo

BEAR'S LES SORENSON (32) COLLIDES WITH UBC'S BOB MAIN . . . Saturday's game was for the 'Birds

By BILL MILLER Gateway Editor-in-Chief

VANCOUVER-U of A Golden Bears can give up all hopes of being invited to the Vanier Cup bowl game this fall.

Their 17-0 rout at the hands of the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds here Saturday has negated the slim chance the Bears had of making the national foot-ball final.

The Bears were knocked off the national ratings two weeks ago after an unimpressive 17-14 victory over the University of Calgary Dinosaurs, and sank further after a 4-2 loss to the University of Manitoba Bisons Oct. 15.

However, the game did boost the chances of the T'Birds, who were playing their first game under Canadian rules in two years, of appearing in the final.

The UBC squad plays only four games of Canadian football this season, and if they want to play for the Vanier Cup, they have to come up with four decisive victories, and they picked up their first one Saturday.

A steady drizzle and a slippery field turned the game into a defensive battle before the Thunderbirds broke the game open in the fourth quarter, scoring ten points in 1½ minutes early in the quarter, after recovering Bear fumbles.

Bob Sweet scored UBC's first touchdown in the late stages of the second quarter on a two-yard Glen Brandt added the

T'Bird quarterback Dick Gibbons, finding no problems with the larger Canadian football, set up the scoring play after a 50-yard pass and run to halfback Chip Barratt.

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Birds' scoring spree in the final quarter started with a Bear fumble and a UBC recovery on the Bear five-yard line. After two attempts to go over the goal line, Brandt kicked a field goal.

On the first play after the kickoff return, the Bears fumbled again on their 35 yard line. Sweet rush-ed to the 18 for a first down, then to the 12 yard line.

Halfback Ron Kincade scampered over for the score. He was hit by Bob Baumback, Darwin Semotiuk, Ross Bradford and Dave Rowand, but the Bears just couldn't stop

Brandt kicked the convert to make it 17-0. The first try was wide but the Bears were called for rough play. The second hoof counted.

The Bears executed only two good plays and one more spectacular fluke, but they could never put two good plays back to back. It was late in the fourth quarter before they were able to manage two first downs in a row.

The major portion of the Bear passing in the first half occurred on the second play of the game when quarterback Terry Lampert hit Jchn Violini for 62 yards.

The rest of the passing attack in the first half came on a third down play in the second quarter when Corbett faked a punt and threw to Semotiuk who garnered the first

Two insignificant plays later, Corbett punted, from the UBC 35. The ball bounced off the cross bar, right into Corbett's arms on the 20, and he made it to the one yard line.

This was the closest the Bears ever came to scoring. On the next play, UBC recovered a fumble.

Before the game, it was expected the T'Birds would have problems remembering small points in Canadian rlues, such as the no-yards rule. But this was not the case, as Bears were called more often for no yards than the T'Birds.

The changes from American to Canadian rules did not seem to have an effect on the UBC squad, who outclassed the Alberta team in almost every category.

Statistics:

| | UBC | U of A |
|-----------------|---------|--------|
| first downs | 14 | 8 |
| yards rushing | 74 | 62 |
| yards passing | 182 | 154 |
| att. passes | 27 | 29 |
| comp. passes | 12 | 13 |
| interceptions | 1 | 3 |
| fumbles/lost | 4/2 | 5/4 |
| penalties/yards | 12/130 | 9/102 |
| punts/avg | 15/22.6 | 15/32 |
| field goal | | |
| att/comp. | 1/1 | 0/0 |

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