

Sports 1967-'68 in review



IT WAS A LONG, TOUGH SEASON FOR THE BEARS (LEFT) BUT THE VANIER CUP (RIGHT) MADE IT ALL WORTHWHILE

Rebuilding year for football squad ends with victory in College Bowl

Bears beat McMaster 10-9 for national title

By STEVE RYBAK

"See you in Toronto in November, Clare."

Few if any could believe the words of McMaster football coach John Kennedy following an exhibition game in September.

Faced with a rebuilding year, new head coach Clare Drake found he had only 15 veterans returning to the squad. Some excellent player management, the finest college football coaching staff in Canada and one hell of a lot of desire combined to give the Bears their first national football championship.

Things started off right for the Bears with an 11-1 victory over McMaster. But there was a long season ahead of the Bears. After losing Hart Schneider for the season and halfback Ludwig Daubner, Drake was faced with the uneasy prospect of building a new offensive line as well as choosing a quarterback.

LOSE THE FIRST

The following Saturday the Bears got a taste of reality as the U of S Huskies rode rough-shod over the Bears. Aided by five interceptions, a good defensive line and a powerful ground attack the Huskies administered a 16-8 drubbing. The only bright spot in the game was rookie Dave Kates' 49 yard TD run.

The Bears traveled to Calgary to face the league-leading Dinosaurs the next weekend. The Dinosaurs came to play football, but they let down for 58 seconds and lost 22-13. Down 7-0 at the end of the third quarter, the Bears' Lyle Culham blocked a punt to give the Bears possession on the Dinnies' 10. The result—Terry Lampert to John Violini; the score 7-7. Gene Lobay recovered the fumbled kick-off on the Dinnies' six yardline to set up Hart Cantelon's TD.

Later in the quarter Kates added an insurance TD. The Dinnies made a belated come back to score a TD late in the game.

DINNIES DRUBBED

The Dinnies came to town look for revenge a week later only to be rudely put down 19-7. Touchdown runs of 82 and 52 yards by Kates, a one yard plunge by Les Sorenson and a defence that completely stifled the Dinnies shot the Bears into second place in the league.

This year's Bison Hunt turned out successfully for the Bears. It was a game for the defences for all but two minutes. In those two minutes 17 points were scored starting off with Mel Smith's 68 yard pass and run TD from Lampert. The Bisons equaled the Bears' effort only 60 seconds later. Dave Benbow put the Bears ahead to stay with his second field goal of the afternoon. Final score, Bears 14, Bisons 7.

REVENGE

To take the league lead and title the Bears had to beat the Huskies. With the help of two fumbles and an interception the Bears scored 18 points in four minutes to humble the Huskies 24-7. Violini took a pass from Lampert and went 68 yards, the fumble recovery of the kickoff by Bob Baumbach setting up Sorenson's 14 yard TD and Val Schneider's 42 yard interception return to the one and his subsequent TD gave the Bears the game. The other Bear marker was counted by Gil Mather on a 25 yard interception return.

The Bears made it two in a row over the Bisons with a 20 point comeback in the final quarter to win 23-16. Two fumbles gave the Bisons an early 16-3 lead they held

until the fourth quarter. Lampert connected with Cantelon for a 65 yard scoring play and Benbow's two field goals tied the score. Lampert also got into the scoring act with a six-yard run around the right end.

COLLEGE BOWL NEXT

The taste of victory was very sweet as the Bears revenged last year's 17-0 loss to the UBC Thunderbirds by plucking them 29-0. Ahead only 8-0 at the half the Bears were ignited by the return of Daubner and the play of Schneider to score three more unanswered TDs in the second half. Sorenson, Violini, Cantelon and Dan McCaffery scored for the Bears as the UBC squad was unable to penetrate the Bears' 25 yardline. The Bears were in the College Bowl.

After watching his McMaster squad defeat last year's champions, the St. Francis Xavier X-Men 7-0 in the Atlantic Bowl, John Kennedy didn't think he'd walk off the field a loser the second time around. It certainly didn't look like it as his Marauders were threatening from the Bears' 14 with less than a minute to go with the score 10-9 for the Bears. A single would tie, a field goal would win.

WILSON SAVES GAME

Instead Dick Waring decided to pass with 40 seconds left. The ball went into a maze of players on the Bears' three yardline. Bear John Wilson broke out of the crowd with his second interception of the day to give the Bears the national championship.

Lampert scored on a seven yard run around the left end to give the Bears a 7-0 lead. Waring connected with Jay Graydon for 25 yards to tie the score less than a minute later. Benbow's toe gave the Bears the winning margin. Other McMaster points came on a missed field goal and a single.

Schneider was named the game's most valuable player as he did an outstanding job punting, at the corner-linebacking spot and as a replacement for fullback Sorenson.

With less than half a dozen players graduating this year, something just less than a miracle will be necessary to stop the Bears next fall. But then it was only a 'miracle' that the Bears got as far as they did this year.



LUDWIG DAUBNER
... stuck his neck out

Scorecard

How we did in intercollegiate sports events during 1967-'68

TENNIS

Men's singles champions
Men's doubles champions
Mixed doubles champions
WCIAA champions

GOLF

Women—1st, WCIAA
Men—2nd, WCIAA

RUGGER

Lost Little Brown Jug 14-13

CROSS COUNTRY

WCIAA champions
2nd Canadian finals

FOOTBALL

National champions
WCIAA champions

JUDO

WCIAA team champions

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Pandas—4th, WCIAA
Cubs—6th, jr. tournament

VOLLEYBALL

Bears—3rd, WCIAA
2nd—Alberta open
Pandas—2nd, WCIAA
2nd, Alberta open

FIGURE SKATING

2nd, WCIAA
Novice dance champions
Senior dance champions
Intermediate singles champions

SWIMMING

Bears—WCIAA champions
Pandas—WCIAA speed swimming champions
WCIAA synchronized swim champions

BADMINTON

Men—2nd, WCIAA
Women—3rd, WCIAA
Mixed doubles—1st, WCIAA

CURLING

Women—2nd, WCIAA
Men—7th, WCIAA

TRACK AND FIELD

4th, WCIAA

BASKETBALL

Bears—3rd, WCIAA

HOCKEY

Bears—WCIAA champions
Hamber Cup
Bearcats—25-3-4 season record

WRESTLING

WCIAA team champions

FENCING

Women's foil champions
WCIAA combined champions

GYMNASTICS

Women—1st, Canadian championships
2nd, WCIAA championships
Men—2nd, Canadian championships
2nd, WCIAA championships