

SPORTS

Bears bounce back with Calgary win

by Sandy Campbell

Saturday in Calgary the fog took its time to lift and let the sun shine on McMahon Stadium. Likewise the University of Alberta Golden Bears waited until the third quarter before showing the spark of which they are capable by coming from behind to edge U of Calgary 21-15.

The Dinosaur club, that only one week earlier had difficulty stumbling to a 9-6 victory over British Columbia, combined an unexpected running attack with their usual aerial effort to take the reigns in the first half. A second loss could have seriously hindered Alberta's chances of repeating as Canadian champions.

Both clubs were ineffective in the first quarter which started with a Bear fumble on the initial play from scrimmage. However, a good effort in blocking a Calgary field-goal kept the teams even until Jack Schwartzberg put Bears ahead with a single on a wide fieldgoal attempt in the latter stages of the quarter.

Dinosaur quarterback, Don Siler, moved the ball well in the second stanza, handing off to Gary Jackson for a major from the 8 yard line, and passing to Mitch Davies for a 12-yard touchdown in the last minute of the half to give them a 14-1 half-time lead.

Bears' effort was marred by their own miscues. Frequent inability to find the handle on several passes was indicative of the lack of "tightness" the team had in that first half. By far the biggest factor in their game was the number of penalties that they took. Over the entire game, eighteen penalties cost them 132 yards, not to mention the substantial offensive gains called back.

One area that did look more impressive was the balance of the Bears' offense. Predominantly quarterbacked by Larry Tibble, they put together 128 yards passing and 100 yards rushing in the second half.

The green-and-gold opened up in the third after an interception by Roger Comartin. A 66-yard quick pass-and-run play to Dalton Smarsh carried the ball to the Dinosaur one-yard line. Tibble sneaked over on his second try for the TD. A high snap resulted in an unsuccessful attempt for a 2 point conversion.

Only minutes later Lyle Watson returned a Calgary punt to mid field from deep in Bear territory. On the next offensive series, Tibble hit flanker Roy Beechey near the sidelines for the second major, covering 31 yards on the play. Schwartzberg's convert was good, tying the score 14-14.

The final quarter see-sawed with no scoring until 12:01 when Dinosaurus punted the ball into the end zone allowing no return, for a single point. A crucial situation had been met earlier when Bears' defense held on third-and-less-than-a-yard well in their own territory.

With 2:59 remaining and Bears trailing by one point, Tibble attempted to move the team downfield. Another penalty nullified a first down and created a second-and-23 situation which was not successful, forcing Bears to punt to Calgary.

The defense prevented Dinosaurus from completing a second down effort. On third down a bad snap from centre forced the punter to scramble and throw a short pass which was well short of a first down.

Bears took over with good field position and ran a couple of rushing and passing plays, bringing them to the 10-yard line. Tibble then hit Gary Adam in the end zone for the touchdown with 32 seconds remaining. Schwartzberg converted to make it 21-15.

After the kick-off, Calgary made one last effort to come back. Against the clock Siler threw a long pass which was picked off by Bear cornerback Gary Wilson to end the game.



Brian Adam gathers in a touchdown pass with 32 seconds left to play.

Photo by Sandy Campbell

Soccer Bears meet their match

by Peter Best

"They met their match on Sunday." Golden Bears' soccer coach Stu Robbins was referring to his team's 2-2 draw with Victoria, a local first division club.

In previous games U of A had shut out the Alberta Youth Team 2-0 last Thursday night and overwhelmed Ft. McMurray 7-1 on Saturday afternoon. But Sunday's contest was a much sterner test.

On a rain-soaked pitch at Victoria's home park in north Edmonton Bears allowed their hosts a two goal lead, then doggedly fought back to tie the score.

While the Green and Gold had trouble controlling the play

in midfield in the first half, the home team, playing a man short despite using both their coach and manager, pounced on defensive lapses to score twice. Bears had scoring chances of their own but were unable to complete their plays. At the midway break Victoria led 2-0.

In the second half U of A showed improved organization in their midfield attack, resulting in greater pressure on the Victoria defense. Ten minutes into the half Peter Chiu put Bears on the scoreboard when he moved in on a corner kick to back up Tony Msemakweli. When the striker slipped, Chiu was there to drive the ball home.

Fired up by the goal, Bears began pressing to get the

equalizer. Tall sweeper George Lovell moved all the way up to the opposition's goal area for added height on corner kicks.

Victoria was wearing down under the Bears' pressure. With 15 minutes left to play, Phil Craig tied the score. On a corner kick, Lovell knocked the ball down to Craig who fired the ball past the sprawling goalkeeper.

After the game Robbins and fellow coach Clive Padfield expressed concern about their team's defensive breakdowns and inability to capitalize on scoring opportunities. "But we're confident the problems can be solved with more hard work and dedication," says Robbins.

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