

BEACHES AM

Imperials Fail to Hold Lead Against Toronto Rugby Squad

Sarnia Overcomes Early Deficit But Is Unable to Keep Advantage and Ab Box Boots Tying Point Late in Game to Give Balmy Beach, 7-7, Draw With Defending Champions. Seven Thousand See Game.

Canadian Press.

TORONTO, Oct. 11.—Toronto's Balmy Beach football team, who otherwise make only semi-public appearances, held Sarnia Imperials to a 7-7 tie here today in the annual Thanksgiving Day game between the Ontario Union rivals. Played in drizzling rain, the contest attracted 7,000.

With a roaring East-End crowd to help them along, Alex Ponton's collection of in-and-outers scored a first-period touchdown on the 1936 Eastern champions, and refused to bow after that to a superior attack. In the fourth quarter, the Beaches rallied gamely to score the tying point.

By doing so, they upheld the tradition of these Thanksgiving Day struggles. A year ago the Beaches turned back Sarnia in a thrilling engagement, though they didn't manage to get another decision from the Imperials, who went on to title heights they are favored to hold this season.

Beaches Open Scoring.

Whether or not they are championship caliber, the Beaches are supposed to be inspired on the holiday. On this day they can handle the best, no matter how good it is. For the balance of the schedule, the Ponton team will play to small crowds against Sarnia and Hamilton Panthers.

A forward pass, from Ab Box to Eddie Thompson, that netted 55 yards in the first quarter, gave the crowd an idea of what was coming. Thompson caught the rifled pass on the Sarnia 40-yard line and carried it to the 15. Two plays later, Herbie Moores raced the end to the two-yard line and then Thompson smashed over.

Imperials had only one chance in the first half to overcome the five-point deficit. They failed in the last minute of the second period, when a brilliant pass play resulted in a fumble. Hugh Stirling lined a flat forward to Ormond Beach, who relayed a lateral to Mike Hedgewick. The fleet Hedgewick had six yards to go for a touchdown, but he dropped the ball.

Finally Take Lead.

But the champions made the grade in the third period. Stirling's punting forced Beaches back to their three-yard line, and the giant Ormond Beach crashed through and blocked a kick. He followed the bounding ball over the goal line and fell on it for the touchdown. Alex Hayes converted, and Imperials led, 6-5.

Fine open-field ball-carrying by Moores, Jack Frizelle, Eddie Thompson and Box was more than the careful Sarnia system had counted on after that. When Imperials tried to play it safe they found the Beach backs taking

daring chances and getting away with them.

These gains moved the ball to Sarnia's 45, from where Box punted to Arnie McWatters, who was rouged for the tying point late in the third period. In the fourth, Stirling kicked for a Sarnia single and the Beaches got that one back in spectacular fashion.

Pass Leads to Single.

Box tossed a 31-yard forward pass to Syd Reynolds at the Imperial 33 and Box immediately punted another single.

Stronger in the front line and with better plunging backs, Sarnia made seven first downs to three for Balmy Beach. The Toronto team found Sarnia's line unyielding. But Beaches contributed vastly superior downfield tackling and handled the wet ball almost flawlessly.

Beaches tried 13 forward passes and completed four, for a total gain of 119 yards. Imperials completed five out of 15, for a gain of 59 yards.

Lineups.

Balmy Beach—Flying wing, Hennessey; halves, Box, Ross Scott and Seymour; quarter, Ed. Thompson; snap, Taylor; insides, Irwin and Harris; middles, Eisenhart and Moore; outsides, Daniels and Reynolds; subs, Frizelle, Moores, D. Scott, L. Thompson, MacDonald, Humphries, Hogan, Hendrie, Turnbull, Heigh, Reid, Barron and McGarry.

Sarnia—Flying wing, Beach; halves, Moroz, Stirling and Hedgewick; quarter, Hayes; snap, France; insides, Butler and Paterson; middles, Parsons and Clawson; outsides, Norris and Van Horne; subs, McWatters, Withers, Geary, Trepanier, Burr, Pierce, Mattingly, Ewner, Evelent, Woodcock and Rutter.

Referee, Rossiter; umpire, DeGruchy.