

TIGER-CAT Q&A

Name: Ron Brewer

Birthday (M/D/YY):
03/11/37

School/ Jr. Football:
Central Tech High and
Parkdale Lions

Position(s): Linebacker

Years with Tiger-Cats:
1967

CAREER

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

I started in Central Tech High School in Toronto playing fullback and then onto Parkdale Lions Junior Football. We won the Junior Championship against the Winnipeg Rods.

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

I was a territorial protected draft pick of the Toronto Argonauts in 1958. I played for four different teams as a result of trades including Montreal and Edmonton and finally Hamilton.

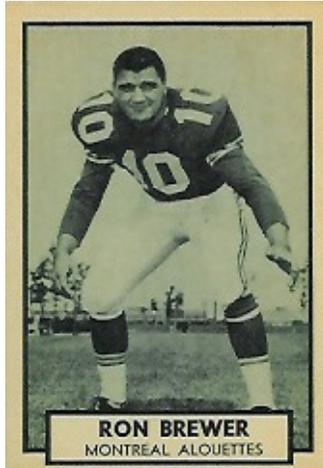
3. Do or did you hold any records?

In junior football in 1956 I set a record for most yards gained in a game and season.

4. Do or did you have a nickname?

My nickname was the BIG BREW.

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



The best memory was of the 1967 Ti-Cat team when I came out of retirement. I received a phone call from Jack Gaudaur at my farm residence and he told me that Tommy Joe Coffey and Angelo Mosca went to Ralph Sazio and said "If you want to win the Grey Cup get Ron Brewer out of retirement". The Ti-Cats lost the first few games that season and it was at this time I agreed to come out of retirement to help. We finished the 1967 season of not having any team score a touchdown in the last 6 games in the final season ending

with the Grey Cup victory over Saskatchewan 23-1.

6. Who were some of the teammates and opponents you admired the most and why?

Teammates that I admired are Mosca, Coffey, Barrow, Zuger, Henley and Stover on the 67 team. I consider that team as a bunch of misfits that have been brought together this one time in our lives, all the players on that team were great in their own rights, so much so that the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame inducted the entire '67 together.

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

Coaches Ralph Sazio and Joe Rustic both knew how to put the best players in their proper positions and design the various offences and defences to fit the individual team players to get the best results.

For example, in the 1967 Grey Cup, Saskatchewan had George Reed who was the best RB



in the league. Our coaches changed our defence one week before the game this was unknown to the Roughriders. We went to a 5-3 defence and they moved me into a middle guard position when it appeared Regina was in a running mode. Saskatchewan running game was shut down. Reeds power was taken out of the game. As a linebacker I would move back into a 4-4 defence or a 4-3-5 defence position. That's what made these two coaches best in the league they had the foresight to utilize the various players skills in a time of need.

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

My favourite memory was winning the 1967 Grey Cup.

