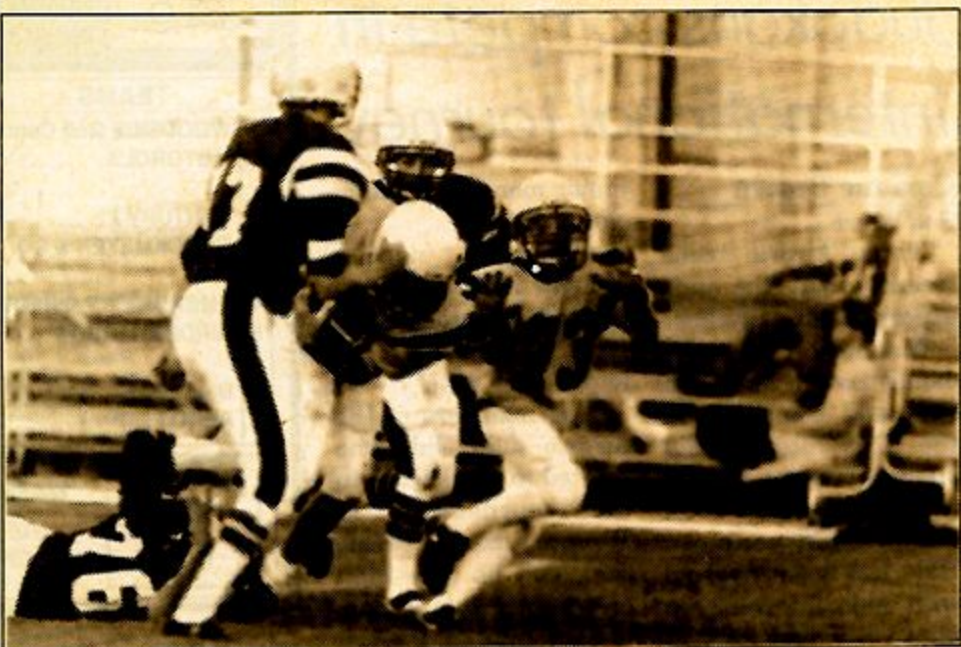


SPORTS



OPEN SEASON: Bantam players take to the field Friday in the first game of the football season. *Greg Fulmes/Airdrie Echo*

Storm opens football season

Corinne Brown

Staff Writer

In the first game of the football season, the Airdrie Storm bantam football team certainly lived up to its nickname — it stormed the Cochrane Lions.

Friday night's match saw the Storm beat the Lion's 20-6 in a game played at Mewata

Stadium in Calgary.

Storm head coach Jeff Younger was pleased with his team's efforts.

"We basically controlled most of the game," Younger said.

Airdrie kicked off to start the game but held the Lions, setting the tone for the game. The Storm took possession at its own 20-yard line, and proceeded to march the ball down the field.

"We held them there and took over the ball," he said, "and proceeded to have a 90-yard drive for a touchdown."

Mike Antonius carried the ball the last 13 yards for the TD, with Travis Vollman kicking the convert to bring the score to 8-0. Bantam football rules award two points for successful convert attempt.

In the second quarter, Cochrane scored but failed its extra point attempt, bringing the score to 8-6.

"We took the ensuing kick off and in 11 plays we went 81 yards and scored a touchdown," Younger said.

A 21-yard pass and run from Tyrell Rohl to Jason Rawlins resulted in a touchdown.

The convert was missed and the score

was then 14-6.

In the third quarter, the Storm had a two-play drive which ended in a 75-yard touchdown run by Travis Vollman. The convert was missed and the score went to 20-6.

Individual statistics for Mike Anton include 140 yards rushing with one touchdown, Travis Vollman, 119 yards rushing with one touchdown, Jason Rawlins caught three passes with one touchdown, Keegan Patey had one reception for 20 yards, Tyrell Rohl had four completions for 59 yards and one touchdown and Bryan Berard had one interception.

"It was a very good, well-played game for our first," Younger said.

"We gave the crowd some excitement and there was a strong effort by our offence. The defence started off shakily but picked it up and didn't let too much happen."

Younger said some mistakes were made but they were corrected throughout the game.

The next game for the Storm will be Saturday at 1 p.m. against the Colts at Mewata Stadium in Calgary.