HAMILTON TIGER-CAT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Hamilton will be well represented when the Canadian Football Hall of Fame holds its' induction ceremonies in Edmonton this October. Tiger-Cat Alumni Earl Winfield and Miles Gorrell will be joined by Hamiltonborn referee "Jake" Ireland and former

CFL'ers Dan Ferrone, Brian Fryer and retired CIS Coach Don Loney.



in 1986. Miles also won the 1975 Vanier Cup while playing for the University of Ottawa.

outstanding play rewarded him as a 5-time CFL Eastern Division All-Star, 2-time CFL Outstanding Lineman finalist and 1-time CFL All-Star. He played in 3 Grey Cups, winning one with Hamilton CANADIAN FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME TURNS 50

TIGER-CAT ALUMNI



May 2013

The Canadian Football Hall of Fame is celebrating its' 50th Anniversary this year. Established in 1963 and in its current location since 1972, the Hall is home to over 50,000

HAMILTON SENDS THREE TO THE "HALL"

Earl spent his entire 11 year career with Hamilton, coming north after leaving the University of North Carolina as their career leader in receptions. He quickly made an impact with the Tiger-Cats establishing himself a triple threat as a receiver and punt & kick returner. In 1988 he became the first CFL'er to score three different ways in one game.

Earl is also both an inductee into the Tiger-Cat Wall of Honour and Walk of Fame and still holds Tiger-Cat career records in receiving yards with 10,129 and receiving touchdowns with 75.

Miles spent 8 of his 19 CFL seasons with the Tiger-Cats and sits fourth in the CFL record books with 321 games played.

At 6'-8" and almost 300 lbs., he was and imposing figure on the offensive line. His John "Jake" Ireland, the current head

of the CFL's video replay centre spent 30 years as a CFL official beginning in 1979. He officiated in 555 games and 16 Grey Cups including 12 as a referee.

He was born

in Hamilton and

attended McMaster University at which time he began his career officiating flag and minor football. Jakes last game as a referee was November 23, 2008 in the 96th Grey Cup.

All three men will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during induction weekend in Edmonton October 3rd-5th.



Canadian football artifacts, ranging from equipment and trophies to photos and videos. There are currently 264 members enshrined in the Hall's Zone of Champions, which features busts of each member of the CFHOF. The Hall has undergone extensive renovations this year and will now be the permanent home of exhibits from the Canadian Football League's 100th Anniversary cross Canada train tour. Plans are also in the works for a very special event this fall, so stay tuned!

By Ed Valtenbergs



TigerTales is the official newsletter of the Hamilton Tiger-Cat Alumni Association. It is published 3 times per year in May, September & December. For more information visit our website at www.htcaa.ca.

28th Annual Alumni Golf Tournament

Our annual tournament is fast approaching and is **open to both Alumni and fans**. It's a great chance to have lots of fun and mingle with some of your favourite players from the past.

This years' tournament takes place on **Tuesday, June 11th** at Sundrim Golf Course in Caledonia. Registration is only \$160 and includes, lunch, steak dinner and lots and lots of prizes. Visit the Alumni website at www.htcaa.ca for more information and to register online.

WALK OF FAME DINNER

The Cats Claws Fan Club will be holding their annual Tiger-Cat Walk of Fame dinner on **Friday**, **May 24th** at the Renaissance Banquet Centre (Barton & Nash) Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 7:00 pm

This years' inductee into the Walk of Fame is WR Andrew Grigg. The Charlotte Simmons award will be presented to both Peter Dyakowski and Ryan Hinds.

Tickets are just \$65. Visit the Cats Claws website at www.catsclawsfanclub.com for tickets and more information or call 905-664-6117.

REED, CAMPBELL NAMED TO GRIDIRON GREATS HALL OF FAME



Two football legends who were teammates for six years in the CFL will be among this year's inductees into Mike Ditka's Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund's Hall of Fame.

Reed was one of the league's premiere

running backs during his 13 year career (1963–75) with the Roughriders and one of the CFL's best of all time. The nine-time all-star owns virtually every Saskatchewan Club rushing record. He was a member of the 'Riders 1966 Grey Cup championship team and was inducted into the CFL Hall of Fame in 1979.





Campbell, nicknamed "Gluey Huey" was equally successful as a player, as a coach and as an administrator. He won 10 Grey Cups one as a player, five as a coach and four as an executive. He played for Saskatchewan for six seasons (1963-67 and 1969) and was twice named a CFL all-star. He was inducted into the CFL Hall of Fame in 2000.

"The Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund's Hall of Fame event started five years ago to honor retired players for their fabulous careers on the field, and the equally outstanding deeds off the field," says Shannon Jordan, President



of the Gridiron Greats. "This is a great way for us to honor deserving individuals not just because they were great players but because they have given so much back to the community".

Reed and Campbell will join former Hamilton Tiger-Cat Angelo Mosca, who was the first CFL player inducted into the Hall last year.

The annual Gridiron Greats Hall of Fame dinner and induction will be held on **May 17**, **2013** in Novi, Michigan. For more information on attending the event with Tiger-Cat Alumni visit www.htcaa.ca.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Send us your photos!

If you are at an event and have any photos of or with our Alumni, please email them to admin@htcaa.ca and we may use them in a future issue or on our website.



McMaster Hosts "Up Front Lineman Camp"

By Ed Valtenbergs

Unseasonably cold and blustery conditions did nothing to cool what was another very successful "Up Front Lineman Camp" at McMaster University on April 20th. It followed the Pass, Cover & Kicking camp the previous weekend.

Started six years ago by former Tiger-Cat offensive lineman and current McMaster coach Jason Riley; it is the premier camp for kids ranging from ages 12 to 18. Over 100 players from all over Ontario from Ottawa and Kingston to London and Sarnia and everywhere in between took in the camp to be coached and put through the paces by an experienced staff of former Tiger-Cat and CFL players, current and past McMaster Marauders and other guest coaches.



The camp features two sets of eight different offensive and defensive skill and drill stations designed for both the running and passing game. The camp also features two seminars: one on nutrition and the other on strength and conditioning. The players get to finish their day with some live one on one contact drills to put what they have learned to practice.

"The Up Front Camp is a dream come true for me" said Jason, "I always wanted to do it to address the deficit we had in Ontario in the instruction and skills of our High School football athletes, particularly on the offensive line. Last year we added the defensive line to develop both positions".

"We get much positive feedback every year from parents and HS coaches about how much our camp benefits their kids. Because it is primarily a teaching and learning camp, there is no intimidation factor, so we have kids of all ages and experience being coached by the best coaches anywhere".

"The camp is great for the kid's development, great for the fraternity of coaches that come together every year, and it's great for recruiting because it exposes many players to our great facilities for the first time and we get to have a look at them and build relationships".

Be sure to check out both Marauders and Tiger-Cat Alumni sites next year for registration information.

ON THE SIDELINES

Season Preview

By Wray Perkins

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats' season will have a very different feel than it did a year ago, and they are hoping the results will be just as different. With a new coaching staff and temporary home stadium, the Tiger-Cats are looking to bounce back from a disappointing season where they missed the post-season.

Kent Austin returns to the Canadian Football League as the new bench boss in Steeltown; he is familiar to CFL fans as the head coach of the 2007 Grey Cup Champion Saskatchewan Roughriders. Also holding the position of General Manager, Austin seems to have already been embraced by his players after the mini-camp held recently.

Coming off a career season in terms of passing yards, Henry Burris will once again lead the Ti-Cat offence, and will have the one-two punch of Chevon Walker and a healthy Martell Mallett in the backfield. Andy Fantuz, a member of Austin's '07 Riders, headlines a receiving corps that also includes fellow Canadians Dave Stala and Samuel Giguere.

Popular centre Marwan Hage anchors a strong offensive line which also welcomes



back Peter Dyakowski, also known as Canada's Smartest Man as determined in an off-season competition.

Former Ti-Cat defensive back Orlondo Steinauer re-joins the club as the new defensive coordinator, and will try to strengthen a group that needs to be improved in order to make a playoff push in 2013. A member of the last Tiger-Cats Grey Cup Champion team in 1999, Steinauer brings experience and leadership to the defensive side of the ball.

Also bringing experience are new acquisitions Shomari Williams and James Patrick, who will join the likes of returning veterans Jamall Johnson, Bo Smith and Greg Peach. The Tiger-Cats finished near the bottom of the league in most defensive statistics a year ago, but with the offensive firepower at their disposal, one can't help but think that a change in the defensive consistency would be the boost they need to return to the postseason.

Another key free agent acquisition is linebacker Marcellus Bowman, who joins an already strong corps which includes Johnson and Markeith Knowlton. The three new defensive acquisitions mentioned bring a total of 215 games of CFL experience and four Grey Cup appearances, adding to the experience and leadership on the defensive side of the ball.

With many changes from 2012 to 2013, the Tiger-Cats are looking to win their first Grey Cup in fourteen years, and the veteran core of Burris, Fantuz and Johnson could be the group to lead them there, helped by the likes of championship calibre coaching like Austin and Steinauer.

The Oskee-Wee-Wee chants will be echoing through Guelph and Moncton this season, and the Hamilton fans will hope they echo throughout November as well.

Memorabilia

The Tiger-Cat Alumni are on a quest to collect photos of "Team Memorabilia" to display on our web-site. Please ensure the item is displayed on a plain white background. We are also looking to collect unique items that you may want to lend or donate to the Alumni Association to put on display in the "Alumni Room" inside the new stadium. If you have anything you feel may be of interest, please contact us at admin@ htcaa.ca.

We are also looking for "Game Program Covers" to complete the set on our web-site. If you have any programs from the past, please scan the cover and name the file with the year and opponent and send to us via email, admin@htcaa.ca.





Tiger-Cats getting ready for 2013

Last November, the Tiger-Cats announced that they would be playing their 2013 home games at the University of Guelph's Alumni Stadium while Hamilton's new stadium is constructed.

Temporary stands will be used to increase seating at Alumni Stadium from the existing 4,000 seats to approximately 13,000 for Tiger-Cats game days. Construction of the temporary stands is currently underway and expected to finish by the end of May.

Other improvements to Alumni Stadium have included installation of new artificial turf, an eight-lane International Association of Athletics Federation-certified track, new lighting and a state-of-the-art video scoreboard.

The team has secured over 2,500 parking spots on campus for fans and is offering a shuttle service –dubbed the Findlay Fan Express – that will provide a return trip directly to Alumni Stadium from Hamilton and Burlington for a low cost. Visit www.ticats.ca for more information.

While games will be held in Guelph, you'll still be able to see the team around town as both training camp and regular season practices will be held in Hamilton.

WEEK	DATE	VISITOR	@	HOME	TIME (EST)
E1	Thu June 13	Hamilton	@	Montreal	7:00 PM
E2	Thu June 20	Winnipeg	@	Hamilton	7:00 PM
1	Fri June 28	Hamilton	@	Toronto	7:00 PM
2	Sun July 07	Edmonton	@	Hamilton	5:00 PM
3	Sat July 13	Winnipeg	@	Hamilton	6:30 PM
4	Sun July 21	Hamilton	@	Saskatchewan	7:00 PM
5	Sat July 27	Saskatchewan	@	Hamilton	7:30 PM
6	Fri Aug. 02	Hamilton	@	Edmonton	9:00 PM
7	Fri Aug. 16	Hamilton	@	Winnipeg	8:00 PM
8	Sat Aug. 24	Winnipeg	@	Hamilton	1:00 PM
9	Fri Aug. 30	Hamilton	@	BC	10:00 PM
10	Sat Sep. 07	BC	@	Hamilton	4:00 PM
11	Fri Sep. 13	Hamilton	@	Calgary	9:00 PM
12	Sat Sep. 21	Montreal	@	Hamilton (In Moncton)	4:00 PM
13	Sat Sep. 28	Calgary	@	Hamilton	6:00 PM
14	Fri Oct. 04	Hamilton	@	Toronto	7:00 PM
15	Mon Oct. 14	Toronto	@	Hamilton	4:30 PM
16	Sun Oct. 20	Hamilton	@	Montreal	1:00 PM
17	Sat Oct. 26	Montreal	@	Hamilton	1:00 PM
18	Sat Nov. 02	Hamilton	@	Winnipeg	2:00 PM
P1	Sun. Nov. 10	P3	@	P2	1:00 PM
P2	Sun. Nov. 17	P2/P3	@	Hamilton!	1:00 PM
Final	Sun. Nov. 24	GREY CUP	@	REGINA	6:30 PM

TIGER-CAT Q&A

Name: Don Sutherin Birth date (M/D/YY): 02/23/1936 School/Jr. Football: Ohio State University Position(s): DB & Kicker Years with Tiger-Cats: 1958, 1961–1970

CAREER

1. Tell us about how you got started in football and your amateur career.

I started in 6th grade and played through high school and university. Lots of practice with dad, friends and coaches.

2. How did you get started in the CFL? (draft, free agent, trade etc.)

I was on loan from the NY Giants for 6 games in 1958, returned to the Giants for 1959 and then to the Steelers for 2 years. Returned to the Tiger-Cats in 1961.

3. Do or did you hold any records?

When I retired from the CFL in 1970 I held 18 CFL records.

4. Do or did you have a nickname? Suds Man

5. Tell us about some of your fondest memories with the Tiger-Cats or in the CFL.

My playing and coaching in 16 Grey Cups while winning 8. The participation in the Grey Cup in any way is a tremendous experience.

6. Who were some of the team-mates and opponents you admired the most and why?

Hal Patterson - great player; Russ Jackson - tough, great arm; Bernie Faloney - great leader; Tommy Grant - great hands; Angelo Mosca - mean and smart

7. Which coach did you respect or enjoy playing for the the most and why?

Jim Trimble was a player coach. He let you do things you were good at.

8. Tell us about some of your favourite Grey Cup memories.

The Fog Bowl in 1962, the game was suspended with 9 minutes left and finished the next day.

POST CFL CAREER

9. Tell us about your life and career after playing/working with the Tiger-Cats or CFL?

I returned to Ohio after my playing career to coach and teach high school. Then returned to the CFL coaching for 22 years and scouting for the Tiger-Cats for 4 years.

10. Tell us about your interests, hobbies, your passion or anything else you would like to share about yourself.

I like to hunt and fish and golf 5 days a week. I take a trip to Canada every year to fish. I'm getting older but smarter, ha-ha.

11. Share with us some of the places you've been or things you have experienced.

I went on an Alaskan cruise for 11 days great trip. Many celebrity golf tournaments in Canada, Ohio, Florida. Ohio State football games and many reunions.

THE GAME

12. What aspects of the Canadian game do you like the most?

The 3 downs make it fast and exciting, the big field and 20 yard end zones.



13. Is there any aspect of the game you would change if you could?

I just hope the owners and the officials don't mess the great game of Canadian football. Keep the game Canadian!

FINAL THOUGHTS

14. What advice do you have to either young players or those just starting out in the CFL?

The game of football does not last forever, get an education and start a profession while you are playing. To Americans - don't take the CFL too lightly, it's a great game, respect it.

15. Is there anything else you would like to share? (thoughts, advice, stories, memories)

I spent 32 years in Canada as a player and coach; I would not change a thing. I loved my experience, meeting friends and having 2 children born in Canada. Memories of Grey Cups, fishing and hunting. Getting inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame was a great honour. Thanks for giving me a chance to become a football player in your country.

WHAT'S COOKING?

TIGER TAILS RECIPE

Here's a great snack you can make on your own to bring to your next Tiger-Cat tailgate party or if you're just getting together at home to watch the game.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 bag of Wilton Candy Melts Orange
- ¼ bag of Wilton Candy Melts -Chocolate
- or ½ Cup chocolate chips with ½ tablespoon butter
- 1 bag of pretzel rods (try to pick a bag where most are not broken)
 ¼ cup All vegetable shortening



INSTRUCTIONS

Melt the orange candy chips with 1/4 cup of shortening in a bowl for 30 seconds at a time and stir in between. You want do it on a lower power the first couple times and then increase it. If you try to melt it too fast it won't work and becomes cake-like. Once it is really smooth and viscous, pour into a tall glass. Dip pretzel rods in about 3/4 of the way a few times until coated. Lay them on wax paper on a baking sheet to harden

Melt about 1/4 bag of chocolate candy melts just like you did the orange ones with a

tablespoon or so shortening. Alternately you can opt for the chocolate chips. Spoon into a Ziploc and cut off a tiny bit of the corner. This is how you apply the tiger stripes onto the orange part of the pretzel rods. Just go back and forth for a stripe effect.

Let the icing harden before pulling pretzels off paper. (Note: If any of your stripes go onto the wax paper and too far off the orange part, then you can just break those parts off after they harden.)

And, voilà, now you've got yourself some sweet and salty Tiger Tails!

FROM THE VAULT



Ben Zambiasi's Canadian Football Hall of Fame ring

Considered by most as the best linebacker in Tiger-Cat history, Ben Zambiasi was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 2004. He was named the Most Outstanding Rookie in the Eastern Division in 1978, and received All-Eastern and All-Canadian honours throughout his playing career. In 1979, he won the Schenley Award for the Most Outstanding Defensive Player in the CFL. Ben played 9 years with the Club from 1978-87.

SOUVENIR "LAST GAME AT IVOR WYNNE" PRINT

Saturday, October 27th 2012 marked the last Tiger-Cat game at Ivor Wynne Stadium. To commemorate the event almost forty Tiger-Cat Alumni present at the game signed this special framed matte. We inserted a photo from the actual game and marked it with the date and final score to create this treasured keepsake.

The original will be displayed inside the Alumni Lounge at the new stadium, but we will make a limited number of copies to share. Prints measure $16'' \times 20''$ to easily fit inside your own frame of choice. They can be ordered online from our ebay store for \$20 plus shipping and handling or at the Tiger-Cat store. Available in June.



This miniature Grey Cup was presented to "Hamilton Alert" player John Findlay Gray as a member of Hamilton's first championship team in 1912. The trophy measures 22 cm high and is made of is 925/1000 sterling silver.



Original miniature players' Grey Cup

SIGNS FOR SALE

WALL OF HONOUR SIGNS FOR SALE!

If you're a big Ti-Cat fan, here's your chance to get a big piece of authentic Tiger-Cat Alumni memorabilia.

For sale are the ORIGINAL Wall of Honour signs that were displayed on the press box at Ivor Wynne stadium.

Signs measure 4' high and length depends on each name. Signs are available for purchase at our ebay store, pick-up only. Visit our web-site for more info and availability.



FAREWELL TO IVOR WYNNE...





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"LET'S BE FRANK"

A Canadian Quarterback? In the CFL?

By Frank Cosentino



Hard to believe but since the 1970 football season, a "non-import", i.e., a Canadian quarterback, has been a rarity if not non existent part of the Canadian Football League.

Followers of the game might recall that at that time rosters were at 31: 17 Non-imports, 13 imports and 1 designated import. The original D.I. rule stated that were the import to enter the game, the player replaced could not re-enter. That designated import rule was adjusted in 1970: if the D.I. were a quarterback he and the quarterback he replaced were allowed to interchange freely. For a variety of reasons, not least among them the Jamie Bone case, the D.I. rule was a lightning rod for media and fans alike. There was an almost universal feeling it discriminated against the usage of a Canadian guarterback.

It was abandoned in 1986. Rosters at that time were at 35. In 1987, a seemingly sensible solution was advanced. The quarterback position was declared a "category". Teams were allowed a roster of 19 Non-imports, 16 Imports and up to 3 Quarterbacks. The interesting feature was that it didn't matter whether these three were Imports or Non-imports, and, they still wouldn't affect the condition that there must be a minimum of seven Non-import starters among the 24 on offence and defense.

Going into the 2013 season, game rosters have increased to 42 (20 nonimports, 19 imports, 3 qbs. There are also 3 special teams D.I. s among the 19 imports.) The situation remains the same: the Canadian as a quarterback has been virtually non-existent, a casualty in his own game, in his own country.

That being the situation, how can it be changed? Here is my proposal: Abolish the "Quarterback category" Return to the notion of 20 non- imports, 19 imports which include as many quarterbacks as a coach wants plus special teams' three D.I s. The proposal is based on this **premise**: Coaches are hired to win. Successful coaches relish the opportunity to be creative. It is so easy to copy and follow somebody else's recipe for success.

The CFL is built for innovation: a wider and longer field, three downs, a neutral zone along the line of scrimmage, a twenty second time limit for play calling and execution, unlimited motion by backs, 12 men on the field and a roster which can include imports and must have non-imports. An offensive coach is lost if he decides to simply send a flanker out wide to occupy a defensive man and then play 11 man football. To repeat, creativity is the necessary essence of the Canadian game's demands.

Two things have been more or less consistent for years in the CFL: An import player will always have a starting position; Non-imports will be placed into "non-critical" or relatively non-decision making positions. I recall one year when a coach deviated from that stance. He had a strong team with good non-import talent. He played an extra non-import thus forcing an import to sit on the bench. After the game was over, a victory, a former teammate of the Coaches are hired to win. Successful coaches relish the opportunity to be creative. It is so easy to copy and follow somebody else's recipe for success.



coach walked into the dressing room and exclaimed to him: "Wow! Your Canadians are so good you don't even need all those imports." The coach's reaction was to sit out a top Canadian in the following games. It was as if he was almost fearful that the number of imports might be dropped.

On the other side of the coin, however there have been coaches who have made creative "outside the box" decisions. Examples: Grey Cup 1956: Edmonton Coach Frank "Pop" Ivy made a key decision to win Edmonton's third consecutive Grey Cup against the Alouettes. Edmonton, with Jackie Parker at quarterback was the class of the west in 1956. But, they lost the first game of the 2 of 3 finals against Saskatchewan 23-22. The Esks had some injuries in their backfield. Ivy moved Parker to a halfback spot and replaced him at the quarterback position with second year Canadian Don Getty. Edmonton won the second game 20-12 and the third and deciding contest, again with Getty at QB, 51-7. The Grey cup was next: Getty became the first Canadian quarterback since 1947 to lead his team to a Grey Cup win, this one a 50-27 over the Alouettes.

The year 1962 provides another instance of creative coaching. Frank Clair had two good guarterbacks with the Rough Riders, Ron Lancaster and Russ Jackson. Each wanted to play more and had his own following in the stands and among the team. Clair arrived at an unprecedented decision. He traded the import Lancaster to Regina (at that time any player who was not fully in tune with his club's direction was threatened with being sent to Saskatchewan). But the trade was good for both guarterbacks, the league and teams. Jackson went on to grow, develop and improve his skills to the point where he led his teams to Grey Cup victories in '68 and '69; Lancaster was the spark Saskatchewan needed to give them their first Grey Cup victory in 1966. Each became the face of their team as a result of the opportunity given to them.

There are other examples which can be cited to demonstrate coaching creativity i.e., moving outside the accepted way of doing things. Hugh Campbell as coach of Edmonton decided to go with an all Canadian offensive line and full back when it just wasn't normal practice, His teams went on to win five consecutive Grey Cups; his approach became the norm for many coaches who try to copy successful methods. John Hufnagel of Calgary and his use of Jon Cornish as a running back; Wally Buono and later Mike Benevides and their use of Andrew Harris were also moves which paid huge dividends in shattering stereotypes.



The point is this:

A Canadian will not get the opportunity while having the "Quarterback category". He hasn't had the chance in 26 years. Coaches do not see any great "reward" for the "risk". I suspect that the same would be happening to kickers if a separate category was approved for them. Let the category fade into the sunset. One day a coach will open a door of opportunity to one of the many promising possibilities. Pie in the sky? Remember that when Russ Jackson went to Ottawa in 1958, he played as a defensive back and third guarterback behind Tom Dimitroff and Hal Ledvard. In 1959, Frank Tripucka and Babe Parilli were 1 and 2. Tripucka was traded to Saskatchewan where he became head coach; Parilli was spelled off by Jackson who was rapidly gaining experience and confidence. At the end of the season, Parilli was gone. In 1960, Jackson had a new rival, Ron Lancaster, and the rest, as they say, is history. Having no "Quarterback category" could make it happen again.



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IN MEMORIAM

Archie Wallman, Age 79 Died: September 8, 2012 – Player and long-time Alumni Member

Bob Almas, Age 83 Died: September 28, 2012 – Alumni member

Dante DiFrancesco, Age 86 Died: September 26, 2012 – Hamilton Tigers 1947-49



Reg Wheeler, Age 92 Died: October 21, 2012 – Hamilton Tigers 1939, Wild-Cats 1944-49, Chairman: Canadian Football Hall of Fame







Len "Pudge" Chandler, Age 79 Died: March 10th, 2013 – Hamilton Tiger-Cats 1959-60

Len was a six year CFL Veteran having played for Hamilton in the late 50's, Ottawa early 60's and finishing his career in Toronto. Len was an Inaugural Member of the Brantford Sports Hall of Fame, as well as the founding President of the Hamilton Tiger-Cats Alumni Association



Bruce Smith, Age 63 Died: January 3, 2013 – Hamilton Tiger-Cats 1972–73 Bruce began his CFL career with Hamilton in 1972 with a Grey Cup Championship. Bruce also played with Edmonton and Ottawa before playing his final four seasons with the Argonauts. Upon retirement Bruce began a successful career in Real Estate. He was also a man of faith, serving as the Chaplain for King Bay Chaplaincy and Upper Canada College's Chaplain Service. He spent a lot of time as a public speaker and was a children's book author.



Art Darch, Age 81 Died: April 2, 2013 – Hamilton Tiger-Cats 1952-58

Art was an originating member of the Alumni Association and long-time member of the Executive Committee. He was a tireless volunteer and in 2012 he was among the first recipients to receive the Hamilton Tiger-Cat Alumni Associations "Award of Distinction" for Recognition of His Outstanding Contribution to Community Groups and the HTCAA. Art Darch was also elected into the Niagara Virtual Hall of Fame in 2003.

Grey Cup Flashback: 1986

By Brian Snelgrove

As expected the game was a blowout. And one of the biggest upsets in Grey Cup history.

The 1986 annual classic pitted the Edmonton Eskimos, sporting a league-best 13-4-1 record, against the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, who entered the game with a rather pedestrian mark of 9-8-1.

Understandably, the Western champions were prohibitive favorites (nearly two touchdowns in most circles) over their Eastern counterparts. The first-place Eskimos had whipped the BC Lions 41-5 in the Western Final and were led by CFL legend Jackie Parker. The Tiger-Cats, under Head Coach Al Bruno, had rallied from a 14 point deficit to win the two-game total point Eastern Final over the Toronto Argonauts. Hamilton had finished the regular season in second place behind the Argos and were decided underdogs against the high-powered Eskimos.

The pundits were correct. The game was a rout – but not for the Eskimos. The Black and Gold capitalized on every opportunity and in one of the biggest upsets in CFL championship history beat up their Western rivals 39-15.

The game was Hamilton's from the opening kick-off. On the Eskimos first offensive play guarterback Matt Dunigan fumbled and the ball was recovered by the Ti-Cats Leo Ezerins. On the next play Kerrigan hit Steve Stapler with a 35 yard TD reception and just over a minute and a half into the game Hamilton had taken a lead they would never relinguish. The Tiger-Cats recovered five fumbles and had two interceptions and a blocked punt in the opening 30 minutes. They held the Hall of Fame combination of Damon Allen and Dunigan to 4 completions in 16 attempts for 42 yards in the first half. Hamilton led 29-0 as the teams headed for their dressing rooms. The Tabbies had held the explosive Eskimos offence to a mind-boggling -1 yards of offence over the first thirty minutes. The 74th Grey Cup was virtually over by half-time.

By game's end a ferocious Tiger-Cat

defence had recorded 10 sacks, 6 fumble recoveries, a pair of interceptions and a blocked punt. Ben Zambiasi had 6 tackles, a sack and 2 fumble recoveries while teammate Grover Covington recorded 3 sacks and also picked up a fumble.

The Hamilton offence was led by first year quarterback Mike Kerrigan who threw for 304 yards as he connected on 15 of 32 passes. Kerrigan hooked up with Steve Stapler (4 receptions for 130 yards) and Ron Ingram (4 for 100 yards) for a pair of touchdown strikes. The Ti-Cat pivot duplicated the feat of Chuck Ealey who 14 years earlier had also led Hamilton to a championship in his rookie season. Dan Huclack led all rushers with 48 yards on 10 carries.

When the final whistle sounded Hamilton had cruised to their first Grey Cup championship since 1972.

It was unquestionably one of the most impressive defensive performances in the history of Earl Grey's mug.



Paul Osbaldiston

By Brian Snelgrove



He is the most prolific kicker in Tiger-Cat history and holds virtually every career kicking record.

Following brief stops in B.C. and Winnipeg, Paul Osbaldiston

(1986-2003) landed in Hamilton mid-way through the 1986 season and embarked on an unparalleled 18 year career with the Black and Gold.

He is the team's all-time leading scorer. With 2,856 career points he is nearly 1,800 points ahead of runner-up Bernie Ruoff (1,069). The top ten spots for most points scored in a single season all belong to Paul Osbaldiston. He holds the team record for most career punts (2,127), most punting yards (88,542) and most punts in a season, with 165 in 1994. He is first in most career kick-offs (1,223), most career kickoff yards (69,777) and most kickoff single points with 17. "Ozzie" was an Eastern All-Star on seven occasions and selected All-Canadian three times (1996, 98 and 2001).



In the 1999 Grey Cup championship season, Osbaldiston led the league in scoring with 203 points. Payback wasn't on his mind however, heading in to the rematch against Calgary. "When you get to the Grey Cup you don't need revenge as a motivation," says the legendary kicker. "The Cup itself is the motivation. It doesn't matter what has happened in the past. The mentality of the guys stepping on the field was completely positive. We started fast and dominated the whole game against a very good Stampeder team."

Ozzie was instrumental in the Ti-Cat victory as he connected on three field goals, three converts and added a pair of singles. "It wasn't about any one individual," says Osbaldiston. "The thing I remember most about the game and about that season is the camaraderie and unselfishness of the players on and off the field. We played hard and had fun hard. It was the best group of guys I was ever associated with in my career. Everybody knew their role. It wasn't about personal recognition. The players were committed to each other. You did your job for the team

to win. It didn't matter if I missed five converts as long as we won."

"We were focused on the Grey Cup from the beginning of training camp," adds the most valuable Canadian from the Tiger-Cats Grey Cup victory in 1986. "We had a really good mix of guys; very balanced with good special teams and terrific offense and defense."

Today, Ozzie lives in Stoney Creek and



is the Assistant Special Teams & Kicking Coach for the Tiger-Cats. "Family, friends and work keeps me busy," says Osbaldiston who is married

with two small children. "Also I haven't missed a Ti-Cat game either live or on television since I retired."

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Bernie Cuttie Hamilton Tiger-Cats Custis hails from Bernie Custis haits from Philadelphia, where he was born September 23rd, 1928. This black haired, brown eyed half specializes in fun-ning and passing. This will hing and passing. This wild be the second season for S' 10" tall Hernie in Canada, Both of, these were with Hamilton. On e hundrell and eighty-five pound Bernie made the Ail Canasiran last

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1995 - A. Grigg

2007 - S. Beveridge



Andrew joined the Tiger-Cats this season after sta-ring in the Omazio Football Conference with the Soult Str. Maxie Starm in 1993. He was the teams player of the year, the OPC rookie of the year and the other that was refer catching the masses player of the year, the OPC trooke of the year and an all-Canadion that year after catching 49 passes for 509 yanh and mine touchdowns, Grigg also returned 27 pants for 300 yanh and two touch-downs that success, Be played at the University of Glawa frem 1990 to 32, Anthew lot the coeffer-mere in receptions in 1991 with 37 for 600 yanh one of the State State State State State State State and State States States States States States States States and States St and grabbed 28 passes for 435 yards a year later



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