

Bears, Bisons battle for basement



VS

Saturday,
1:00 p.m.
Varsity Field



photo Dean Bennett

by Dean Bennett

For this year's 1-6 version of the Alberta Golden Bear football team last week's 31-25 loss to the Calgary Dinosaurs is being hailed as a victory (in the moral sense, anyway), and their renewed sense of optimism should carry over into their final game of the season this Saturday afternoon at Varsity Field against the Manitoba Bisons.

"We're a lot more optimistic," said kicker/wide receiver Steve Kasowski. "Last Saturday we proved we could move the football. We drove off the ball and it showed. You could tell we had a sense of pride out there."

"I think a lot of our players found themselves during the Calgary game," said head coach Jim Donlevy. "Overall they were pleased with the performance but not the result."

One of the reasons for their success was a more simplified game plan.

"We cut down our offensive package and emphasized things that would work against Calgary. And that's the name of the game," said Donlevy.

The Manitoba Bisons are not

Manitoba sacked the Bears 27-21 in Winnipeg earlier this year.

faring much better than the Golden Bears in 1986. Coming off an 18-2 pasting at home against the 3-4 Saskatchewan Huskies, the Bisons are now 2-5 and, like the Bears, are playing only for pride and for 1987. Revenge, though, may also play

a part. Back on September 27 the Bears were embarrassed 27-21 by the Bisons in Winnipeg's Pan Am Stadium. In that game, Manitoba parlayed some Bear miscues and an impotent Alberta offense into a 20-1 halftime lead. And that was all

they needed to stem a gritty second-half comeback attempt by Alberta.

Job prospects for the 1987 season, though, will also inject a little enthusiasm into the contest.

"Some of the players are going to

be more up for this game than they normally would be," said Kasowski. "They (the coaches) will see who wants to play."

Temperatures are now hovering around the 0°C mark and will probably dip below that by game time. The consensus is that this helps the Bears.

"It (the cold weather) will favor us," said Kasowski. "Also it's our field and we know where it's bad."

"If it's cold it's in our favor," said Lamb. "If we get up on them quick (on the scoreboard) they're just not gonna want to be here."

The Bears, if nothing else, seem determined to end their season on a winning note. "Against Calgary I couldn't count the number of red shirts (Dino players) on the field," said Lamb, "I've never seen our guys this intense; not since training camp when they were fighting for jobs."

Bear Facts: Running back **Andrzej Obodzinski** has a badly contused lower leg and will miss Saturday's game . . . **Brian Forrest** will come over from the inside receiver spot again to take his place . . . this means **Tom Houg** will now have worked with four other men in the Bears starting backfield. He began the year paired with **Mark Brus**, but Brus' year ended when he suffered a knee injury against Manitoba. **Jeff Funtasz** then came off the injured list and played five quarters before a knee injury took him out. **Obodzinski** then came over from the defensive safety spot and now he's out . . . wide receiver **Tony Pierson** re-strained a hamstring but should be ready . . . the game will be broadcast live on **CJSR** beginning at 12:45.

Hockey

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PCTS	PCT
Alta	4	3	1	0	30	19	6	.750
Cal.	4	3	1	0	24	15	6	.750
Man.	4	2	1	1	16	18	5	.625
Sask.	4	2	2	0	28	25	4	.500
Bran.	4	2	2	0	18	17	4	.500
Regina	4	2	2	0	23	25	4	.500
Leth.	4	1	3	0	16	25	2	.250
B.C.	4	0	3	1	15	26	1	.125

University Scoreboard

FUTURE GAMES:

Oct. 31-Nov. 1: Lethbridge at Alberta.

Brandon at Regina; UBC at Calgary;

Saskatchewan at Manitoba.

WIFL

	W	L	T	F	A	P
B.C.	7	0	0	192	65	14
Cal.	5	3	0	245	156	10
Sask.	3	4	0	142	179	6
Man.	2	5	0	88	169	4
Alta.	1	6	0	111	209	2

WEEK 11

Nov. 1: Saskatchewan at British Columbia; Manitoba at Alberta (End of regular season)

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