

Beaches Win Kicking Duel And Out Trojans, 5-2

By George Hunt
Citizen Sports Writer.

Ottawa Trojans rose to the heights of football futility at Lansdowne Park on Saturday afternoon and a pair of veteran campaigners, Ol' Sammy Sward and left-footed Bobby Porter, kicked the contention out of them as Toronto Balmy Beach squeezed out a 5-2 triumph and won the right to face Toronto Indians in the ORFU final playoffs. Sadly enough, Trojans held their own in a grim line struggle with the beefy Balmies and all the points were scored with the aid of a westerly breeze which beat it up briskly at times.

With the wind at their backs and Sward doing most of the hoofing, Beaches jumped into a 2-0 lead in the first quarter but Trojans got both these points back in the second when a pair of placement attempts resulted in singles.

Page Tiny Herman!
Actually it was their feeble tries from placement that proved Trojans' undoing. Their efforts to boot a teed-up ball closely resembled the first dribbling drives of a duffer golfer.

They drew the wind to start the second half and twice more they moved within shooting distance but failed dismally. Then when the teams changed over for the final quarter, Porter swung his big brogan three times and three points went up on the score-board to chill Ottawa hopes.

Porter had four points on the day, Sward getting the other Beach single. Jim Cumming and Ted Edwards produced the Ottawa scores.

It was a sad exit for the young Ottawans who deserved a better fate. Some 7,000 fans turned out for the game expecting to see an all-or-nothing-at-all bid but instead they witnessed a drab kickers' duel. There was bruising line play for the expert to emulse over but for spectator thrills the wide-open game ranks first, last and always.

No Variation
Beaches attempted to open it up but Porter's tosses were either wide of the mark or batted down by an alert Trojan defence while their end runs went for naught for the same reason. On the other hand Trojans practically ignored their own end run and passing attack and stubbornly pecked away with plunges that netted only short gains most of the time.

But despite their two-bucks-and-a-kick attack and the fact that they just haven't got a placement kicker—no one on the club pretends to be a toe-ball artist—Trojans might have pulled the game out of the fire with a little better luck.

They didn't have a chance in the first quarter. The wind and Sward's fine kicking put them on the defensive right off the bat and they had to play it safe. They would have racked up more points in the second with a good placement kicker on hand but they would have had a touchdown, too. If Referee Bob Armstrong hadn't washed out a fine run with a confusing ruling that drew a quick but unavailing protest from Trojan Captain Ted Edwards.

On the fourth play after the first Ottawa single, Beaches started an end run from their own 36 and a horn sounded. Then Beaches fumbled and Ron Sharpe recovered for Ottawa and lateralized to Joey Richman who raced 35 yards to cross the goal-line. But Armstrong called the play back and penalized Beaches 10 yards for illegal interference from where they had originally scrimmage.

Trojans argued that a horn had sounded on the play, which it did, and since a horn does not stop the play the touchdown should have counted—which it didn't.

Here is the official version:
Umpire Harry Bowden, of Ottawa.

Journey's End

Toronto—Sward, flying wing; Ford, Lake and Porter, halves; Powers, quarter; Cosgrove, snap; Staughton and Turner, insides; Meen and Shields, middles; Moorehouse and Hazel, outsidies; Manson, Tippet, Gibb, Murdock, Turnbull, Walden, Edmiston, Cuddie, Widman, Ferris, Hooper and Smyth, alternates.

Ottawa—Brennan, flying wing; Barkley, Edwards and Cumming, halves; McWatters, quarter; Hutt, snap; Lefebvre and O'Connell, insides; Sprague and Karson, middles; Sharp and Hunt, outsidies; Molinski, Kuntz, Stanyer, Daley, Eastaugh, Gillan, Haywood, Fagan, Fulton, Munro, Ferrier and Richman, alternates.

Officials—Bob Armstrong, Toronto, referee; Harry Bowden, Ottawa, umpire; Joe Tubman, Ottawa, head linesman.

Summary:

First Quarter

1. Toronto, rouge, Sward (Barkley).

2. Toronto, single, Porter (dead line).

Second Quarter

3. Ottawa, rouge, Cumming (Cuddie).

4. Ottawa, rouge, Edwards (Cuddie).

Third Quarter

No score.

Fourth Quarter

5. Toronto, rouge, Porter (Cumming).

6. Toronto, single, Porter (dead line).

7. Toronto, single, Porter (dead line).

Final score—Toronto Balmy Beach, 5; Ottawa Trojans, 2.

sounded his horn for illegal Beach interference seconds after the play started. Then came the fumble and resulting touchdown run, with Armstrong blowing his whistle at Richman as he ran.

When Richman brought the ball back to the referee, Umpire Bowden reported illegal interference and Armstrong, claiming he had also blown his whistle before the fumble to signal a dead ball, paced off the interference penalty. Trojans heard only Armstrong's second whistle which was the reason for the confusion.

Gibb Slugs Hutt

Later in the quarter Hugh Cuddie fumbled Arnie McWatters' quick kick on the Beach 40. Lloyd Hutt, stellar Trojan center, grabbed the ball and had a clear path to the goal but Toronto's Dick Gibb reached out and slugged him to the ground on the 36 and drew a game-saving match penalty.

Early in the third quarter Stan Molinski recovered a Beach fumble on the Toronto 51 and Gordie Brennan hit over the short end and broke away to dash by Beach tacklers and dive the last five yards over the goal-line but he had stepped into touch at the six-yard stripe.

There were other if's, if's that would have favored the Beaches. Johnny Lake, that big, bruising ball-carrier, might have made good on a 39-yard placement try in the second quarter or Porter, if he had been on, might have hit one of his receivers with a touchdown pass. Trojans batted down more than one over-the-line pass by the Beach triple-threat.

There were fourteen fumbles in the game with the honors divided. Each team made five first downs. Trojans tried eight passes and completed two, Beaches four out of 13. Trojans tried three end runs. Nuff said.