

Bears, Bisons . . .

. . . Clash Saturday

College Football Crown Up For Grabs

By Alex Hardy

The stage is set for Saturday's "piece de resistance" in inter-collegiate football.

University of Alberta Golden Bears host University of Manitoba Bisons in a game that will likely decide the Western Inter-

collegiate Football Conference championship.

As things stand, coach Gino Fracas' Alberta fusiliers hold a slim one-game bulge on their Winnipeg rivals. Golden Bears have yet to taste defeat in four outings. Bisons have lost once. Each club has one game left after Saturday.

An Alberta triumph would sew up

first place for the Bruins. If Manitoba wins the teams will be tied.

Each is heavily favored to take its final game of the season (Alberta meets Saskatchewan, Manitoba plays Calgary), all of which puts the chips solidly on the line.

Kickoff time is 2 p.m. at Varsity Stadium.

Fracas is crossing his fingers his

campus men won't enter the game in a cocky frame. Bear's last effort was easily their best of the season, a precision-like 71-0 drubbing of Calgary.

Moreover, the 'Tobans are seeking a rich revenge after absorbing a 34-12 whipping in Winnipeg in the season opener. Since then coach George Depres' troops have improved steadily. They reached their

peak last weekend, drubbing Saskatchewan 43-1.

Bison's attack is centered around veteran quarterback Nick Laping and barging fullback John Davidson. Golden Bears held both in check in their last meeting, but Depres is confident it won't happen again. Three other overdue members of the Brown-and-Gold are backs John Shanski, John Poustie and Bob Ackman. All are veterans.

Saturday's joust is doubly important. The result could determine whether or not the Golden Bears will see post-season action.

Should Alberta and Manitoba finish in a first-place deadlock the teams will be declared co-champions. No tie-breaking playoff is permitted under conference regulations.

Fracas knows full well that anything other than an outright Alberta championship will all but rule out any chance of a post-season bowl game. Two years ago British Columbia upset Golden Bears in the schedule's final game to earn a share of the title. Talk of a post-season game involving Alberta and the East promptly died.

Fracas will start Don Green at quarterback Saturday. The ex-Huskie junior has shown professional poise since taking over early in the year when an injury sidelined Willie Algajer.

The rest of the backfield will comprise Ken Nielsen, Clarence Kachman, Dmetro Rosiewich and Irwin Strifler. Rosiewich turned in the best effort of his varsity career in leading Bears' annihilation of Calgary last week.

Along the offensive front wall Gino will go with Dick Wintermute at centre, Bruce Switzer and Jim Chartrand at guard, tackles Ron Marteniuk and Glen Claerhout, and Vern Simonson at right end. Left end is a tossup between Jim Hale and Ron Finch.

The defensive line will be manned by ends Ed Molstad and Val Schneider, tackles Bob Bennett and Cam McAlpine, and middle guard Paul Brady. Rennie Bradley, Steve Egbert, Jim Watson and Howie Green will start in the linebacker slots.

George Short, rapidly hitting his stride, will lead a tight defensive secondary. Others are Bob Allin and Bill Woywitka.

"Others who will see plenty of action include centre-linebacker John Wilson, tackles Harry Fedun and George Santarossa, ends Nestor Korchinsky and Larry Speers, safety Darwin Semotiuk, and Bill Piggott," says Fracas.



JIM WATSON
... Bruin defensive starter

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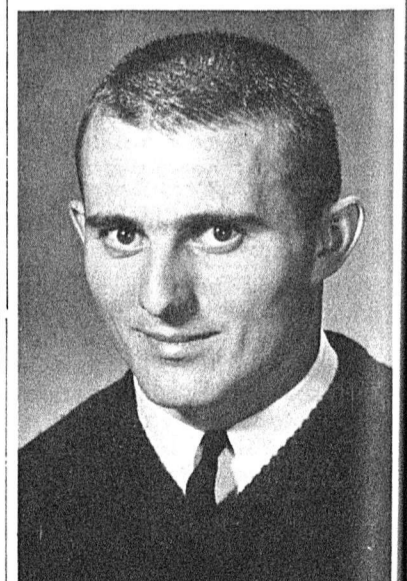
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GEORGE SHORT
... hitting stride