

Rams rain, hail, on Bears' gridiron parade

Alberta came back to the field invigorated after a long weather delay, but it wasn't enough to overcome Regina's early 17-point lead



Players of the Game

Though the kickers dominated much of the scoring in this weekend's game, player of the game honours has to go to Chad Goldie, who made 15 catches for 146 yards and a touchdown. This set a new single-game Canada West record, outstripping the previous one of thirteen set in 1983. The 146 receiving yards were also a career high for Goldie.

Box Score

First Quarter

10:08 Reg—Chad Goldie 23-yard pass from Teale Orban (Perri Scarcelli kick)
08:46 Reg—Graham Mosiondz 25-yard pass from Teale Orban (Perri Scarcelli kick)
00:58 Reg—Perri Scarcelli 14-yard field goal

Second Quarter

02:37 AB—Damon Fraietta 48-yard pass from Quade Armstrong (Hugh O'Neill kick)
00:01 Reg—Perri Scarcelli 13-yard field goal

Third Quarter

14:13 AB—Aaron Holba 25-yard pass from Quade Armstrong (Hugh O'Neill kick)
12:58 AB—Safety
12:01 AB—Hugh O'Neill 47-yard field goal

Fourth Quarter

14:44 Reg—Perri Scarcelli rouge
10:57 AB—Hugh O'Neill 33-yard field goal
06:45 Reg—Perri Scarcelli 24-yard field goal

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|---------|----|---|----|---|---|----|
| Regina | 17 | 3 | 0 | 4 | — | 24 |
| Alberta | 0 | 7 | 12 | 3 | — | 22 |

| | REG | AB |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| First downs | 37 | 17 |
| Yards rushing | 143 | 92 |
| Yards passing | 398 | 250 |
| Net offense | 541 | 342 |
| Passes made-attempted | 83-54 | 12-27 |
| Return yards | 83 | 103 |
| Interceptions by-yards | 0-0 | 2-0 |
| Fumbles-lost | 1-0 | 1-1 |
| Sacks by | 1 | 0 |
| Punts-average | 6-39.2 | 8-39.8 |
| Penalties-yards | 12-95 | 10-87 |
| Time of possession | 39:50 | 20:10 |
| Field goals made-attempted | 3-5 | 2-4 |

RUSHING: Regina—Graham Mosiondz 25-98; Chad Goldie 3-19; Teale Orban 4-16; Jordan Sisco 2-5. Alberta—Tendayi Jozzy 16-83; Matthew Jarvis 1-9; N. Amenu-Tekaa 1-0.

PASSING: Regina—53-38-2; Perri Scarcelli 1-0-0. Alberta—Quade Armstrong 27-12-0.

RECEIVING: Regina—Chad Goldie 15-146; Jordan Sisco 7-66; Brenden Owens 5-67; Kolten Solomon 4-58. Alberta—Aaron Holba 7-151; Dale Stevenson 2-23; Damon Fraietta 1-48; M. Chapdelaine 1-20.



ZHENDONGLI

HOLD ON TIGHT Chad Goldie of the Regina Rams grabs onto the ball on his way to a new Canada West single-game receptions record on Saturday.

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Editor

The rain gods may have been on the Bears side during their football game, but it still wasn't quite enough for them to pull off a win against the Regina Rams on Saturday. After lightning and hail brought an early end to a dismal first half, the Bears came out of the locker room energized and swung the momentum their way, but were unable to hold the lead and dropped the game 24-22 to Regina.

"You can't spot a team 17 points and expect to get through," said Alberta head coach Jerry Friesen, referring to the 17-0 hole the Bears had fallen into before the weather delay. "We fought back, but you just can't do that. We were stuck going uphill the whole game."

The game got started on a bad note for the Bears, as they earned a penalty before the first kickoff, and things quickly got even more grim. They let through two touchdowns in the first ten minutes, and made little offensive progress. The rain delay, which came 3:24 before halftime, was an opportunity to regroup and refocus the team's energies, and Friesen was able to use it to give his team a pep talk.

"I challenged them based on the character that we have as a team," he said, while pulling a piece of paper with a Martin Luther King Jr quote printed on it out of his pocket. "I read them this: 'The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.' I said that we were in a time of challenge, and asked them how they would react

to it. I'm proud of how they reacted and how they played. We're still not all the way up that hill, but we've progressed."

Alberta quarterback Quade Armstrong said that he and his teammates had a positive attitude even before Friesen's chat.

"It was a really emotional loss. We had a tough first half, and they put a lot of pressure on us by scoring early. It's a tough way to start the season, [but] we showed that we can make big plays and bring the ball deep, and our running game shows promise."

QUADE ARMSTRONG
BEARS QUARTERBACK

"We came to the locker room, and we still had confidence," he said. "I think coming out of the break, we were going to take shots and try not to be as conservative. We came out fresh and firing"

The positive attitude must have helped, because when the lightning had stopped and the teams returned to the field, Alberta scored their first touchdown after barely a minute—with a long pass from Armstrong to slotback Damon Fraietta. They continued their success in the third quarter,

closing the gap in the score with another touchdown, this time from Aaron Holba, and several field goals—47 and 33 yards—by kicker Hugh O'Neill. The Alberta advances slowed down come the fourth, however, and after only a few minutes of the Bears holding a lead, the score settled at 24-22 for the Rams, where it would remain for the rest of the game.

The Bears went for a last-ditch field goal attempt from Hugh O'Neill with three seconds to go, but the kick didn't make it and the board stayed the same.

"It was a really emotional loss. We had a tough first half, and they put a lot of pressure on us by scoring early. It's a tough way to start the season, [but] we showed that we can make big plays and bring the ball deep, and our running game shows promise," Armstrong said.

Friesen considered the whole game a learning experience for his young team, especially for first-year O'Neill. He made several important field goals during the game, and nearly won it for Alberta with the missed kick at the 11th hour. Friesen regretted that the pressure of a win was put on such a young player's shoulders, but argued that in the long run the experience would do O'Neill good.

"It was an opportunity to win, but asking a first-year to make a 52- or 53-yard field goal? There's got to be a better way. We'll depend on him again someday, and this will help him mature and grow," Friesen explained. "But he didn't lose the game for us, and I don't want him to feel that he did; we had opportunities throughout the game to support him and didn't."