



SPORTS



Dan Kepley - happy right here

Last week, the Gateway's Allison Annesley spoke with Edmonton Eskimo middle linebacker Dan Kepley. Kepley, 28, ex of the Dallas Cowboys, and 3 time Schenly award winner was quoted last month in the Globe and Mail as having said he would go to play for the Toronto Argonauts if his Edmonton contractual demands are not met. Kepley talks about his career in football, and attempts to clear up the confusion.

Gateway: How did you get roped into sounding as though you wanted a trade?

Kepley: There were some false rumors circulating that Dale Potter, Ron Estay, and myself would be involved in a package deal trade to Toronto. Dale actually is a bit of a kiddier and may have mentioned it at some time as a joke. A reporter from the Globe and Mail phoned me while I was on vacation in North Carolina to ask me about it. This reporter asked if I would play in Toronto in the event of contract problems with Edmonton. I don't like to disclose things about my contract to anyone. I only said I wanted to come back to Edmonton to re-negotiate some details. At that point, if the Eskimos didn't want to re-negotiate, Toronto would hopefully be one of the eight options open for me to play. I didn't think there would be any problems though. I still don't. I expect things to go smoothly with Norm Kimball.

Gateway: You would like to live in Edmonton permanently then?

Kepley: The bottom line is that I don't want to leave Edmonton. I enjoy the city. I have a beautiful loving wife Terry. Right now Terry and I are in the process of having our own house built. It's taken up a lot of time, but we're both really excited by it.

Gateway: How did you first become interested in football?

Kepley: As a kid in junior high, back in North Carolina, I enjoyed whatever sport

was in season: football, basketball, and baseball. After my last year in high school, I received a full football scholarship to attend East Carolina University. I played 4 years of university ball, and fortunately in my senior year, I was selected to the All American Team. I became a free agent then, and soon afterwards signed with the Dallas Cowboys.

Gateway: How did you come to play for the Eskimos?

Kepley: From the Cowboys I was one of the last players cut in 1975. At that point, all the other teams were also down to a limit of 43 on their rosters, so I didn't have a very good opportunity to be picked up anywhere else. I spoke to Cleveland and Denver but they also had their rosters set.

make a number of changes. The major difference between the 2 leagues is their depth of rosters. If a first string player is injured in the NFL, there's a second string player who's usually almost as good. Here in the CFL, if a starter is injured, the back-up is usually not as good. The number of players in an NFL ballclub is 45, as opposed to 34 in the CFL. This allows the NFL the luxury of having those extra players who are usually rookies for specialty teams. They can save the veterans and starters for scoring and defense, while the rookies act as specialty people.

Probably the biggest problem with the Canadian league is the university system of athletics. In the U.S., most major N.C.A.A. (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Colleges can offer up to 30 to 40 high school kids full scholarships, which cover

Kepley: I've been very blessed to be associated with probably two of the greatest football organizations around: the Edmonton Eskimos and the Dallas Cowboys. The Edmonton Eskimos are just an absolutely first class club. Things are done just the best way they can be. It's been a real privilege for me to work with a man of the calibre of Coach Campbell. It's also a real education to be involved with our ball club right now.

Gateway: How much longer do you plan to play football?

Kepley: I would like to play football another 6 years anyway, if I'm blessed with the health. I plan to play as long as I can possibly contribute to the team. Once I feel I'm not getting the job done, I'd like to be able to make the decision myself to get out of football, rather than have someone decide for me.

Gateway: What would you like to do after football?

Kepley: I would like to get into something now to prepare for when football ends. I'm looking now, into a couple of areas. There's a possibility of something like stockbroking. I'm also considering going back to school and getting a law degree. (Kepley was in his final year of a physical education major with a minor in biology when he became a free agent). It's awfully tough to consider what my life will be without football. I've had it quite nice my whole life. Anytime you get the opportunity to do something you enjoy, and make a living from it, it is a luxury. During the season, I love to get up, knowing I will play football. Now that I'm a little older and more mature, I have to accept that I can't do this forever. I really don't know what I'll do when football is over. I can never see me not playing football. You have to invest your money well. A lot of players play an entire career and have nothing to show for it. I don't want to be one of those players.

"Probably the biggest problem with the Canadian league is the university system of athletics"

So I went back to North Carolina. The World Football League (WFL) had formed a team in North Carolina called the Charlotte Hornets, and I was very close to signing a contract with them. The night before the signing though, I got a call from Frank Morris, the head scout for the Eskimos at the time. He told me the Eskimos linebacker, Sam Britts, had been hurt, and they needed a middle linebacker. They wanted me to play that Sunday. I flew that Thursday, found a home, and have been here ever since.

Gateway: How would you say the CFL compares to the NFL?

Kepley: I think the Edmonton Eskimos could compete with any NFL ball club, but for the CFL to compete, they would have to

all their expenses. Few athletic scholarships are offered in Canada to entice students to work harder in their last year of high school. There are of course, obvious exceptions, but the majority of college athletes who are better schooled in football, usually attend college in the U.S. on their scholarships, and return later to Canada to play. Tommy Towns of course, grew up in Canada and went to the University of Alberta so although super ball players have come through Canadian universities, it is probably better to have a scholarship in the U.S. It's very hard to attend university and combine working for tuition, keeping a high average, and playing a sport. I admire those who can do it.

Gateway: How do you feel about your years with the Edmonton Eskimos?

Co-rec intramurals all wet but buoyant

by Garnet DuGray

The co-recsers got themselves wet in co-rec water polo but it did not dampen their enthusiasm any over the past three weeks. In the Tuesday night competition, the Shooters easily captured top honors with a perfect 6-0 record followed by 9th Mac B with a 4-0-1 mark and in third were the Aggies with a .500 mark of 3 wins and 3 losses. On the following night's action, the Barracuda's took their league honors with an impressive 5-1 mark with Zoology finishing second posting a 3-2 record and in third spot was LDSSA also with a 3-2 mark.

Co-rec badminton wraps up next Thursday the 18th in the West gym while the volleyball league runs Mondays-Wednesdays, March 1-18 in the Main, West, Education and Dance gyms. Entry deadline for the ever-popular tourney is slated for one p.m. at the co-rec/men's office on Wednesday, February 17. Sign-up now before your night is filled.

In men's intramurals, the curling bonspiel wrapped up on Sunday at the Sportex with the "Big" George Fukushima (Engineering) rink taking the top prize in the 'A' event over the Robin White foursome of Henday Hall. The 'B' event saw the Tokariuk rink (Agriculture) knock off the Boomer (Delta Upsilon) quartet while Gerry Anderson's (Engineering) double duo downed the Glenn Ortt rink (Law) in the 'C' event.

The badminton tourney finishes this Thursday in the Education gym with the playoffs to be concluded on that evening, so be sure to come out and cheer on your favorite bird basher. Also this week, the indoor soccer continues in the Kinsmen Fieldhouse until March 16. Thursday night sees the kickoff of the men's volleyball league with a seeding for Divisions I and III while Division II goes on Monday of next week. This small tourney will determine the leagues where each club will play their round robin schedule before playoffs. The league will begin the first week of March.

Results of the triples volleyball tournament, the snooker tourney and the cross-country ski race (yes, it finally was run last weekend) were unavailable at press time but will be released next week so be sure to stay tuned. Lastly in the men's department, the slalom ski race will be run starting at 9 a.m. on this Saturday, February 13 at Rabbit Hill ski resort. Come out and enjoy the half-day festivities.

In women's intramurals, the 3-on-3 basketball saw three individual winners for each of the three nights of play. On Mondays, the P.E. Grads captured top honors along with LDSSA who captured the same title for the Tuesday night action. As well the Panda volleyballers finished on top of the heap for the Thursday night activities. In terms of participation, the OV's captured

top spot overall with a 48 point total followed by Kelsey and LDSSA, both with 18 points.

With the women's badminton finishing up this week, the ladies are looking forward to 5-on-5 basketball and triples volleyball for the month of March as a couple of the last few events of the intramural year. The volleyball will go Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. each night. The round robin action runs from March 4 - 16 in the West gym.

Opposite of this on Mondays in the West gym and Wednesdays in the Education gym is the women's 5-on-5 basketball running from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. each night. The basketball will go with both a recreational and a competitive only on Mondays. All teams of 5 or more players are only allowed to play in one of the two leagues. Entry deadline for both the volleyball and basketball is at the women's office on next Tuesday, February 16 by one p.m.

The ever-popular 'Stamp Around Alberta' program is going great, a once this year as John Van Damme leads all joggers having run for over 1100 km. to date. Doug Fletcher and Rick Mrazak have completed almost 700 km. themselves, so let's get out and "Stamp" around.

A reminder that the deadline for challenges in either the squash or racquetball ladders is fast approaching with March 4 just around the corner. Alisatir Hardie leads the squash ladder with Scott Garvie and Dave Nicholson right

behind him, while Dave Lynch sits atop the racquetball ladder with Ralph Kuhn and Rod Osborne close behind. So be sure to get out there quick and make those challenges before it is too late. Both ladders are posted along

with the challenge rules in the glass case next to the men's intramural office on the lower floor of the P.E. building.

Sports Quiz



by Kevin McKay

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Well, it looks as if I get another break. Kevin came in and delivered another quiz to me. It is very difficult to jump for joy on paper but I'm sure you can imagine exactly what I'm talking about. Well, without further adieu, here is Kevin's quiz. As before, give yourself one point for each correct answer, I bombed out on this one.

1. Who won the first WHL scoring title?
2. Which NHL player has played on the most Stanley Cup teams?
3. Which was the last NFL team to go through a season undefeated?
4. Who was the Boston goalie that Darryl Sittler scored six goals and four assists against in one game?
5. Who holds the NASL record for most assists in one season?
6. Which teams participated in the first game between an NHL team and a WHL team and who won?
7. Who holds the record for the longest return of a missed field goal in the CFL and how long was it?
8. Which NHL player holds the record for the fastest two goals in an all-star game and how fast were they?
9. What pitcher did Frank Aaron hit his 715th home run off?
10. Which NHL teams did these goalies start their careers with? Bernie Parent, Tony Esposito, Gilles Meloche, and Billy Smith.