

Football begins! p. 19 & 20.

# Sports

The Wall of Fame adorns the Van Vliet centre. p. 21.

## Young Bears look promising Funtasz, Schinke questionable for WIFL opener at UBC

by Dean Bennett

It was with a healthy sense of optimism that the U of A football Bears wrapped up their training camp this past weekend.

"This is probably the most competitive camp we've had in years," said Bears Head Coach Jim Donlevy. "I don't think there was a single player who didn't feel challenged."

One notable facet of this year's team will be its youth. The bulk of the players are in their first or second years. Donlevy, however, does not feel this is a disadvantage. "Given the expected development of these players, I think this bodes well for us down the road."

The camp was not without its share of injuries or surprises, however. For the most part, despite a week of two-a-day practices in plus 25 degree Celsius heat, the injuries sustained were basically minor ones: sprained ankles, hamstring pulls and concussions. The majority of these injuries were to rookies. Team Athletic Therapist Fraser Dods felt this was due to their inexperience.

"They (the rookies) do not really know what condition they have to be in to come to camp. Also, they don't really know how to treat injuries. It's a big jump from high school to university in recognizing and treating injuries."

Toward the end of camp, however, it was not the rookies who were hobbling off to the trainer's room. During Friday's intra-squad scrimmage, starting halfback Jeff Funtasz suffered a partially torn hamstring, and first string line-backer Andy Schinke reinjured his shoulder. Both are questionable for the opening game at UBC this Saturday. The loss of Funtasz would be particularly disappointing. A rigorous off-season conditioning program brought him to camp in excellent shape, and up until the injury he was showing signs of the

Jeff Funtasz of 1984 (when he led the nation in rushing and was named CIAU Rookie of the Year).

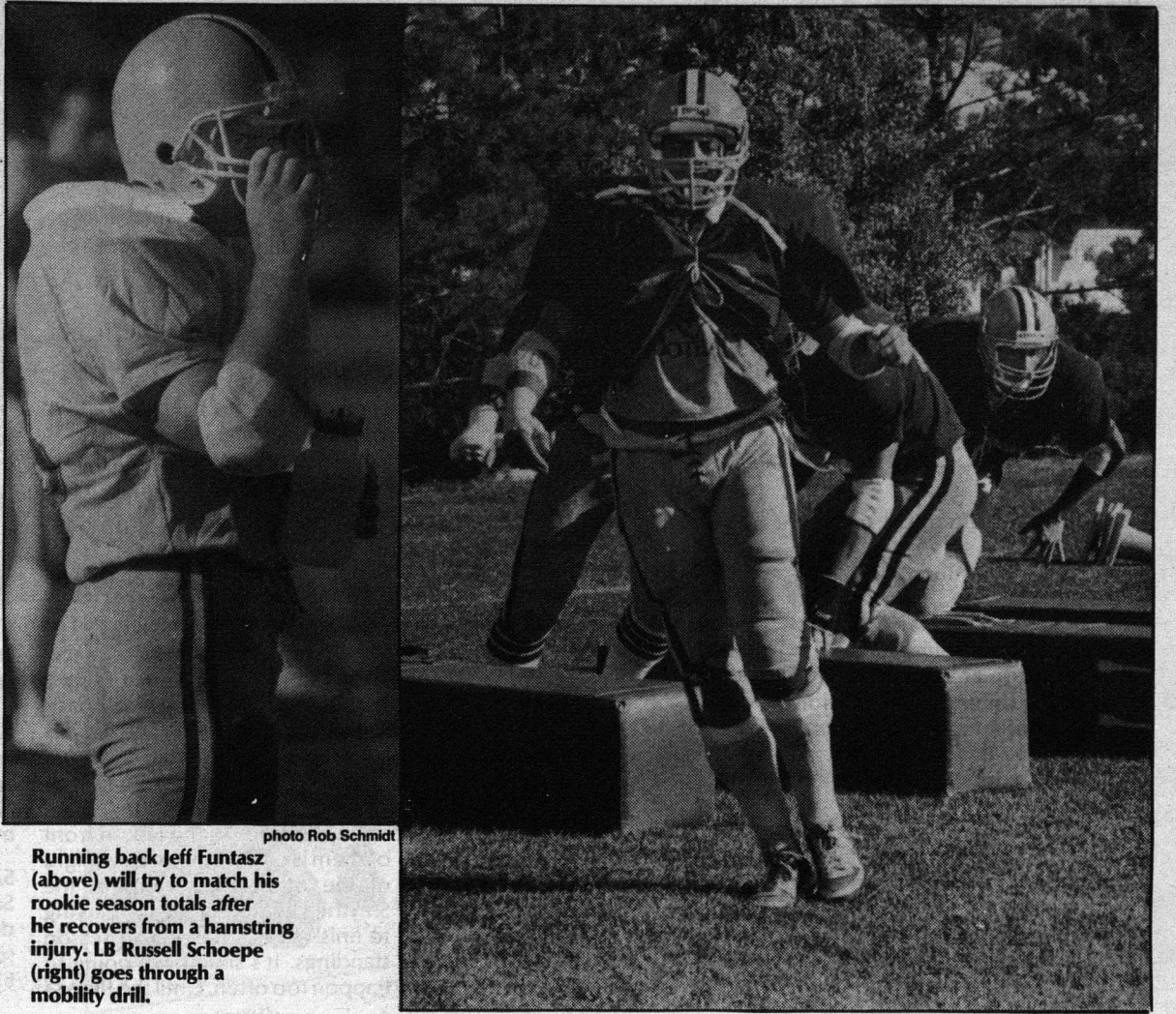
The Bears' 1986 plans received another blow when running back Kevin Wilkinson retired. Wilkinson, who had received head injuries in a car accident one year ago, began having headaches during camp and the team felt he could risk permanent injury if he continued to play.

Two other Bear hopefuls who fell by the wayside were inside receivers Peter Eshenko and Brian Cable. Eshenko, who was pencilled in to start this year, was declared ineligible by the CIAU. The CIAU decided Eshenko's two years as a CFL pro negated his amateur eligibility. Cable hurt his knee playing lacrosse this summer and it has not responded to therapy. He will sit the year out.

The quarterbacking situation was thrown into momentary disarray when Aaron Smith was declared academically ineligible. Quarterback Coach Forrest Kennard had planned to use Smith along with QB's Mark Denesiuk and Kevin Molcak this year. To replace Smith, Dan Beaton was moved from the defensive backfield into the pivot slot.

The conclusion of camp also brought some interesting cuts. Veteran kicker James Richards and offensive lineman Tom Demeo were deleted from the roster. Richards found himself a victim of the numbers game. Both Derek Waterman and Steve Kasowski were kicking the ball better than him in camp and, unlike Waterman and Kasowski, Richards does not play any other position and this makes a difference when the team can take only 32 guys on the road.

"With a limited travel roster you're looking to take the guy who can play another position," said Donlevy.



Running back Jeff Funtasz (above) will try to match his rookie season totals after he recovers from a hamstring injury. LB Russell Schoepe (right) goes through a mobility drill.

In the case of Demeo it came down to ability vs. eligibility. "Fifth year players (like Demeo) should start or be close to starting," said Donlevy. "It's unfair to have someone with so little eligibility left to invest time and not start. It's also unfair to a young first year player. If he can see the light at the end of the tunnel (getting to start soon) he may work harder, but its been my experience that the same isn't true

for a fifth year player."

**BEARS NOTES:** The Bears' roster includes 32 veterans and 30 new players... Newcomer **Mark Brus** impressed coaches in camp and will start with Funtasz in offensive backfield... Bears home opener is **September 13** vs. the **Saskatchewan**

**Huskies...** the Bears season opener will be broadcast live on **CJSR-F.M.** beginning at 8:30.

## The Shrine Bowl heads North

by Tim Enger and Mark Spector

With another new football season traditionally comes not only a few new faces on the sidelines, but a few new twists from the marketing point of view, as well. This year the Athletic departments of both the Universities of Alberta and Calgary have come together with the Alberta chapter of the Shriners to put together the North/South Shrine Bowl.

But unlike the NCAA's East/West Shrine Bowl, an American college All-Star game played at the conclusion of the NCAA season, the Canadian version will be a two-game total-point series. The first game will be played at Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium on September 20th, then on October 25th, the Golden Bears will head south to McMahon Stadium to play the Dinosaurs. Both games will count towards the WIFL's regular season standings, and perhaps most importantly for the players, the MVP of each game will be nominated to play in the NCAA Shrine game.

In the past two years both Tom Spoletini and Kent Warnock of the U of C have gone stateside for their contest, due mainly to lobbying done by the Calgary Shriners. Warnock was drafted last year by the Pittsburgh Steelers of the National Football League, but was let go during training camp. He is expected to join the Calgary Stampeders.

Lost in all of this, however, is the game itself. There's no doubt that

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## Tex A&M lends 13th man to Alberta New student each week to kickoff for Golden Bears

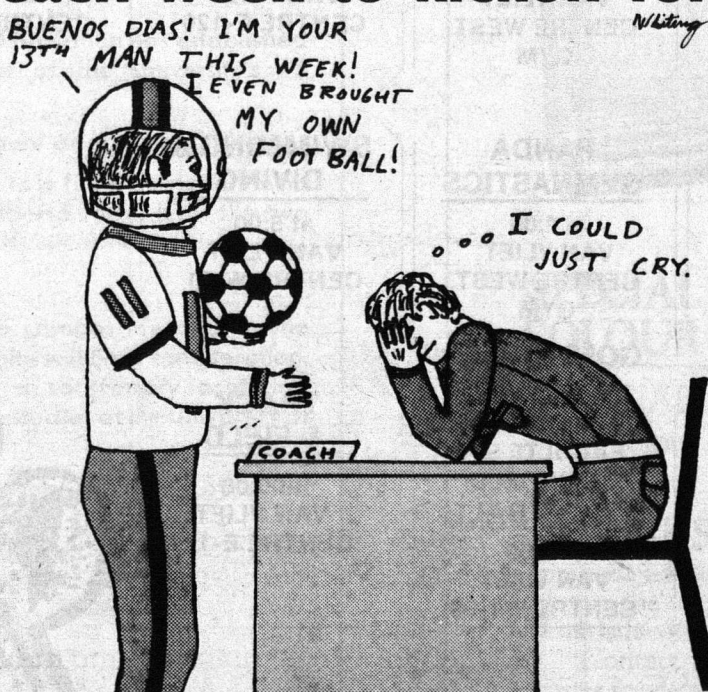
by Dean Bennett

Armchair athletes arise. The U of A football Golden Bears may just have found the cure for your long standing case of George Plimpton envy.

Beginning this season the team will be instituting "The 13th Man", a program designed to get the fan out of the stands and onto the playing field.

The 13th Man will be a U of A student chosen by the Bears' coaching staff from among a list of volunteer candidates. This student will practice with the Bears' special teams all week prior to a home game and, on the day of the game will suit up and participate as part of the coverage team on the Bears' opening kickoff. If the opposition kicks the ball first, the 13th man will wait until the Bears get an opportunity to kick. After participating in this one play he or she will then return to the stands, keeping the game jersey, to regale friends with tales of gridiron heroism.

The contest, designed to heighten fan awareness and participation, is borrowed from a similar program at Texas A&M.



"Texas A&M came up with the idea," said Bears quarterback coach Forrest Kennard. "But they have 11 actual students on their kick team, and those students are good athletes."

To apply for the program,

though, applicants must meet seven criteria. The applicant must be a full-time student and be eligible to compete in the CIAU. He or she must be medically fit. (They'll have to be checked out by Health Services to make sure they

don't have a heart condition or anything like that," said Bears Head Coach Jim Donlevy).

The applicant must have reasonable athletic ability. The decision on who qualifies will be made by Jim Donlevy and by Defensive Backfield and Special Teams coach John Belmont. "The guy has to be able to run a bit," said Donlevy.

On field participation in football, of course, carries inherent risks to life and limb, but the responsibility is all on the student.

"All of our players play at their own risk, and the 13th Man won't be any different," said Donlevy. "If we put him into a hitting drill and have a big running back run straight at him then you could say we did not execute due care and attention. But we're not asking him to drop from a helicopter to land on the ballcarrier."

KING-FM radio will be helping out. Jim Herbison will be guest coaching the 13th Man and the station will be promoting the contest on the air.

Anyone interested in signing up should meet in Room E-120 in the Van Vliet Centre at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4.