

Oilers Down Beaches 10-2

BUMMER HANGS UP FIVE SINGLES WITH MIGHTY PUNTS, ADDS 33-YARD FIELD GOAL; LOSERS GET ONLY POINTS IN THIRD QUARTER

By VERN DeGEER

SARNIA, Nov. 7.—Hugh "Bummer" Stirling shoved his priceless punting feet into a brand-new pair of football shoes here Saturday afternoon at Athletic Park. Those shoes were loaded with hoofing dynamite that blasted out a large portion of the 10-2 victory recorded by Sarnia Imperials over Balmy Beach. Stirling's educated boot produced a 33-yard field goal and five single points off soaring punts to keep the Oilers very much in the running for the 1938 senior O. R. F. U. championship.

Must Defeat Petes

By defeating the battling Beaches Saturday, Imperials found themselves needing a decision over Peterborough at Sarnia this coming Friday afternoon in order to qualify against Montreal Nationals in the senior O.R.F.U. playoff. The Friday game at Sarnia is planned as an Armistice Day feature, instead of Saturday, if Peterborough agrees.

A crowd of close to 3,000 watched "Bummer" Stirling cut loose with some of the most remarkable distance punting ever recorded on any Canadian gridiron. With a friendly west wind at his back in the second and fourth quarters, Eastern Canada football's "One-Man-Gang" beat out a pigskin salvo that had his clouds shaking for cover. Ab Box, the versatile Beach backfield ace, who is no mean hooper himself, also had a chance to profit by the breeze but his own efforts were far short of the remarkable punting drives of his old gridiron rival.

The team had to get through a scoreless first quarter before Stirling's poppin' dynamite began being touched off. Standing on Sarnia's 40-yard line just after the second quarter opened, Stirling cut loose with a punt that landed behind the Balmy Beach goal-line. That's roughly 75 yards on the fly. The ball dropped on its own and added 15 more yards. Herb Moores recovered it a few steps from the deadline. Before he could get in motion, he had been tackled for a maul.

Just before the second quarter closed, Stirling stood on his own 44-yard line and hammered out an 80-yard punt to the fringe of the Beach deadline. Thompson was roused by charging Sarnia tacklers for the second Sarnia point.

Always in Front

Imperials carried that 2-0 lead into the second half and successfully protected their leadmaking edge, although the scrappy Beaches continued to loom as a threat until late in the fourth quarter. Here the Oilers got the count to 2-2, which was sufficient protection against a possible touchdown-convert by the raiders.

Early in the third quarter Mike Hedgewick raced in from the Sarnia secondary to intercept one of Ab Box's soaring passes. Mike raced 28 yards to the Beach 17. A fast-charging Beach line caused two Sarnia end runs to lose eight yards. Quarterback Alex Hayes then took up the ball for Stirling on the Beach 33-yard line. From that spot Stirling booted a field goal into the wind.

Ab Box directed the Balmy Beach club on a drive that paved the way for its first point. Box completed passes to Humphries and Sward in succession. The passes took Beaches deep into Sarnia territory. Box was tossed for a 15-yard loss on another pass attempt. Next came Box's kick to McWatters behind the Sarnia goal line. McWatters slipped on the grass and missed the catch but the ball sailed to the deadline. Late in the quarter Sarnia lost the ball on a third-down offense. Barry Gray tried a field goal but was wide. As Beach players swarmed into the end zone, Alex Hayes kicked the ball to the deadline, conceding a point to the visitors.

Two for McWatters

Arnie McWatters, libber-limber Sarnia quarterback, gave Stirling a breathing spell and booted a kick to deadline early in the fourth quarter after Mattingley had blocked a Beach punt. Pat Parsons recovered on the Beach 20. Arnie booted another to Thompson. Beach safety man, who was roused. Then "One-Man-Gang" Stirling returned with his pigskin dynamite to boom a 70-yard punt to Thompson behind the Beach goal-line. Four Sarnia players tackled the visitor.

Another 70-yard Stirling punt to the Beach deadline made it 2-2. Hedgewick raced to the Beach 49 after taking a lateral from Hayes on a Box punt. From that region Stirling punched a little 60-yard kick to Thompson in the Beach end zone. Thompson was promptly roused by the alert tacklers that raced down the field after their mate's lanky kick.

One of the highlights of the fourth quarter came when Stirling dropped back to the safety position in the Sarnia backfield. He hauled in one of Ab Box's punts, faked a return of the kick and then tore his way through a maze of Beach players. When he reached the Beach 20, Stirling lateralled to "Pat" Parsons, husky Sarnia lineman. Parsons was hauled down on the Beach 12. Imperials lost 26 yards on the next play, but still left Stirling in position for a kick to the deadline for the sixth Sarnia point.

Bad Break for Beaches

Beach advanced to the Sarnia 10. Box led Stirling on the second quarter and a bad break occurred when a touchdown bid. In attempting to knock down a Beach pass, Stirling tipped the ball into the arms of Syd Reynolds, veteran Beach end. Reynolds raced 15 yards and lateralled to Holden, who was stopped on the Sarnia 10. On the first play Sward tumbled on an end run play and Sarnia recovered. Stirling kicked out of danger.

John DeGruchy, president of the O.R.F.U. kicked off the ball to officially open the important contest between the two time-honored rivals of his organization.

Just before the game ended Ken Stevenson of Sarnia and Bob Reid of Beaches, were banished after staging a fist fight on the field. It looked like a general melee as the banished players reached the sidelines, but peace-makers soon restored order.

Sarnia	Balmy Beach
Gotab	Flying Wing
Stirling	Humphries
Woodcock	Halves
Hedgewick	Sward
Hayes	Manorek
Living	Moore
Trepener	Quarter
P. Butler	Snap
Clawson	A Box
France	Living
Stevenson	Inside
Norris	McCarthy
	Butler
	Middle
	Casson
	Ends
	Parley
	Haigh
	Reynolds

Sarnia subs: Vanborne, McWatters, Geary, Burr, Withers, Wickware, Andrews, Mattingley, Schulz, Ewazer, Hungerford, Eveland, J. Butler, Parsons.

Balmy Beach subs: Thompson, McCulloch, Satter, Barron, Seymour, Harris, Downward, Gray, Lush, Warman, Shultz, Holden.

Referee, Taitors Gerard; umpire, Bob Crooby; headlinesman, Bob Elliott.

Orville Burke Getting Better

OTTAWA, Nov. 7.—Orville Burke, Ottawa Rough Riders' quarterback who suffered a bad concussion in the Big Four football game against Hamilton Tigers here Saturday, is still in hospital but his condition has improved.

Coach Ross Trimble said he thought Burke would be back in uniform for the two-game playoff against Toronto Argonauts starting a week from next Saturday.