

SPORTS

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca • tuesday, 17 october, 2006

Jeske leads gridiron Bears past Dinos



Player of the Game

Running back/kick-return specialist Kendall Jeske ran for 110 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Bears to victory. Jeske added 83 return yards on six punts and one kickoff, including a 34-yarder. It was the fifth-year from St Albert's first 100-yard rushing game in CIS.

Box Score

First Quarter

03:28 AB—Kendall Jeske 10 yd run (Scott Stevenson kick)

Second Quarter

14:43 AB—Damon Fraiatta 30 yd pass from Cam Linke (Scott Stevenson kick)

03:40 AB—safety

00:04 AB—Scott Stevenson 27 yd field goal

Third Quarter

No Scoring

Fourth Quarter

12:20 CGY—Anthony Woodson 7 yd run (Aaron Ifield kick)

08:30 CGY—Aaron Ifield 34 yd field goal

05:38 AB—Kendall Jeske 59 yd run (Scott Stevenson kick)

00:10 AB—Adam Cottrell 9 yd pass from Quade Armstrong (Scott Stevenson kick)

Calgary	0	0	0	10	—	10
Alberta	7	12	0	14	—	33

	CGY	AB
First downs	15	25
Yards rushing	88	276
Yards passing	170	110
Net offense	258	386
Passes made-attempted	13-31	10-29
Return yards	196	130
Interceptions made-yards	1-22	4-17
Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Sacks by	1	5
Punts-average	9-33.8	7-40.9
Penalties-yards	9-74	18-135
Time of possession	30:17	29:32
Field goals made-attempted	1-1	1-2

RUSHING: CGY—Anthony Woodson 18-90, KC Prince 1-4, Dalin Tollestrup 1-4, David Maltman 1- minus 10; AB—Kendall Jeske 11-110, Luke Lavorato 3-63, Tendayi Jozzy 13-57, Damon Fraiatta 1-15, Cam Linke 2-12, Adam Cottrell 2-9, Matthew Jarvis 2-8, Wes Cordick 1-8, Quade Armstrong 1-minus 6.

PASSING: CGY—Dalin Tollestrup 13-30-4-170, Drew Carpenter 0-1-0-0; AB—Cam Linke 6-21-0-69, Quade Armstrong 4-8-1-41.

RECEIVING: CGY—David Raborn 3-64, KC Prince 3-61, Anthony Woodson 3-7, Drew Hogan 2-20, Jim Lillico 1-15, Adam Bunz 1-3; AB—Damon Fraiatta 3-44, Adam Cottrell 2-27, Aaron Holba 2-18, Tim Hetherington 2-17, Tendayi Jozzy 1-4.



THE GREAT THING ABOUT YAC IS ... YOU GET MORE YARDS Damon Fraiatta (11) racks up the yards after the catch, or YAC as John Madden says.

ANDREW RENFREE Sports Staff

For that brief moment when a punt or a kick hangs in the air, Kendall Jeske is calm and relaxed as all eyes are on him. Twelve defenders are running full bore for the 5'7" Alberta kick returner, eager to drill him with a hit and limit his return yards, but Jeske said that he takes that moment to focus and decide where he's going to run with the ball.

"Yeah right. He's thinking, 'Oh shit, oh shit,'" his teammates joked in the locker room.

While Jeske has made his name returning kicks, this season has found him doubling as an offensive threat by rushing the football. He and fellow running back Tendayi Jozzy have become one of the best running tandems in CIS this season. Jozzy racked up big yardage in the first few contests of the year, and Jeske has filled in as Jozzy battled an injury the last couple games. On Saturday night, as the Bears took on the Calgary Dinos, Jozzy saw the ball for most of the first quarter, but after that it was all Jeske as he racked up 110 yards and two touchdowns to lead Alberta to a 33-10 victory. It was Jeske's first game 100-yard rushing game as a Bear, and his 59-yard TD run in the fourth quarter put the game out of reach.

Damon Fraiatta and Adam Cottrell caught touchdown passes and Scott Stevenson kicked a field goal to round out the scoring for Alberta. The Dinos were missing 17 players to injury,

which significantly depleted a Calgary team already hindered by inexperience.

"We're just a young football team trying to learn and develop," said Calgary head coach Blake Nill. "We're just not ready yet. I'm guaranteeing you that this team is going to be a team to reckon with, but at this point, we have too much youth, too much inexperience, and most importantly, I don't think we're ready physically to compete with the best teams in the league."

The Alberta win, however, wasn't all that graceful. The Bears racked up 135 yards in penalties, and gave up good field position and offensive opportunities on account of their own mental mistakes. Fortunately for Alberta, Calgary wasn't able to capitalize on the blunders.

"We obviously took way too many penalties; one thing we're really going to have to focus on is how to play disciplined," Jeske said. "Other than that, our offence moved the ball again, which is nice to see. We've been steadily improving every week and our passing game is coming along. Overall, if things keep coming the way they are, we'll be ready come playoff time."

Jeske has been returning kicks for the Bears since 2002, and is Alberta's all-time leader in punt return yards with 1701. His small frame gives him great speed to run to the outside and dance past diving defenders, making him exciting to watch. This season, Jeske has twice been named the Canada West Special Teams Player of the Week, but he has also grown into an impor-

tant role: running the ball on offence in the last couple of games.

Bears head coach Jerry Friesen felt that Saturday night was a classic battle of Alberta game. It was a little more one-sided on the score board than Calgary had hoped, but the rivalry was evident as many skirmishes broke out after plays, culminating with Calgary linebacker David Gruninger ejection from the game in the fourth quarter.

"This is a big rivalry between these teams," Nill said. "We can't give up without a fight. Football's a tough game, it's a physical game and I want my guys to battle right to the end."

"In a way it kind of seems like Calgary brings out the worst in us," Jeske added.

Despite Alberta's undisciplined play, constant pressure put on the Calgary backfield by Golden Bear defensive linemen along with the strength of the Bears running game, resulted in the win. Alberta had 276 rushing yards compared to 88 for Calgary. Friesen admitted that Jozzy was healthy, but felt that Jeske would be better suited to run the ball against the Dinos as the game wore on. Even though Jeske has filled that rushing role very well this year, he explained that he still loves the adrenaline rush of returning a kick for big yards.

"I like returning [punts and kickoffs] more than running the ball," he said. "When I'm in the backfield, everything is planned and more structured, but with returning kicks it's all up to me to find a hole."