

SPORTS VIEW

By MARTY LINEHAN

Educator poll: No cheers for scholar/athletes

Two education polls issued last month proved very interesting. The National Endowment for the Humanities, in a poll of 700 college seniors, found that 25 percent didn't know when Columbus discovered America, and 40 percent didn't know when the Civil War was fought. Luckily, it didn't ask them to spell "cat."

There was no information as to how many of the interviewed students were athletes.

A poll by U.S. News and World Report of 787 college presidents, 768 deans of academic affairs and 747 deans of admissions found that education takes second place to sports at most institutions. (No, Seymour, they weren't asked that trick Columbus question!)

The educators said the financial rewards of intercollegiate athletics interfered with the educational mission of schools. Seventy-one percent said athletes are channeled into less academically demanding courses, and 95 percent favored requiring high-school recruits to meet the same admission standards as non-athlete students.

Most administrators admit that the time demands of intercollegiate athletics often mandate special admissions and course-work consider-



Lee Trevino

ations. There is pressure on coaches to produce winners and pressures on the athletes themselves to take less demanding courses that give them more time for sports.

So now we know the college administrators know what we have known all along: that dancing courses are taken by many members of

the football team — when the basket-weaving classes are full.

As for sports action, on Sunday, Nov. 26, NBC airs the final match of the Skins Game, and you don't have to even spell "par" to get rich from it. Four top golfers, Jack Nicklaus, Lee Trevino, Curtis Strange and Ray Floyd, get an invitation to get still richer playing each other. Last year the Skins Game made history when Trevino sank a hole in one.

On ESPN Sunday night, Nov. 26,

the Los Angeles Rams play the New Orleans Saints. Both teams have shown sporadic brilliance. There should be a wild-card slot for one of them.

On ABC's "Monday Night Football" Nov. 27, the New York Giants visit the San Francisco 49ers in a big game that could be a playoff preview. Both teams have top quarterbacks who have been injured, but both Phil Simms and Joe Montana should be ready.

CANADIAN SPORTS VIEW

By TED SHAW

1989 Grey Cup game at Toronto's SkyDome

It has been a year of conflicting emotions for everyone involved with the Canadian Football League.

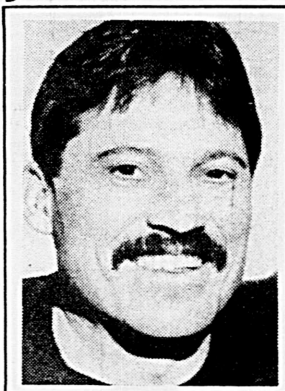
The year began with high expectations as a new two-pronged senior management scheme took effect, replacing the old single commissioner setup. Former Ontario politician Roy McMurtry took over as chairman/chief executive officer, and former CFL star and team executive Bill Baker assumed the new position of president/chief executive officer.

But before the year was out, Baker announced his resignation. And the future of two teams, the British Columbia Lions and the Ottawa Rough Riders, is up in the air after each had a bad year.

It was also a record-breaking year. The Edmonton Eskimos won more games than any team in the history of the league. And a competitive balance boosted attendance in some cities.

One thing's certain: The 77th Grey Cup (Sunday, Nov. 26) will pit the two best Canadian football teams against each other with the CFL title on the line. It's a tradition

Courtesy CFL Photos



Grey Cup point leader

that dates back in an almost unbroken line to the first Grey Cup championship in 1909.

Kickoff on both CFN and CBC will be at 6 p.m. (Eastern) from Toronto's SkyDome. The telecast teams are: Dave Hodge and Neil Lumsden for CFN; Don Wittman, Ron Lancaster and Scott Oake for CBC.

How's your knowledge of previous Grey Cups? Here's a quickie quiz:

1. One team has the record for most Cup appearances, most wins and most losses. Which one?
2. Where was last year's game played, and who won?
3. Who was the most valuable offensive player in the 1988 Grey Cup?
4. What year was the memorable "Fog Bowl" played in Toronto, and what team won?
5. Who holds the all-time record for the most points in Grey Cup play?

Answers: 1. Toronto; 2. Ottawa, Winnipeg Blue Bombers; 3. James Murphy, Winnipeg; 4. 1962, Winnipeg beat Hamilton, 28-27; 5. Dave Cutler, Edmonton, 72 points (1969-84).

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