

sports

Another "outstanding" team outstood

by Peter Best

Bears 54 Saskatchewan 7
Good grief, this is getting ridiculous.

Every week I write a story about an upcoming football game and how the Golden Bears are finally going to be really tested by an outstanding team. And every week the Bears go out and crush the "outstanding team" so badly that it's almost boring.

Last Saturday at Varsity Stadium the Bears did it again, beating the University of Saskatchewan Huskies 54-7.

The Huskies had no right making me look bad like that. They are a good football team, one of the best in the Western Intercollegiate Football League. They won their first game of the season 63-0 over the University of British Columbia. There's no way they should be beaten 54-7.

But U of A did it to them. Alberta didn't start as well as in their previous two wins. In fact they fumbled on their first offensive play and were forced to punt on their second series of downs.

But the third time they

gained possession the Bears marched 64 yards in eight plays for a touchdown. From the Huskies' four-yard line quarterback Gerald Kunyk swung fullback Dalton Smarsh out of the backfield and passed to him for the score. Don Kates' first of seven converts gave Alberta a 7-0 lead.

About two minutes later Saskatchewan's Ron Moe punted on third down and U of A's Gary Wilson took the short kick and ran through the Huskies' punt coverage for a 75-yard touchdown. That gave Alberta a 14-0 lead after the first quarter.

In the next few minutes Bears' defense took control with first an interception by defensive halfback Gary Widynowski followed by a fumble recovery by Tom Towns. The second turnover resulted in a 25-yard field goal by Kates which made the score 17-0.

Late in the first half U of A scored twice more. First it was Smarsh following superb blocking on a left-end sweep for a 20-yard touchdown. After the convert the Bears tried a short kickoff and regained possession



John Houghton hauls in one of five interceptions.

photo by Rick Bilak

on Saskatchewan's 53-yard line. From there they used five plays, three of them Kunyk-to-Brian Fryer passes, to score a major. The touchdown came on a 14-yard pass to Fryer and the convert gave Alberta a 31-0 lead at halftime.

Midway through the third quarter Bill Evans blocked a Husky punt to give the Bears possession deep in Saskatchewan's end. The offense quickly capitalized on the play with Kunyk sneaking in for a touchdown. Later in the period Kunyk punted 55 yards for a single, making the score 39-0.

Defensive back John Houghton quickly got the ball back for U of A with an interception off Huskies' quarterback Barrie Fraser. Eight plays later Kunyk sent Kates out for the same swing pass that Smarsh had scored on earlier and the result was another touchdown.

Not satisfied with a 46-0 lead, Houghton intercepted Fraser's next pass and returned it deep into Saskatchewan's end. Soon Ron Bryant was passing to Bud L'Hirondelle for Alberta's last major. L'Hirondelle had run the same pass pattern out of the backfield that both Smarsh and Kates had scored on earlier.

With 11:21 left to play the Huskies finally scored. Fraser threw an 11-yard pass to Robin Adair and Dave Osowy kicked the convert to make it 53-7.

Kunyk finished the scoring with a 61-yard punt for another single. Overall Kunyk had one of

his best days as a punter, averaging 49.5 yards on six punts.

After the game Huskies' head coach Val Schneider quietly conceded that the Bears "Taught us a lesson in what football's all about - execution and hitting. We have to do some soul-searching. We have too good a football team to get beat this badly."

Meanwhile Bears' head coach Jim Donlevy credited his

players' attitude for their success. Donlevy said it is the Bears' quiet confidence and their determination that has been the major factor so far in their three wins.

In the other WIFL game on Saturday the University of Calgary Dinosaurs beat the Manitoba Bisons 16-14 in Winnipeg. The win was Calgary's second of the season after they lost their opener 58-10 to the Bears.

Pandas split B.C. matches

by Deana Mitchell

The U of A Panda field hockey team played their first games of the season last weekend in Vancouver. The girls played against some excellent B.C. teams, and came away with a record of 2 wins and 2 losses.

Coach Kathy Broderick is pleased with the performance with her team on the weekend. The team has only five veterans returning, but this was not a real handicap in Vancouver. The rookies are enthusiastic and performed well in all four games.

The defence, led by halfback line, is the strength of the team. Susan Holder, Mary-Jane Henning, and Kathy Moore, known to their teammates as Flopsy, Mopsy, and Topsy, are the halfbacks on the team. The three Panda veterans played together this summer on the Alberta junior team, and their experience will be helpful to the team.

Irene Balutus, Carol Tromans, and Angela Pearson are vying for the fullback position on the team. Angela was a reserve on the Alberta junior team, Irene played for the Edmonton team in the Alberta Games, and Carol has played on numerous all-star teams for the Edmonton league. This defence is backed up by CDarien Anderson in goal. Darien did a good job in Vancouver last weekend, and appears to be headed for another outstanding season.

Susie Seaborn is the lone veteran returning to the forward line. Judy Forester, another member of the Alberta junior team, joins fellow Calgary import Laurie Pow on the wing. Char Shmyr, from the Grande Prairie entry in the Alberta Games, has been playing well. The other forwards are Sonja Bulycz and Marilyn McGee from the Edmonton team in the Alberta Games. Both girls have done well so far.

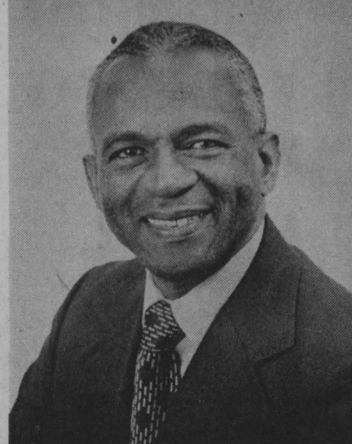
Coach Broderick feels that the biggest handicap of her forward line is their inexperience, but she is confident that the girls will improve as the season progresses.

The Pandas are defending Canada West champions, and they will be hard pressed to retain their title, as all of the teams in the league have improved. Broderick says that the level of University field hockey has improved greatly because of the establishment of the National Junior Tournament this summer. The tournament gave girls of university age a fine chance to improve their skills, and all of the university teams are stronger as a result.

The pandas will play a series of exhibition games before the C.W.U.A.A. finals on October 20. The team appears to have a good chance of having a successful season.

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