



“Grey Cup in Winnipeg”

by Chris McCarron

The CFL looked really good on T.V. during Grey Cup Sunday. Winnipeg is where I would want to play if I were a CFL player. I think the Grey Cup should be played in cold temps preferably with snow on the field. The snow and cold adds to the atmosphere and to the drama of the game. Forces of nature have character. Video screens and dome roofs do not. On Sunday in Winnipeg it was -16 degrees and the players could see their breath. I didn't see or hear anyone complaining about the cold. Wayne, John Candy, and Bruce McNall were there facing the cold. I wanted to

be there. The challenge of playing in the cold and snow excites me. The cold didn't stop Matt Dunigan from throwing the football. The cold could not give the Rocket cold feet. The Rocket ran 87 yards for a touchdown, a Grey cup record. The CFL is very exciting football. There is talk of the CFL expanding into the U.S., not such a bad idea however if the Americans want our game then they should have our game with all its present rules intact. For once Canadians ought to tell the Americans that we will be calling the shots.

The Grey Cup should be played in Canada, hopefully in Winnipeg.

OFFSIDER

This week was a great one for two NHL teams who almost never hear the word “great” in the same phrase as their names -- the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Quebec Nordiques. The Leafs finally won their first road game of the season on the 22nd; does it really matter that the game was in Cow Palace against San Jose. Quebec's feat was more miraculous; they defeated the Montreal Canadiens on the 21st. It was irony at its best -- the win came on the same day as the new issue of The Hockey News which had in it an article praising the defense and spectacular goaltending of the Habs.

The hockey Panthers won both of their home games this past weekend. Scott Blanchard was truly wonderful in nets, stopping all shots in a Panther 5-0 win over the St. Francis Xavier X-Men.

Blanchard was the player of the game to many of us. Sunday night was a different story. The Cape Breton Capers wanted to win and showed it. The Panthers lost their 5-1 lead and the Capers forced the games into overtime. Panther defense was basically nonexistent for the third period during the Capers rush. Finally, with 1:01 remaining in overtime, K.J. White scored to preserve the Panther win. Thank you, K.J. I have not been able to get to a card shop this past

week because of papers. I think I'll mention again that Upper Deck is in the stores regardless. The cards are out. Topps is also out; Bowman should be. Let's talk about the Grey cup. Raghieb Ismail and Matt Dunigan have given the city of Toronto reasons to finally celebrate for one of its teams.

The Argos were spurred by two touchdowns in less than a minute; Calgary held the edge statistically, but the Argos won 36-21. The rocket and Calgary's Danny Barrett both set records. Matt Dunigan played with a broken collarbone. The Argo victory proved to the rest of us that Bruce McNall was right for spending so much for the players. But how does this relate to hockey (Besides the fact that Wayne Gretzky was there)? The Grey Cup itself was originally designed as an amateur hockey trophy. So there, congratulations to the Argonauts for a great year.

The hockey Panthers play two games away this weekend and then are off for the month of December. The season starts up again on the third of January at the Civic Centre with an exhibition game against Alumni and the next night against Dalhousie.

Good luck on your exams, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and see you at the civic Centre on the third.