

It's that time of year

by Phil Preville

"I'm confused. Rabbit season, duck season . . . oh, Mr. Game Warden, can you tell me what season it is?"

"Whysure, Mac — it's baseball season."

—Elmer Fudd and Bugs Bunny

Finally, September is here. Going back to school is never a negative experience for me. My mind is on other things.

Baseball. Every autumn, the ghost of Babe Ruth bites and I wind up with a severe case of pennant fever. The thrill of the grass, the crack of the bat, peanuts and beer — I can't get enough of that baseball lore.

I can't wait until this Canada Cup nonsense is over and done with, so we can get on with more important matters. Now is not the time for hockey. Still, there are many people around this town who would rather watch NHL exhibition games than a crucial ball game in the heat of a pennant race.

O, unlearned pagans that ye be. Lord have mercy on you all.

Unlike the NHL, the also-rans have been weeded out

There is absolutely nothing in sports like a baseball pennant race. No playoffs in any sport — including baseball — compare. They play 162 games in a baseball season, in order to determine which team truly is the best. Unlike the NHL playoff fiasco, only one team in six or one in seven will enter post-season play. Second place just isn't good enough. Now, with 25 games left to play, the also-rans have been weeded out and two or three teams are left contending for each divisional title.

Baseball demands a different type of stamina from its players. Each game in itself does not test a player's inner strength, but the long schedule does. Teams play every single day. At this time, with 140 games played, it's easy to be tired. A player in the thick of contention, however, has to be mentally prepared every day, every game, every at-bat, and in the field with every pitch thrown, ready to make the play if the ball is hit to him.

Every game is crucial. Second place teams have to keep pace with the first place teams; they can't afford to lose ground. They also don't have the luxury of facing their main opponents every game, so they have to play and win against varied opposition.

For the fan, a pennant race can be a draining experience. You rejoice with your team's every win, and a piece of you dies with every loss.

Those of you who care more about the NFL strike or Mike Krushelnyski's contract problems shouldn't call yourselves "sports fans." I pity you all deeply for what you're missing.

Bears use toughness to upset Dinos

Bears 32 Calgary 20
by Alan Small

The date was October 10th, 1984. That was the last time the University of Alberta Golden Bears defeated the University of Calgary Dinos in football.

That was until Saturday, when the Bears went into enemy territory (McMahon Stadium) and defeated the Dinos 32-20 before 6,135 fans.

Twenty-two fourth quarter points by the Bears snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. Anchored by the rushing of fullback Mark Brus and the big play defense of Neil Ferguson, the Bears came back from a 10 point deficit in one quarter.

After a 27-yard single by Bob Torrance of the Dinos, Darren Brezden drove the Bears down the field and threw a 23-yarder to tight end John Lamb for the Bears' first major. After Steve Kasowski's convert, the Bears had the lead 7-1.

To start the second quarter, the Dinos came back down the field, due to the rushing of perennial WFL all-star Elio Geremia. Geremia capped off the drive with a three-yard sweep to the left of the Bears' defence. He would end up with 127 yards rushing on the afternoon. Torrance added the convert to put Calgary up by one.

The half ended on another missed field goal by Torrance, a 27-yard Kasowski field goal, and a 35-yarder from Torrance's replacement Brent Matich.

The Dinos made the score 19-10 after halftime when Darren Peterson intercepted a Darren Brezden pass and returned it 88 yards for the major. It was one of those out patterns that made WFL defensive backs lick their chops last year. Matich added the convert and then added a 73-yard single two minutes later to put the Dinos up by ten.

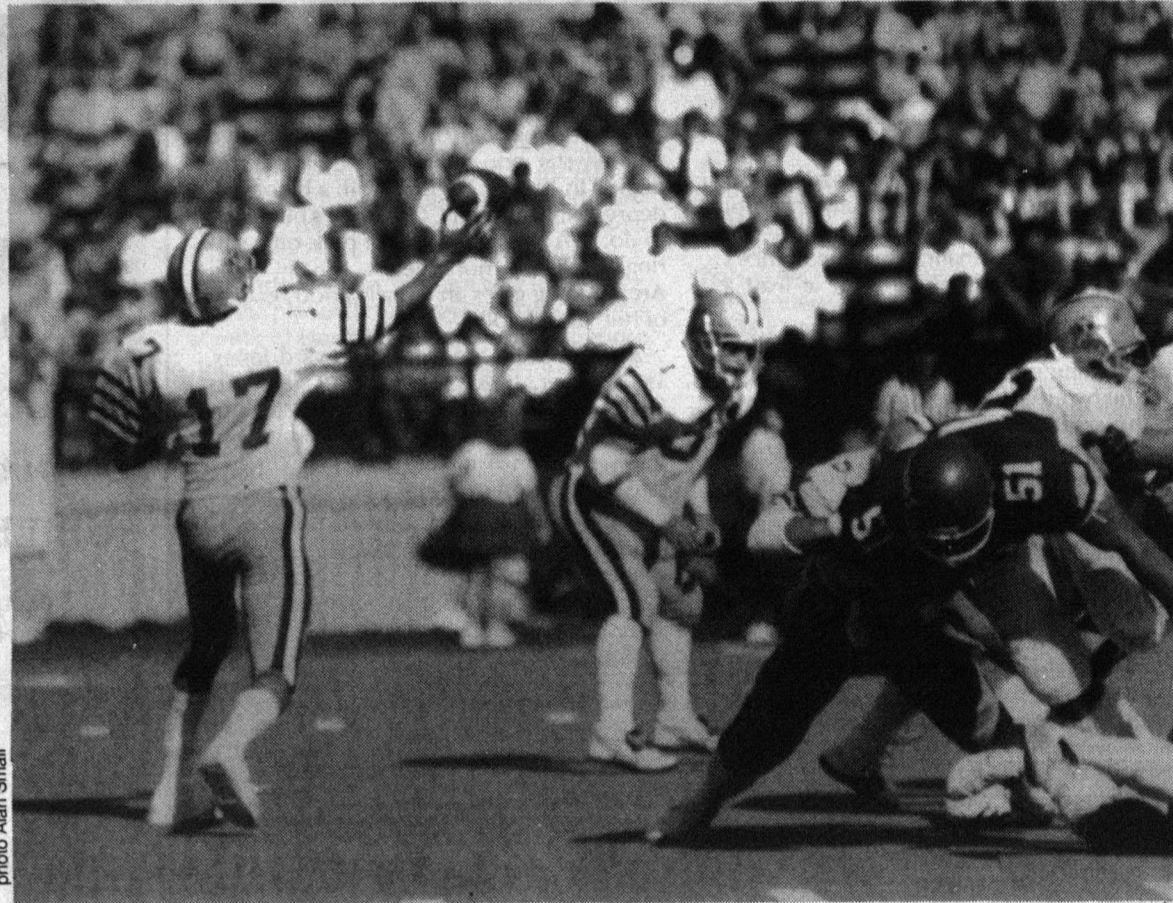


Photo Alan Small

Darren Brezden (17) throws a pass. The line gave him time to throw all day.

During the fourth quarter, the Bears started to dominate. Setting up their second touchdown of the game was the play that broke the backs of the Dinosaurs. Neil Ferguson came in from the right side and



blocked a Matich punt. Brezden passed to Lamb who took it to the one, where Brus plunged over for the TD. Kasowski added the convert and the score was 20-17.

Kasowski then kicked one through the end zone for a single to cut the Dino lead to two. The Bears' defence came up big when both Ferguson and linebacker Andy Schinke stuffed Geremia to force Calgary in a punting situation. Kasowski then added a 22-yard field goal and a single off the kick-off to put the Bears up by two with six minutes left.

The roof then crumbled for the Cowtowners when Rob Zimmerman fumbled into the arms of lineman Jim Clelland. Allan Bleiken then ran one in from 26 yards and

with the convert by Kasowski, the Bears led 29-20.

The Dinos tried the last gasp comeback, but were stopped on downs by the Bear defense. The Bears killed the clock and with no time left, Kasowski rubbed salt in the Dinosaur wounds with a 49-yard field goal, the longest of his university career.

"We could have let the heat get to us. When Peterson ran the interception back, we could have packed it in. But we didn't. The guys sucked it up and didn't use the excuses," coach Jim Donlevy said.

Bruising Bears KO Cowtowners

by Alan Small

Calgary fans were expecting the Elio Geremia show Saturday afternoon against the Golden Bears, but even though Geremia had a record setting game, he was overshadowed by the Bears ferocious ground attack, led by second year fullback Mark Brus.

Brus ran for 193 yards on 32 carries against the Dino defence. It was the second game in a row that Brus has gone over the century mark for rushing.

"The offensive line was exceptional," said an elated Brus, "it was a great team effort."

Coach Donlevy agreed, "They got off the ball and started beating on people. They said they weren't going to lose this game."

Brus wasn't the sole beneficiary of the offensive line effort. The Bears ran for a total of 275 yards, four less than the total offense of their southern counterparts.

Brus ran for one touchdown on the day, as well. Freshman Allan Bleiken also ran one in from 26 yards. Both were during the fourth quarter, when the Bears offensive line were starting to dominate Dino defensive line so that the Bear running backs could get through.

Their fourth quarter drives looked like the Washington Redskins in their heyday, with the Hogs leading the way for the bruising John Riggins. Those Redskin Hogs are the namesake for the line of the Golden Bears now, who have led U of A rushers to 766 yards in the first three games of the season.

Bear Tracks: A 14-point game by Kasowski equalled his whole output from the previous two games. Donlevy said he really has matured as a kicker... Former manager for the Bears and Gateway sports writer Tim Enger has gone down to Cowtown to work for the luge program for the Olympics.

Brus' efforts did not go unnoticed. He was player of the week in the WFL and led the Golden Bears to a fifth place ranking in the CIAU.

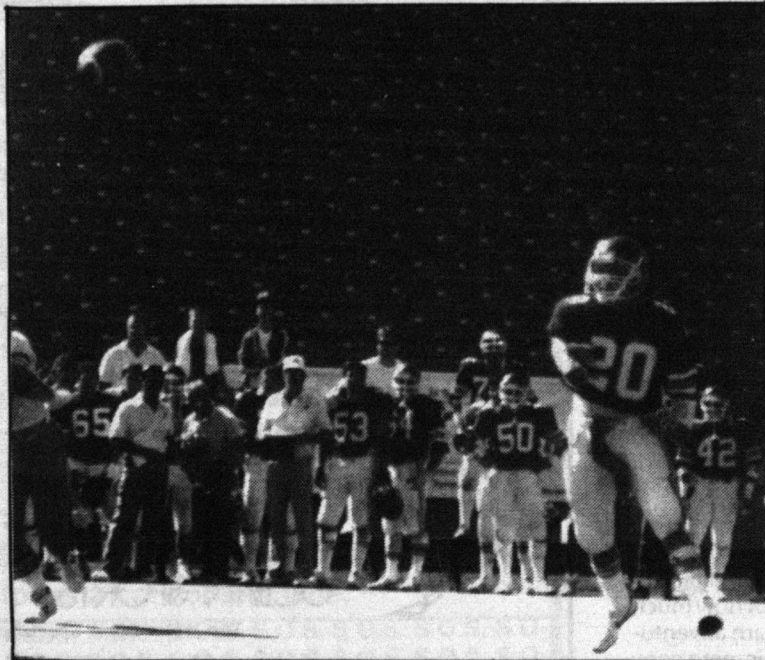


Photo Alan Small

Dinos' Rob McNab throws one in vain

Bears 32 Calgary 20

1st quarter:
1. Cal. Torrance 27 yd. single 5:37
2. Alta. 23 yd. pass Lamb from Brezden (Kasowski convert) 8:49

2nd quarter:
3. Cal. Geremia 3 yd. run (Torrance convert) 3:37
4. Cal. Torrance 42 yd. single 12:31
5. Alta. Kasowski 27 yd. field goal 14:27
6. Cal. Matich 35 yd. field goal 14:56

3rd quarter:
7. Cal. Peterson 88 yd. interception return (Matich convert) 10:37
8. Cal. Matich 73 yd. single

4th quarter:
9. Alta. Brus 1 yd. run (Kasowski convert) 2:39
10. Alta. Kasowski 80 yd. single 2:41
11. Alta. Kasowski 22 yd. field goal 8:55
12. Alta. Kasowski 70 yd. single 8:57
13. Alta. Bleiken 26 yd. run (Kasowski convert) 13:23
14. Alta. Kasowski 49 yd. field goal 15:00

Individual stats:

Rushing: Alta — Brus 32-193, Bleiken 7-46, Funtasz 6-22, Villettard 1-14.
Cal — Geremia 20-127, Zimmerman 8-50, Steele 1-12, Pozzi 1-5, McNab 1-2.

Receiving: Alta — Lamb 2-47, Kozakovich 2-29, Camp 2-23, Funtasz 1-5.
Cal — D. Brown 3-37, Steele 2-18, Stone 1-17, Geremia 2-16, Karbonik 1-15, Harrison 1-7.

Passing: Alta — Brezden 7-18-104-1-1, Villettard 0-2-0-1-0.
Cal — McNab 10-24-110-2-0, Torrance 0-3-0-0-0

	Alta	Cal
First downs	21	19
Rushing yards	275	196
Passing yards	110	104
Net offense	364	279
Passing comp/att	7/20	10/27
Interceptions	2	2
Fumbles/lost	0/0	4/3
Punts/avg.	11-45.5	7-54.1
Penalties/yards	15/102	9/85