

Hardy Cup – Central Bowl – Vanier Cup Champions

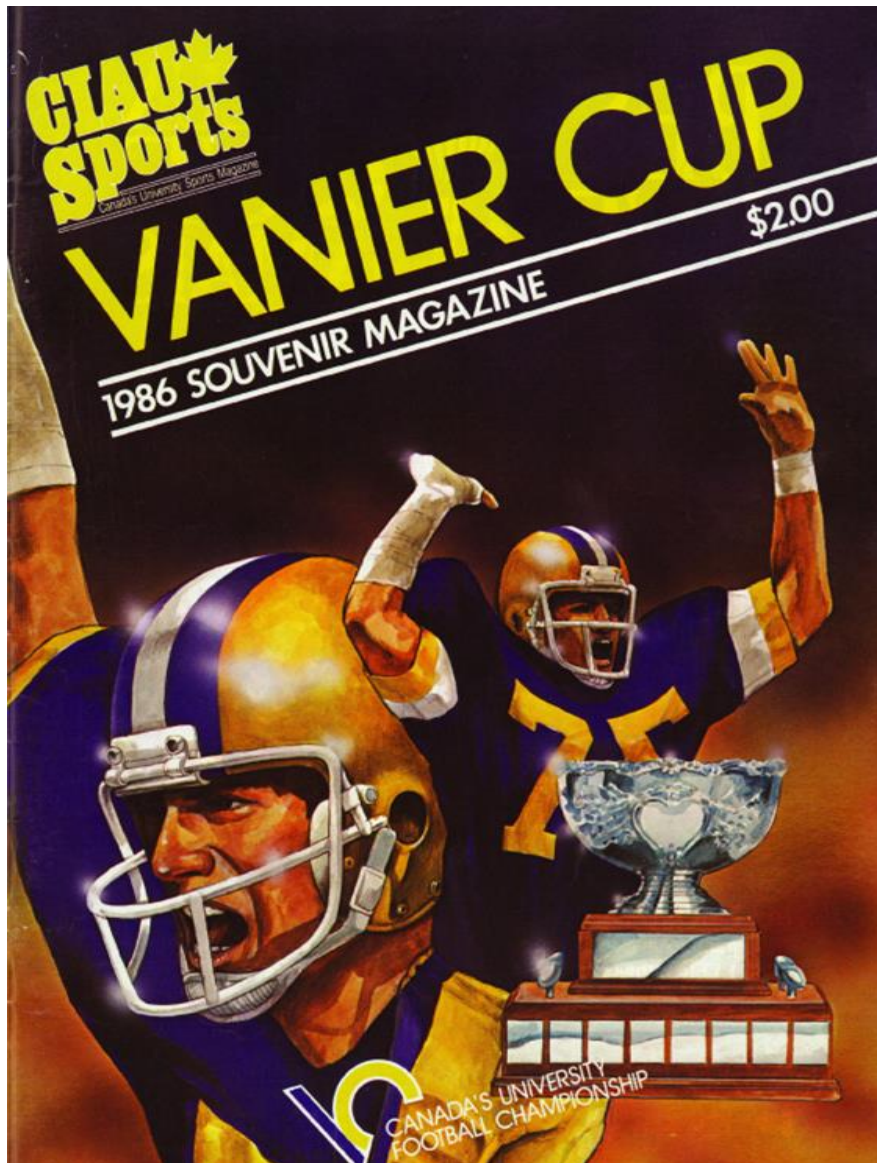
THUNDERBIRD FOOTBALL THRILLER – On the field or in the classroom, UBC is awesome. *By Steve Campbell Ubysey*

UBC won its second Canadian football championship in a thrilling fashion last November in what many observers agree was one of the most exciting Vanier Cup games ever. But, UBC head coach Frank SMITH doesn't necessarily agree that these kind of games are good for his health. "Both the semi-final (32-30) over Bishops and the Vanier (25-23) over Western were cliff hangers". Moments of the game that will remain in the memories of all those who watched must include defensive standout Mark NORMAN staying in the game after suffering a severe leg gash, the defence blocking a Western field goal attempt in the second half, receiver Mike BELLEFONTAINE and his crucial late game catch; rookies James DAWSON and John KADLA filling in admirably; the inspired play of the offensive unit in the last two minutes that led to substitute quarterback Eric PUTOTO throwing the game winning touchdown to veteran slotback Rob ROS with just four second remaining. "I'll never forget this Thunderbird team or this Vanier Cup game", concludes SMITH. Amen coach, neither will anyone else.



Co-Captains: L-R Jack BEETSTRA, Dwayne DERBAN, Leo GROENEWEGEN, Terry COCHRANE

9-WIFL all-Stars Leo GROENEWEGEN (OL), Rob ROS (R), Massimo GEREMIA (RB), Jordan GAGNER (QB), Matt FITZPATRICK (OL), Jack BEETSTRA (LB), Ron CRICK (LB), Dwayne DERBAN (LB), Mark NORMAN (DB), 3-CIAU all-Canadians-Leo GROENEWEGEN (OT), Jack BEETSTRA (LB), Mark NORMAN (DB), WIFL Coach of the Year, Frank SMITH, CIAU Defensive player of the Year-Mark NORMAN, WIFL league MOP-Mark NORMAN (Frank Gnuv Award), CIAU lineman of the year-Metras Trophy-Leo GROENEWEGEN. First place finish WIFL (8-0), #1 ranked defense (82pts), #1 in QB sacks (14), #1 in pass interceptions (25-614 yards), WIFL interception leader-Mark NORMAN (12-449 yards), WIFL QB-sack leader, Ron CRICK (5). 12-members of the team went on the play professional football in the CFL.



1986 National Champions, Teammates for life

Vanier Cup Team Scoring

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Total
UBC Thunderbirds	10	7	1	7	25
Western Mustangs	1	0	14	8	23

Vanier Cup Offensive Statistics

Rushing: T. COCHRANE (69-yds), M. GEREMIA (26-yds), T. MUNRO (14-yds), E. PUTOTO (10-yds), M. PEARCE (5-yds)

Receiving: M. BELLEFONTAINE (99-yds), T. MUNRO (86-yds), R. ROS (67-yds), T. COCHRANE (57-yds), M. GEREMIA (2-yds)

Passing: J. GAGNER (254-yds), E. PUTOTO (51-yds)

Vanier Cup Defensive Statistics

Tackles: R. KOVACIK (6), G. PETROVAS (6), M. NORMAN (5), B. McDONALD (4), T. AINGE (3), R. MORETTO (3), B. BARBER (2), J. LEITH (2), R. ROBERTIS (2), T. VLASIC (1), D. BRYSON (1), R. CRICK (1), D. DERBAN (1), J. DAWSON (1), C. DOBROVOLNY (1), M. PETROS (1)

Interceptions: J. LEITH (1), M. NORMAN (1)

Pass Back-ups: M. NORMAN (2), R. KOVACIK (1)

Fumble Recovery: T. AINGE (1)

On-Side Kick Recovery: R. ROBERTIS (1)





'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Championship teams are built over time and their confidence is forged by seasons of narrow victories and heartbreaking defeats. The lessons learned from both made their bond stronger. They are full of individuals with a great desire to accomplish a mission. The staff, coaches and players all recognize that what is overall best for the TEAM is above anything else. Every championship team is confronted by a moment of truth... a time when they WILL or will NOT be recognized as CHAMPIONS. This is the story of the 1986 University of British Columbia Thunderbirds Football team and their road to glory as National Champions.



L-R: Joe Gluska, Dave Easley, Gerry Parr, Bob Laycoe, Eric Guthrie (guest coach), head coach Frank Smith

When fall training camp opened coach Smith and his team had one goal, to win the national championship. After a 4-4 record in 1985, the 'Birds returned a large number of veterans including WIFL all-Star inside receiver Rob ROS who helped shore up the receiving unit. Teamed with Tom VLASIC this group had great size and experience for QB Jordan GAGNER. The line of scrimmage was the most impressive coach SMITH had to work with since the '82 championship season with several future CFL stars on both sides of the ball. On the defensive side it was almost the same roster, a physical, intimidating unit who played with great confidence, led by CIAU all-Canadian Mark NORMAN

The off-season and spring football were building blocks both physically and mentally, the leaders set the team goals and as a group they felt they were close in '85 despite the final record. Preparation was efficient, like all teams they had to manage any potential injuries, and execution in all three phases was going to be key in the early season games.

The TEAM was a very close group that had played together for years. They were very competitive, focused, and understood that they needed everyone to win the Hardy Cup and to challenge for the national championship. The players looked out for each other, and those bonds are still strong to this day.

The coaching staff was flush with CIAU and CFL experience, it only took a few practices for the potential to emerge. No player wanted to lose a one on one or a team period, there was the odd skirmish but it was very healthy competition for the team and the coaching staff. With several players and coaches who were on the 1982 team, winning was expected at UBC.





'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Putting the pieces together - offence

Coach Smith had a pair of skilled quarterbacks, Jordan GAGNER (15) and Eric PUTOTO (13) who would lead the multi-formational offensive unit. A well balanced run game where everyone gets to block and carry the ball for the '86 squad. A talented group that blended the speed of Terry COCHRANE (22), the versatility of Matt PEARCE (11), the power of Mass GEREMIA (33), and the agility of Mark PETROS (18). The passing game was designed to hit the seams set-up by the play-action series. Two 5th year veterans returned to provide leadership among the receiving core, Rob ROS (16), and Tom MUNRO (32). The group was sure handed and explosive after the catch with Mike BELLEFONTAINE (24), Tom VLASIC (31) and the emerging Craig KELLER (77).

L-R: Tony Kristopaitis, Kevin Clarke, Sean Orr, Al Jones, John Kadla, Leo Groenewegen



1986 National Champions, Teammates for life



L-R: Mark Petros, Terry Cochrane, Massimo Geremia, , Matt Pearce

If the 'Birds were going to be able to run the football effectively it was incumbent on the production of the offensive line. This group was experienced, physical and had depth across the board. Led by 4th year offensive tackle Leo GROENEWEGEN (66), Tony KRISTOPAITIS (63), Kevin CLARKE (53), Sean ORR (64), Al JONES (51), Rae ROBIRTIS (52). Rookie John KADLA (61) who would play a key roll in the rotation as the season progressed.

The kicking game was split between punter Mike BELLEFONTAINE (24), place kickers/kickoffs Carey BYMOEN (23) and Bill LONG (78)



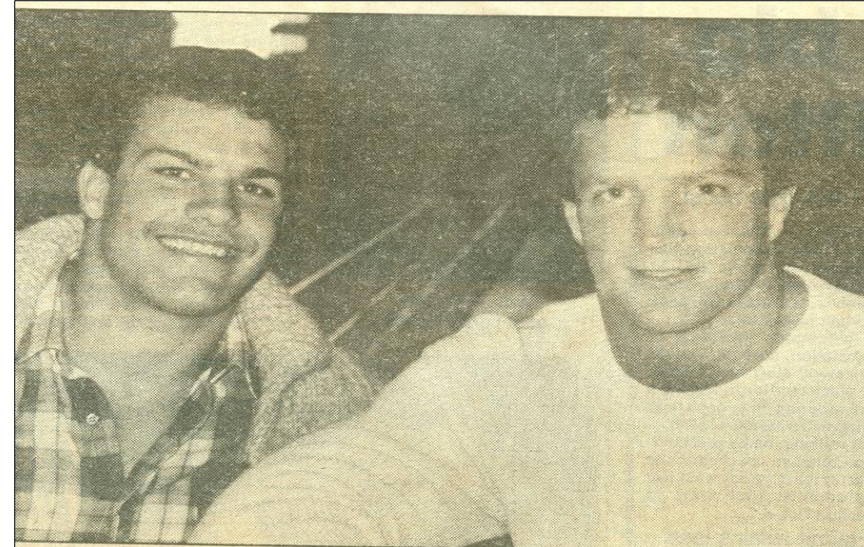


'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Putting the pieces together - defence

To consistently win and compete for championships in the WIFL you must have a great defence and they better be ready to play at their best when the weather turns cold. UBC is well known for recruiting and developing outstanding defensive players under coach Bob Laycoe. The 1986 'Birds had tremendous leadership and several players returning from one of the leagues top units in '85. Two key veterans from the '82 national champs who would be counted on to make an impact were all-Stars Jack BEETSTRA (36) and Dwayne DERBAN (57). Other talented defenders included all-Stars Matt FITZPATRICK (73), George PETROVAS (35), Doug BRYSON (5), Roald KOVACIK (40), Joe DANIELI (60), Chris DOBROVOLNY (30) and US college transfer Ron CRICK (59).



L-R: Jack Beetstra and Dwayne Derban lead a strong unit seeking their second national title

The top ranked defence stopped the Hec Crighton winner and Westerns power trap game on three consecutive series in the second half.



With such a talented and competitive group, one of the main areas of concern heading into the season as the number #1 ranked team was the potential of key injuries. Coach SMITH and his staff knew they had to sharpen the competitive edge of team and manage the reps while keeping the focus on winning the WIFL conference.

The secondary also returned several key players, leading the way was Mark NORMAN (26), Jordan LEITH (2), Bruce McDONALD (10), Terry AINGE (7), Bill BARBER (20), Rob MORETTO (14) and rookie James DAWSON (27). As a former CFL defensive back, coach Dave EASLEY had lots to work with and would need everyone throughout the season to defend against the WIFL's top passing teams.





'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Mark Norman (26) 2-time all-Canadian, WIFL interception leader

GM #2 vs. Alberta Golden Bears, September 6th UBC (23) Alberta (5)

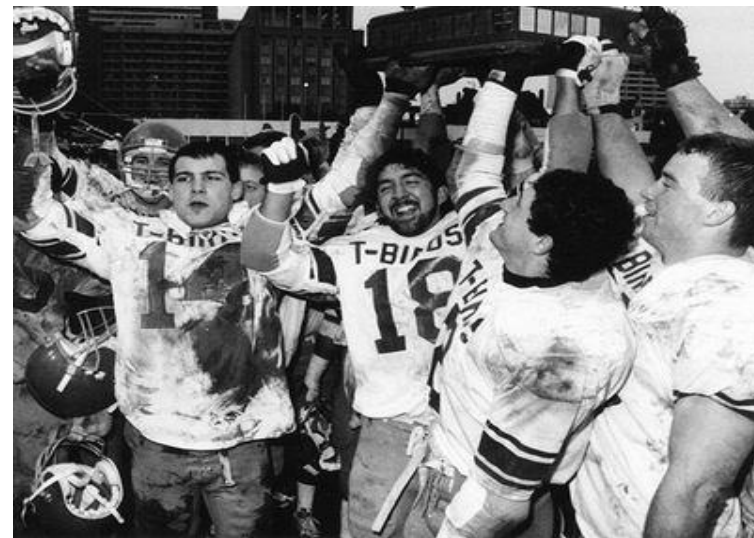
BOSS 'BIRDS BASH BEASTLY BEARS: In the home opener, running back Mark PETROS scored two touchdowns and veteran Terry COCHRANE returned a punt 42 yards for another touchdown. Defensive end Ron CRICK and second year defensive back Rob MORETTO turned in outstanding defensive performances. Net offence UBC-246, Alberta-129

By Svetozar Kontic, Ubyssy

GM #1 vs. Manitoba Bison's, August 30th UBC (32) Manitoba (9)

SMITH STRESSES DEFENCE: The Thunderbirds crushed Manitoba 32-9 in Winnipeg. It may be a cliché that defence wins matches, and the 'Birds showed how true that is as they picked up seven interceptions. "It is no secret about the fact that I recruit defence first" stated coach SMITH. Defence wins games especially in bad weather conditions. Leading the unit today was all-Canadian Mark NORMAN, Jack BEETSTRA and Dwayne DERBAN. Matt PEARCE was impressive in the kick return game giving the team great field position.

By Svetozar Kontic, Ubyssy



L-R: Rob Moretto, Mark Petros, Jordan Leith, Kevin Clarke
post game celebrations, Varsity stadium



GM #3 vs. Calgary Dinosaurs, Sept. 13th
UBC (18) Calgary (3)

UBC POUNDS CALGARY, TAKES FIRST: The Thunderbirds defeated the defending Vanier Cup champions and it was a classic. Mark NORMAN and Mark PETROS were named game stars. UBC compiled a total net offence of 346-yards and held the vaunted Dino's to 180 total yards. Calgary failed to score an offensive touchdown vs. the powerful 'Birds defence. Calgary was held to just 24 passing yards on the day.

By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey

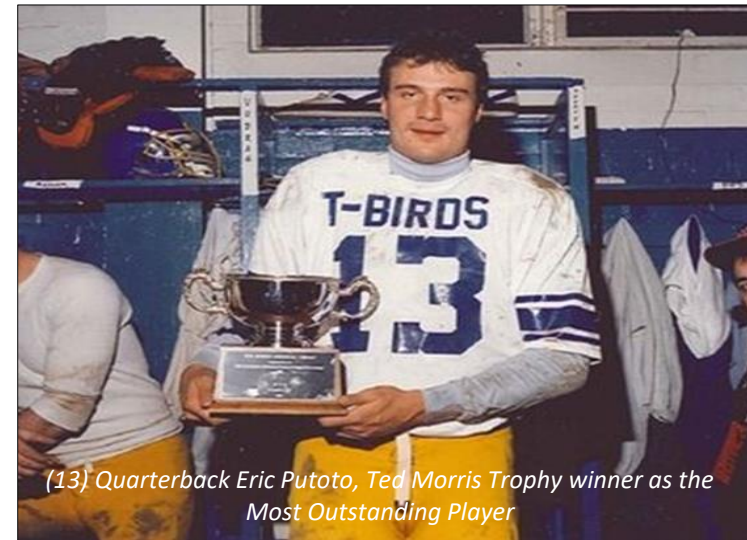


(35) George Petrovas and (5) Doug Bryson pressure the Western field goal protection

GM #4 vs. Eastern Washington, Sept. 20th
UBC (0) Washington (37)

GRID 'BIRDS BLASTED: The UBC football team lost to the #7 ranked double A Div. 1 school on the weekend in Spokane, WA. In the past we have played some lesser American college teams, "I just wanted some stiff competition the players could benefit from this year" said SMITH. One of the bright spots was the offensive line and the rushing of Terry COCHRANE as he collected 103 yards on 24 carries. SMITH said the major difference is about a half a million dollars, "when you put a priority on something and you allocate that much money you're going to get results".

By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey



(13) Quarterback Eric Putoto, Ted Morris Trophy winner as the Most Outstanding Player



'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Homecoming 2018

L-R: Row-1 Jordan Leith, Mark Petros, Tyler Lorenz, Mike Bellefontaine, Doug Spencer. Row-2 Wayne Harvey, Jack Beetstra, Leo Groenewegen, Chris Cunningham, Row-3, Tom Munro, Dwayne Derban. Row-4 President Santa Ono

GM #5 vs. Saskatchewan Huskies, Sept. 27th UBC (38) Saskatchewan (12)

FOOTBALL TEAM REIGNS: Massimo GEREMIA scored the 'Birds first touchdown on a one yard run after a long pass and run play led by quarterback Jordan GAGNER. The defence once again proved they are the best in Canadian college football intercepting the Huskies three times. Jordan LEITH had two of those picks and Mark NORMAN returned one 80 yards for a touchdown. Offensively UBC racked up an impressive 454 yards, rushing for 232 led by Terry COCHRANE who accounted for 116 yards and one touchdown.
By Svetozar Kontic, Ubyssy

GM #6 vs. Manitoba Bison's Oct. 4th UBC (21) Manitoba (10)

UBC FOOTBALLERS BOUNCE 'BISON: Quarterback Jordan GAGNER picked the 'Bison defence apart at the seams as he passed for 238 yards steering the 'Birds to victory. Coach SMITH noted the play of Mike BELLEFONTAINE, Rob ROS and Terry COCHRANE for their contributions to the win. The defence was once again outstanding, limiting the 'Bison quarterbacks to just 149 yards passing and forced three key interceptions. The 'Birds boast the top defence in the conference in several categories and appear to be getting stronger.
By Svetozar Kontic, Ubyssy

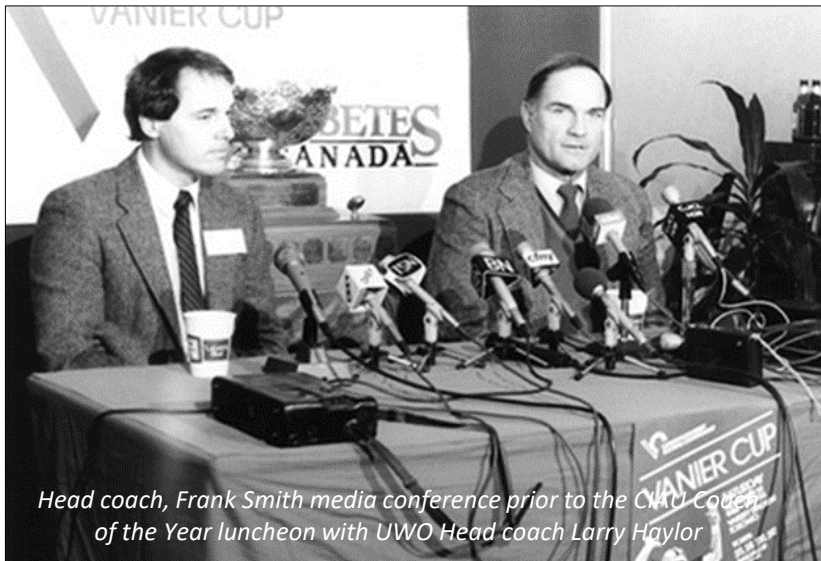


Thunderbird Stadium 2018
L-R: Tyler Lorenz, Terry Cochrane, Jordan Leith, Chris Cunningham, Terry Ainge





Head coach, Frank Smith post game ('86) after winning his second National championship, both victories over the UWO Mustangs ('82)



Head coach, Frank Smith media conference prior to the CFL Coach of the Year luncheon with UWO Head coach Larry Haylor

GM #7 vs. Alberta Golden Bears, Oct. 11th UBC (35) Alberta (7)

NORMAN INTERCEPTS BEARS OFFENCE: The 'Birds are rolling and easily disposed of the Golden Bears in Edmonton. Led by cornerback Mark NORMAN with his three interceptions, including touchdown returns of 62 and 90 yards. Bill BARBER also had an interception of the 'Bears quarterbacks. The win brought UBC's record to a perfect six wins and no losses in WIFL conference play. Rob ROS, Tom MUNRO, Terry AINGE all had strong performances.

By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey

GM #8 vs. Calgary Dinosaurs, Oct. 17th UBC (25) Calgary (19)

BATTLE OF THE BEST, A CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW: The final regular season game between these two rivals was a battle of field position. Calgary used their run game early and then their strong passing game to put up over 373 yards in total offence. The vaunted 'Birds secondary defended 40 passing attempts and added to their league leading interception total with another 2 key turnovers. Terry COCHRANE led the 'Birds scoring with two touchdowns. Quarterback Jordan GAGNER completed 19 of 30 passing attempts, Massimo GEREMIA led all receivers with 6 catches and punter Mike BELLEFONTANE had his longest kick of the season-72 yards. The defence was also impressive holding the Dino's to three field goals in key moments to secure the smallest margin of victory all season.

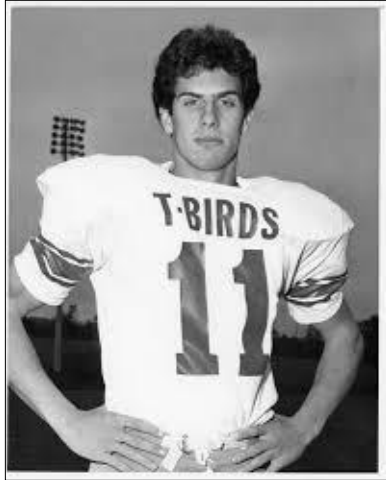
By Game Report-Stats, WIFL



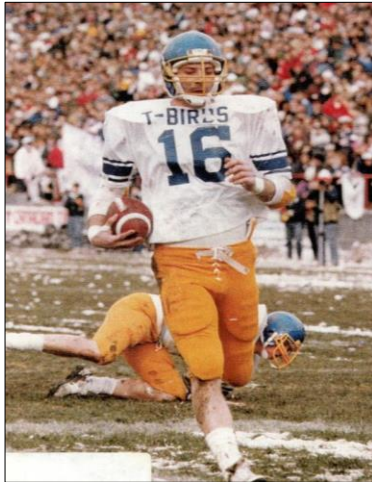
'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Matt Pearce (11) led he team with 478 kick return yards



Rob Ros (16) scores the winning touchdown



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GM #9 vs. Saskatchewan Huskies, Nov. 1st UBC (45) Calgary (17)

'BIRDS SMASH LETHARGIC HUSKIES: The Huskies wish they could have hidden in the thick fog after taking a brutal beating at the hands of the 'Birds. Jordan GAGNER hit receivers Tom VLASIC and Craig KELLER for touchdown passes. Backup quarterback, Eric PUTOTO took over in the second half hitting Mike BELLEFONTAINE and Tom MUNRO for touchdowns. PUTOTO finished the game with 205 yards passing and Mark NORMAN added another interception to finish the regular season with his league leading 12th.
By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey

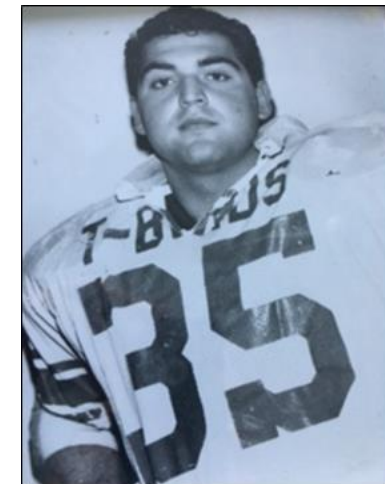
WIFL Regular Season Statistical Leaders

- SCORING: Mark NORMAN - 6 touchdowns, 36 points
- RUSHING: Mark PETROS - 3 touchdowns, 360 yards
- RECEIVING: Rob ROS - 4 touchdowns, 379 yards
- PASSING: Jordan GAGNER - 8 touchdowns, 1,149 yards
- PUNT RET: Matt PEARCE - 303 yards
- KICKOFF RET: Matt PEARCE - 175 yards
- PUNTING: Mike BELLEFONTAINE - 2,688 yards
- KICKOFFS: Carey BYMOEN - 1,253 yards
- INTERCEPTIONS: Mark NORMAN - 12, 449 yards, 5 touchdowns
- QB SACKS: Ron CRICK - 5

Jordan Leith (2) 4 WIFL interceptions



Terry Cochrane (22) 736 WIFL all-purpose yards



George Petrovas (35) 6-solo tackles in the Vanier Cup



GM #10 vs. Calgary Dinosaurs, Nov. 11th
 UBC (49) Calgary (3)

'BIRDS DETHRONE DINO'S: The UBC Thunderbirds demolished the Calgary Dinosaurs before a capacity crowd of about 3,000 people claiming their first WIFL Hardy Cup since 1982. Fans were treated to a UBC symposium on scoring. At 11:04 of the opening quarter, quarterback Jordan GAGNER hit receiver Mike BELLEFONTAINE with a 41 yard touchdown strike to make the score 8-0. The score became 15-0 after a 62 yard punt return-TD by Matt PEARCE with only 26 seconds remaining in the second quarter.

Running back Terry COCHRANE scored the first of his three touchdowns to make the score 22-0 in spectacular fashion. He took a screen pass on the left side of the field, cut into the middle where he broke four tackles. He ran across to the right side and into the endzone. GAGNER, who left the game in the third quarter had a spectacular outing completing 14 of 25 passes for 281 yards and two touchdowns. COCHRANE rushed 19 times for 133 yards. The 'Birds put up 597 offensive yards and had 30 first downs. Dwayne DERBAN led the defence with 2-QB sacks. SMITH "our line play was the difference today, and they had no answer for our swarming defence. *By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey*

Hardy Cup Quarter Statistics

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Total
UBC	0	1	1	1	3
CAL	8	14	13	14	49



L-R: Jordan Leith, Rob Moretto, Bruce McDonald, Terry Ainge



L-R: Co-captains Dwayne Derban, Leo Groenewegen, Terry Cochrane, Jack Beetstra





GM #11 vs. Bishops Gaiters, Nov. 15th
UBC (32) Bishops (30)

FOOTBALLERS STOP LONGEST YARD: “Just one more yard”, that’s all the Bishops Gaiters needed to force a tie and send the semi-final game into overtime, instead of losing 32-30. Over 5,000 spectators watched the UBC victory in a stadium which has a seating capacity of 2,200. With less than a minute left in the Central Bowl, a pass interference penalty moved the ball to the one yard line. Bishops handed the ball to their huge fullback on quick dive but the best defensive front in the country stopped them in their tracks and destroyed any hopes of the tiny Quebec school of going to their first Vanier cup appearance.

Both teams were stacked with future CFL players, but turnovers proved to be the difference once again as the Gaiters were forced into committing seven turnovers including five interceptions. SMITH said “that’s happened in a lot of our games this year. I think we have a very opportunistic defence which creates a lot of turnovers and our offence is able to capitalize on the great field position”.

Terry COCHRANE scored on a 27 yard run midway through the third quarter giving the ‘Birds a 28-24 lead. It was COCHRANE’s third touchdown of the game and for his efforts he was named the Maury Van Vliet trophy winner as the Bowl-MOP. The versatile Mike BELLEFONTANE closed out UBC’s scoring in the fourth quarter with a single, then hitting a field goal to make the score 32-24. The Gaiters began their near heroics with quarterback HARRIS marching the team the length of the field before finally taking the ball in himself from the three yard line to make the score 32-30.



Players and fans- post game victory celebration

The defence proved once again how difficult it is to gain territory on a football field. “There was no mistake or anything, they just played a tough goal-line defence and the hole wasn’t there”. said Johnson.

By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey





'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



GM #12 vs. Western Mustangs, Nov. 22nd UBC (25) Bishops (23)

“HOT” PUTOTO MASHES MUSTANGS: UBC backup quarterback Eric PUTOTO played well when called upon during the season but saved his best for the last minute of the championship game. 65 seconds on Saturday afternoon was all he needed in leading UBC to a 25-23 victory over the previously undefeated Western Mustangs. With UBC trailing, PUTOTO marched the team 58 yards down the field to Westerns four yard line. There he hit sure handed receiver Rob ROS for the winning touchdown with only four seconds on the clock.

‘We’re happy to win the game and the national championship. It’s a tribute to all the players who worked so hard all season long”. Said UBC Head coach Frank SMITH.

(13) Eric Putoto, (22) Terry Cochrane and (53) Kevin Clarke



1986 National Champions, Teammates for life

ROS scored UBC’s first touchdown of the game at 8:34 of the first quarter catching a 39 yard pass over the middle from GAGNER and racing into the end zone to make the score 10 to nothing for UBC. Mike BELLEFONTANE had kicked a field goal earlier to make the score three to nothing for UBC.

At 12:18 of the second quarter GAGNER tossed the ball five yards to his outstanding running back Terry COCHRANE who scooted in to give UBC a commanding 17 to one lead at halftime. Western’s only points came off a missed field goal. COCHRANE was a workhorse for the ‘Birds, returning punts, rushing the ball and catching passes. Although PUTOTO won the Ted Morris trophy, COCHRANE was surely the heart of the teams’ offence.

The second half was a complete reversal of form with Western dominating to the delight of a partisan crowd of close to 18,000 spectators. Two touchdown passes and a four yard run by the Mustangs Hec Crighton trophy winner gave the OUA champions a 23-18 lead. Both sides also kicked singles before UBC’s defence came alive stopping Western on three separate occasions before PUTOTO’s heroics.

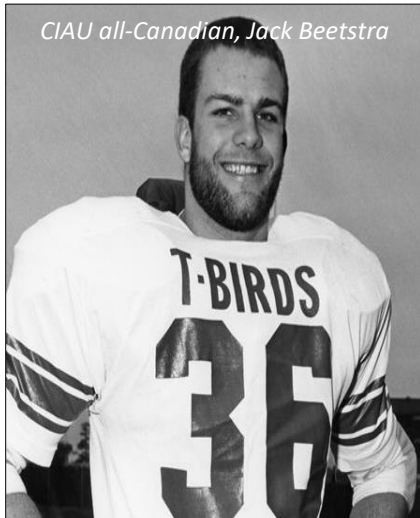
The final drive was executed to perfection; PUTOTO pass to COCHRANE complete 12 yards, pass to BELLEFONTANE complete 21 yards, pass to MUNRO complete 14 yards, pass to COCHRANE incomplete, PUTOTO scrambles 11 yards, pass to BELLEFONTANE incomplete, pass Rob ROS complete for 4 yd TD, BELLEFONTANE convert **UBC 25 - UWO 23**. Western elects to kick off. Recovered by ROBERTIS. Delay of game penalty UBC, PUTOTO -1 yard. **VICTORY**
By Svetozar Kontic, Ubysey



1986 Championship – Reflections



CIAU all-Canadian, Leo Groenewegen



CIAU all-Canadian, Jack Beetstra

The roster was very talented; who were some of the most competitive players to practice against? The '86 team practiced extremely hard. We were very proud and competitive, and we even wanted to “win” in practice. We had an ‘O’ line with guards Al JONES and Tony KRISTOPAITIS that would run you over at any chance they got. Our full back, Mass GEREMIA would then run you over again when you got back up. Offensive tackle Leo GROENEWEGEN would steer you wherever he wanted to and then you had to catch Terry COCHRANE and Matt PEARCE. *5th year linebacker Jack Beetstra (36), co-Captain*

What are your recollections of the Vanier Cup week leading up to the championship final? Confident and excited, we knew more about Western than Bishops. They were stronger on the line of scrimmage and more balanced than our other playoff opponents. We were ready to go, we were focused and our practices were crisp. The week is full of events and distractions but our leaders made sure we were 100% focused come kickoff. *4th year defensive back Jordan Leith (2)*

What are your memories of pre game and the post-game celebrations ? You could hear a pin drop in the locker room as we were all business. Players were getting taped, attending to their pre-game rituals and rehearsing their assignments. For Jack BEETSTRA, Dwayne DERBAN and me, this was very much like 1982. We knew our coaches had prepared us well. To a man, we had that quiet confidence that we were ready to play a great game.

After our captains, Leo, Terry, Dwayne and Jack, accepted the Vanier Cup on behalf of the team, we found ourselves together in that same small, cramped locker room. What a contrast to the pre-game atmosphere. Players, coaches, trainers, equipment men and UBC staff celebrating a great team win. *5th year inside receiver Rob Ros (16)*



'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



Jordan Leith (2) intercepts a pass vs Western and returns it 30-yards

Thunderbird faithful will recall the greatness of this team and the outstanding performances of the players of which many will be enshrined in the Frank Gnuip Wall of Honour. Under the directions of coach Frank SMITH and his dedicated staff, the common theme in '86 from the start of training camp was meticulous preparation and relentless competition. As gate-keepers of this group of talented players, the staff would not accept anything but the best from each player.

It is easy to identify a team that is championship caliber. First they celebrate as a team, they share success and they share victory. Secondly, they recognize that the greater the challenge the greater the opportunity for them all. They have competitive toughness and thrive on big game pressure but still prepared for every game with a consistent, intense work ethic. Third, they possess unity, a single-minded determination to WIN. They are driven as individuals but are guided by senior leadership.

As the years continue to pass, more will appreciate the sacrifices and dedication of all the outstanding student-athletes and coaches who made it possible. We will also come to appreciate the non-competitive talents which characterize this special group of champions; friendship and trust. At events like homecoming reunions, golf tournaments, weddings and retirements, one title they all share is CHAMPION, they were the very best in their time.

If you have never been in a Vanier Cup as a player, you really can't understand it. The media attention is incredible, it hits you on gameday when you walk into the stadium. In the locker room each player is preparing in silence, then you step on the field with your teammates and the emotion over takes you. A championship season never ends, forever CHAMPIONS.





'86 CHAMPIONS - THE ROAD TO GLORY



1986 National Champions, Teammates for life