1968 LOYOLA WARRIORS FOOTBALL TEAM REUNION
Football: Nowhere to go but up

George Dixon

George Dixon is a veteran of many campaigns. From the time he was a kid in New Haven Connecticut, to his college years at Bridgeport, to his seven seasons as an official who adheres to his own rules and a measure of fortune, the game of football has been what he does best, teaches best.

Now at 31, he puts on another hat, that of head coach of the Loyola Warriors football team. And Dixon never took on a tougher job. He inherits a team whose 6-10 record last season was the worst in Canada, the worst in Loyola’s history.

Shortly before the season began in September, Dixon

pucked his valve, athletic frame on the corner of an office
desk, and tucked about the job and its approach to the game.

He is an articulate man, his lean and handsome face
radiating confidence in everything he says. And once he
warming to his subject he anticipates questions and is off on
a verbal race.

Someone asked him what he thought the object of

the above paragraph should be. Should it be developmental, should it be fun, should it be winning?

"It’s a combination of the three," he replied easily. "Coming from a small school, I was never subjected to any severe pressure at college, so it’s always been fun. But it’s also a tough game, a real game which requires sacrifice, not at any

superhuman level, but it is a highly demanding game both physically and mentally, and I said it has to be fun, if a kid doesn’t enjoy the game he won’t do it well at all.

Dixon is not plagued by the quantity of the challenge

he faces. "I’ve worked here before," he stresses. "I’ve worked with a clipped news," so I know the kids who are coming back. The problem here is usually a lack of fundamental knowledge, anyone who knows fundamentals has a chance, we’ll do more individual teaching than before, rather than stressing teamwork in practice.

Dixon scorns complicated play systems that look good

on paper but prove to confuse and demoralize players.

"A complicated offense has intricate patterns and requires absolute split-second timing," he avers, "which may be

fine in the pros, but it is just when kids aren’t even funda-

mentally sound at the beginning of the season. So we’ll

go with the Lombardi philosophy of keeping things simple and perturbing things.

This does not mean that Loyola’s offense is to be

restricted to the potential "three yards and a cloud of dust." "The Canadian game dictates lots of passing because there are only three down. You have to open up,

but our patterns will be simple, and the kids will be well

rewarded.

One of Dixon’s major problems will be the institution

of the special feeling of glory that is needed to produce a winner. "I admit we’ve given a lot of thought to it," he

says, "and we had as far as last year was, the kids who

made it in that spirit, lost it, or they wouldn’t have stayed. We think this team has innate leadership qualities

bake somewhere, and we intend to bring it out if we can.

We’re going to let them call their own plays, both

ways, we’re going to have competitions between offense and defense in practice, and we’re going to give them lots of

responsibility.

These kids are in college, and we’re not going to teach

them accordingly, we’re not going to police them, and

we’re not going to scream at them. There will be no high

pressure. Of course they need instruction and guidance, but these are proper ways to do it, and it doesn’t hurt a kid

to praise him when he does something right.

Warriors will be competing in the Eastern Division of

the CCIFC, one of the nation’s smaller conferences.

"All the other teams have the same light," Dixon

said. "I think we’re about comparable in terms of talent, when we find it. Mr.适量 figures to improve a little bit each week, and with any breaks at all, we’ll see

our division and have a good chance at the league title.

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Kevin Butler, 5’10, 170, Junior. One of the very few bright spots in an otherwise disastrous 47 sea-
son. A fast halfback, Kevin was named MVP by his market last season, and coach George Dixon tells us:
"He’s fast and smart, but he’s aggressive too. He never quits, always hangs tough."
Pat Devine, Sr., 1951, Senior. One of several veterans forced to sit out the ’67 season with hip commitments. Devine, was only limited by his year’s edition of the grid. Wantons. A tough and speedy tackle, Pat has been known to go both ways when pressed. One of the very few seniors on the ’67 team, Devine looks as one of George Ouellet’s leaders men on the field and in the dressing room.

Terry Whalen, 5’10, 175, Junior. This 20-year-old product of Meaford High School in St. Laurent began his varsity career two years ago as a quarterback. He has since switched to flanker position.

Steve Nemoirowski, 5’10, 195, Junior. Moved from linebacker to offensive guard this season. Nemoirowski has added weight to his already solid frame, and picked up a little speed. Described by a teammate as “one of those hard-hitters,” Nemoirowski has shown much improvement. He first came to Wantons from Toronto in 1966.

Rick Jones, 5’11, 160, Senior. Another valuable ballplayer who missed the 67 season because of summer commitments. Jones has a great speed and durability on the inside. A dressing room comes of much respect. Rick maintains a high average in Loyola’s difficult Pre-Med faculty.

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TAYLOR TAILS

Bill Devis (right) and Stan Taylor were the stars of the show for the Warriors. Bill Devis scored two goals and Stan Taylor made 38 saves to lead the Warriors to victory.

ONE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

The Warriors were a step ahead of the Blues all game, but couldn't put the game out of reach.

THE REASON WHY:

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